

## Area S Daily Journal

**10/8/02**

First day of excavation.

The area was divided into six 5 x 5 meter squares along a north-south axis. Since the official square designations had not yet been assigned, the squares were assigned temporary designations corresponding to two north-south columns: A, the western column, and B, the eastern. Each column contained 3 squares, numbered 1 through 3, beginning in the north.

<b>A1</b>	<b>B1</b>
<b>Baulk 1 meter</b>	
<b>A2</b>	<b>B2</b>
<b>Baulk 1 meter</b>	
<b>A3</b>	<b>B3</b>

Each square was opened as a separate locus: A1 – L. 251, B1 – L. 252, A2 – L. 253, B2 – L. 254, A3 – L. 255, B3 – L. 256. Two 1-meter baulks were created along the east-west internal gridlines. The baulks will be kept for stratigraphic control. The loci were bounded by the grid and baulk lines and were used for a surface find collection, such as pottery, flint, and slag. Several walls are visible on the surface. The longest wall cuts the area from the north-west to the south-east. Two perpendicular walls are visible, one along the southern boundary and one along southern baulk. Another wall parallels the largest wall along the western boundary of the area. The walls create two rooms, one separated by the northern baulk (A1-2), the other south of the southern baulk (A3-B3). An abundance of slag was found in L. 256 along with purposely crumbled slag. In general over the entire area, low amounts of pottery and flint were collected. All of these loci were closed after the surface was cleared.

New loci were opened determined by architecture and baulks and the outer grid boundary.

### **L. 257**

L. 257 is located in Sq. A1 and represents the northern part of the larger room. It is situated below L. 251. It is closely related to L. 259, but the two are separated by the northern baulk. The locus consists of topsoil, which was scraped to a depth of 10 cm. No finds were collected, but wall collapse was better defined. Tomorrow, we will continue to define the collapse and lower portion of the wall.

### **L. 258**

L. 258 is located in Sq. B1, below L. 252. It is located outside and to the east of the large structure. We scraped the topsoil to a depth of 10 cm. It is a sandy soil with few finds. There is a possible wall line along the eastern border of the locus. Tomorrow, the surrounding architecture will be further defined, and collapse will be removed.

### **L. 259**

L. 259 is located inside the structure and covers the larger part of the northern room. The locus was limited to the portion of Sq. A2 that was not covered in wall collapse. The wall collapse covers the western portion

of the square. The soil is compressed silt, quite distinct from the soil outside (east) of the structure. Limited amount of finds were collected. All soil was sieved. Tomorrow, we will identify the collapse and remove it. L. 259 is closely related to L. 257 located within the same structure to the north of the baulk.

### **L. 260**

L. 260 is located outside the main structure in Sq. B2. The topsoil was scraped 10 cm. in depth. The soil was sandy with few finds. Half of the soil removed was sieved. Fragmentary architecture was identified in the north-east portion of the locus, possibly a continuation of the possible wall line in L. 258. There is a possible circular feature in the south-east portion of the locus. Tomorrow we will determine between the architecture and collapse and remove debris.

### **L. 261**

The locus represents the southern room of the main feature. Most of the surface is covered in wall collapse. Few finds were recovered. The soil is less compact when compared to the northern room (L. 257, 259). Tomorrow, the collapse will be removed.

### **L. 262**

The locus is distinct from its contemporaries by the large amount of slag recovered. The locus surrounds the south-eastern corner of the main structure. The soil is sandy and consistent with L. 260 and 258. Tomorrow, we will define the corner of the structure, remove debris, and collect all the slag.

In the end day, the squares of the area were assigned their correct designations:

A 1 – BBB 43  
B 1 – CCC 43  
A 2 – BBB 42  
B 2 – CCC 42  
A 3 – BBB 41  
B 3 – CCC 41

<b>BBB 43</b>	<b>CCC 43</b>
<b>Baulk 1 meter</b>	
<b>BBB 42</b>	<b>CCC 42</b>
<b>Baulk 1 meter</b>	
<b>BBB 41</b>	<b>CCC 41</b>

## **10/09/02**

The same loci that were open yesterday were continued today: L. 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262. L. 257, 259, and 261 are all located within the structure; L. 258, 260, 262 are all located outside the structure. Soil samples were collected from all loci except L. 263. (approximately 10 kg). In the afternoon, L. 263 was opened in the former southwestern corner of L. 262.

### **L. 257**

Considerable amounts of possible wall collapse are embedded in the soil. Floating stones within the 10 cm layer were removed. As the locus is inside the structure, we initially sieved all the sediment collected. As the day proceeded, it became clear that the topsoil contains very few finds; therefore, sieving was limited to 1/3 of the soil collected. Finds included some pottery, shell, copper and manganese ore. Tomorrow, we will continue to excavate another 10 cm in order to define and remove more collapse. A possible wall line is visible in the north-south direction, which will be further investigated tomorrow. We will also attempt to clarify the interior (north) corner of the northern room.

#### **L. 258**

The excavation preceded scraping down 10 cm throughout the locus. The main wall of the structure, which is in the western portion of the locus, was defined. The soil was sandy throughout and initially we sieved ½ of the soil collected, but due to the lack of finds, we reduced the sieving to 1/3 of the soil. Soil and remains are very similar to L. 260. Very small amounts of pottery, flint, and slag were collected. Tomorrow the locus will be extended to follow the exterior line of the eastern wall of the main structure, which will include a portion of Sq. BBB43. Furthermore, the possible wall collapse will be further investigated in the eastern portion in CCC43.

#### **L. 259**

The 10 cm scraping process continued as yesterday. Rocks within the loose soil were removed, whereas the rocks still embedded will be left as we proceed. We continued to clarify the south-eastern corner of the northern room. We also tried to clarify the interior wall bounding the room to the west. The southern interior wall was defined. Initially, all soil was sieved, but due to lack of finds, it was decreased to 1/3. Finds included manganese ore and some shell. Tomorrow wall and collapse definition will continue in order to excavate another 10 cm and remove the collapse embedded in the sediment.

#### **L. 260**

The eastern wall of the main structure was clearly defined, and collapse was removed. In the south eastern part of the locus, a possible circular feature is visible. The inside of the feature was not excavated, as a new locus will be assigned to it. The rocks in the north-east of the locus appear to be unassociated and will be removed. Initially, ½ the soil was sieved, but this process was reduced to 1/3 due to lack of finds. The soil is sandy, very similar to L. 258. L. 258 and 260 may both represent a unified occupation bounded in the south by a possible wall line and the before mentioned circular feature, separating it from L. 262. Finds included small amounts of pottery and slag. Tomorrow, we will continue to clear the eastern wall of the main structure along with a possible perpendicular wall line to the south. The interior of the circular feature will be opened and excavated.

#### **L. 261**

We clarified the western wall line of the southern room along with the northern and southern wall boundaries. We extended the scraping to the east (into Sq. CCC41). A possible entrance to the structure is visible in the south-eastern part of the wall. All soil was sieved, until sieving was reduced to 1/3 due to few finds. A copper ore concentration was recorded in the south-eastern corner of the room. Finds included pottery and slag. Tomorrow, after soil removal is level throughout the locus, we will continue to scrape down another 10 cm and continue to define walls the possible entrance.

#### **L. 262**

Due to the large amount of slag, all soil was sieved throughout the day. The soil is sandy with slag and purposely crumbled slag, along with samples of tapped slag. Limited pottery and flint was recovered. By the end of the day, a soil change was detected in the south-western portion of the locus, which was opened as a separate locus (L. 263). Tomorrow we will continue to excavate the area to the east of the main structure to further define the exterior of the south-eastern corner along with the possible entrance connecting to the southern room.

### **L. 263**

This locus was opened later in the day as the soil changed to darker ash fill. The change in soil is distinct from L. 262, and there is less evidence of tapped slag and larger amounts of burned slag with charcoal, possibly indicating the vicinity of a furnace. The locus contained slag with large amounts of charcoal, along with a prill and a copper piece, a furnace fragment and portions of tuyere pipe and furnace tube. Other finds included bone and pottery. Tomorrow, we will further define the wall line to the north of the locus and continue down to discover the extent of the deposit.

### **10/10/02**

Excavation continued in the same loci as yesterday. Two new wall loci were opened, and collapse was removed. The sediment loci will be kept open until we have a clear understanding of the architecture visible on the surface after leveling the soil to a depth of 10 cm. Not until then will we close them and commence excavating deeper with opening new sediment loci.

### **L. 257**

The locus is covered in possible wall collapse, and it is still hard to define. Several rocks were removed, and a possible wall line was identified (direction NE – SW) along with a possible circular feature in the NE part of the locus. An opening perimeter (W. 264) was recorded of the wall bounding the locus to the north. The rocks on the surface of the locus are most likely collapse from W. 264. 1/3 of the soil collected was sieved. Finds collected included low amounts of flints, along with very little slag. Tomorrow we will probably concentrate on wall clearing of W. 264, and leave L. 257 open for the possibility of further excavation up to the limit of the wall.

### **L. 258**

The excavation proceeded with scraping the soil down to a depth 10 cm. The perimeter of the locus was extended towards the exterior wall to the west, and to the gridline in the east and north. A perimeter middle was recorded. The majority of the wall collapse on the surface was removed, and the wall line bounding the locus to the west was further defined. Rocks in the eastern part of the locus are situated on the surface, some were removed, and some will stay until we further investigate them by excavating another 10 cm over the locus. Finds included pottery, very little slag, and one copper prill.

### **L. 259**

Excavation proceeded as yesterday. Removing and identifying the collapse, covering most of the surface. The perimeter of the locus is extending to the west towards a possible wall line that will be clarified and recorded tomorrow. Finds were very limited, no pottery or flint and very little slag were collected; however 3 tuyere pipe fragments were collected. The slag and metallurgical finds were concentrated in the western portion of the locus among the architectural debris. Tomorrow, the wall bounding the locus to the west will be further investigated. L. 259 will be kept open until a clear idea of the architectural boundaries has been achieved.

### **L. 260**

The locus boundaries have extended to the eastern wall of the main structure bounding the locus to the west. A lot of surface wall collapse was removed. The circular structure in the south-east corner of the locus is further defined, but no excavation of it will occur until we proceed excavating around it in order to identify possible lower courses. Finds included only moderate amounts of slag.

### **L. 261**

The locus extended to the west, where we have possibly identified the interior wall line bounding the locus to the west. A lot of wall collapse is still situated on the surface, but will be removed as soon as we have a better understanding of the western and southern walls. In the south-east corner, a concentration of slag and burned slag contained a furnace fragment. Below the wall collapse, south-west of this, concentration large pieces of tapped slag are located. It will be investigated whether or not this is connected to the L. 263. In the north-western corner a concentration of diagnostic pottery was found including a handle, which may be Iron Age. Aside from small amounts of slag and pottery, some flint was collected.

#### **L. 262**

1/3 of the soil was sieved, and we were concentrating on collecting the slag from this locus, along with identifying a possible corner of the main structure. A lot of collapse was removed. A few diagnostic sherds were collected, along with small amounts of bone and shell. This locus continues to be the largest source of slag collection in the area.

#### **L. 263**

Everything is being sieved. The locus still represents the highest concentration of copper production finds. Numerous tuyere pipe fragments and other metallurgical ceramics and copper metal were collected. When the wall collapse bounding the locus to the north will be removed, a connection to L. 261 will be further investigated. Low amounts of shell, bone, and pottery were collected.

#### **W. 264**

L. 264 was opened to represent the main north-south structure wall. The perimeter and elevation were recorded before collapse on the top was removed. Once the collapse was removed, a layer of rocks embedded in sediment was noticed. Tomorrow, further cleaning and definition will continue. Only small amounts of slag were recovered from the wall cleaning and collapse removal.

#### **W. 265**

This locus represents the northern wall of the main structure. Collapse was removed until a layer of sediment embedded with stones was identified. Further excavation will continue tomorrow. Some pottery and very little slag were collected.

The overall plan for tomorrow is to open perimeters for all architecture in the area. The surrounding sediment loci will be kept open and perimeters updated until we have defined the boundaries of the architecture and cleared the collapse.

### **10/11/02**

Possibly there are already indications of two occupational phases in the area. The first indicated by the large stones used in the walls visible at the ground surface, and the second by stones situated at a lower elevation well embedded in the topsoil and lower.

#### **L. 257**

Not excavated today. The locus will be kept open for future use in clearing wall 265, bounding the locus to the north.

#### **L. 258**

The locus was closed today, after finishing leveling the soil at a depth of 10 cm. A small amount of slag was collected. L. 267 was opened below it, following the same perimeter.

### **L. 259**

The locus was closed in the late afternoon, after the soil was leveled at a depth of 10 cm. Small amounts of slag were collected. Large amounts of stone slabs, possibly being wall collapse, are embedded in the surface, and will not be removed until we excavate further. L. 271 was opened below, following the closing perimeter of L. 259.

### **L. 260**

The locus was closed early in the day, after the soil was leveled at a depth of 10 cm. The wall 264, bounding the locus to the west was further defined. Small amounts of slag were collected. L. 268 was opened below, following the closing perimeter of L. 260.

### **L. 261**

We excavated further in order to identify the architecture surrounding the locus, including walls 264 (E), 270 (S), 269 (E), baulk (N). Further connection between the south-eastern corner of locus and L. 263 was indicated by darker soil and more copper production related finds, such as impregnated slag and larger amounts of slag. Possible usage of slag in the construction of wall 270 could also be the cause why larger concentrations were collected. The wall 270 separates L. 261 and L. 263. Both Roman along with Iron Age pottery were collected from the locus.

### **L. 262**

The south-western part of the locus has higher density of finds than the northern part. Possibly L. 263 extends further to the east, as the soil is slightly darker, and more copper production related finds were collected, including 2 furnace fragments, 2 tuyere pipe fragments and impregnated slag. As soon as the entire locus is leveled, a new decision will be made whether to extend L. 263, or to close L. 262 and L. 263 and open a new one, with the right perimeter. There are large stones situated on the surface, as an extension of wall 271 to the east. Maybe these stones are an architectural boundary between contexts.

### **L. 263**

The soil is relatively dark silty sediment, with several different categories of copper production related finds represented. There among 2 furnace fragments, 4 pieces of impregnated slag, copper ore, and slag. Possibly a furnace was situated and destroyed in the vicinity. As mentioned above, a perimeter change will be recorded shortly.

### **W. 264**

We executed wall clearance, concentrating on the central part of the wall running N-S, crossing Sq. BBB 42 and CCC 42. Loose collapsed stones were removed, until a layer of sediment with embedded stones was located. We defined the stones and exposed them further. Very low amounts of finds were collected.

### **W. 265**

We executed wall (E-W) clearance in Sq. BBB 43. Loose collapsed stones were removed, until a layer of sediment with embedded stones was located. We defined the stones and exposed them further. Very low amounts of finds were collected. The wall perimeter includes what seems to be a two stones wide curved wall running N-S. It undercuts wall 265, cuts L. 261 and possibly continues across the baulk to L. 271. Very low amounts of finds were collected.

### **L. 266**

The locus was opened today so that we can further define wall 265 on the northern side. The soil consists of ashen, silty sediment with relatively high density of finds. Everything was sieved. The locus is considerably small, with moderate amounts of copper ore, pottery, bone and slag.

#### **L. 267**

The locus was opened today, as we further excavated square CCC 43, following the perimeter of the previous L. 258. The soil consists of dark sandy fill with low amounts of finds including slag and pottery. Further defining of wall 264 to the west along with several large stones to the east was conducted. As we excavate deeper, the foundation below the stones in the east might be visible which decides if they will be removed or not.

#### **L. 268**

The locus was opened today, as we further excavated Sq. CCC 42. The soil consists of a darker silty soil, containing more slag than the previous L. 260. Moderate amounts of slag and pottery along with copper ore were collected. Further defining of wall 264 to the east was executed along with identifying possible lower courses in the circular feature in the SE part of the locus.

**10/13/02**

#### **L. 257**

The locus is kept open for future use, but was not excavated today.

#### **L. 258**

The locus was closed the 11:th of October, but the perimeter bottom failed recording, so another one was shot with the EDM today.

#### **L. 261**

The locus was not excavated further, and was closed.

#### **L. 262**

The possible architectural debris located in between the more find-dense southern part with the northern was further excavated. A large stone slab is located on the surface just north of the debris, indicating an entrance? A depression in wall 264 is located just west of the slab. In the southern part of the locus more copper production related finds were collected today, including approximately 30 fragmentary non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramic (DC-code MC), 3 tuyere pipe fragments and burnt slag with remains of charcoal. A close relation to L. 263 is evident. In the northern part of the locus, lower amounts of slag were collected than usual. Perhaps, the large amounts of slag found in the topsoil were part of wash coming down from the slag mound south of the area. Organic material, possibly dung, was collected from the northern part of the locus.

#### **L. 263**

The locus was not excavated today.

#### **W. 264**

Further wall clearance, in preparations for boom shots was conducted in the afternoon.

#### **W. 265**

The wall was not further cleared today.

#### **L. 266**

An extension of the locus towards the south was excavated today. That will further give us the northern limit of wall 265. The soil consist of dark ashy, silty sediment. All the soil is sieved, and two beads were collected, possibly made of carnelian. Further, small amounts of slag, bone and pottery were collected.

#### **L. 267**

Very low amounts of finds are collected from this locus, only low amounts of slag. The soil consist of a sandy, relatively dark sediment. A soil change was noted, being a compact surface of possible mudbrick collapse or naturally compacted silt. The layer will indicate the excavation depth of the locus.

#### **L. 268**

A possible surface, or occupational layer was identified in the north-western part of the locus very close to wall 264. The layer is indicated by large stone slabs embedded in the soil, along with tapped slag pieces situated on the surface. This will be the level that we will follow as we proceed.

A good sample of a furnace fragment was recorded and collected. We will further investigate the large stones in the eastern part of the locus, along with the circular feature in the SE corner.

#### **W. 269**

The locus is represented by a wall running NW-SE in Sq. BBB 41. The wall clearance included removal of loose rocks down to a sediment concentration with embedded rocks. The rocks in the sediment were further cleared and swept as we are taking boom shots shortly. A possible entrance was identified in the southern part of wall, indicated by a lower elevation of rocks and flat slabs, along with a door stop on the north side. Low amounts of slag were collected. Possibly slag was used in the construction of the wall.

#### **W. 270**

The locus is represented by a wall, (running NE-SW) perpendicular to wall 269. Wall clearance involved removal of loose rocks until a sediment concentration was reached. The stones were further cleared and swept. The SW part of the wall contains larger rocks, while the NE part involve smaller stones and cobbles along with large amounts of slag. Most likely the wall is representative sample where slag was use as building material. That would also explain the large amounts of slag that were found in sorrounding loci, such as L. 261, L. 262 and L. 263.

#### **L. 271**

A very large amount of rocks are spread end embedded in the surface of the locus. A second course of stones is appearing when we proceed. Possibly there is a curved wall, running approximately N-S, connecting with a wall line across the baulk in L. 261 and with parts of wall 265. The western part of the locus is covered in what seems to be architectural debris. A special pottery was recorded, usage unknown. Low amounts of slag and pottery were collected.

#### **L. 272**

This locus represents a well NE of Khirbat al Nahas. It is excavated as a probe, in order to identify the architectural details, and possible stratigraphic relations. It is also of great value for the project to further understand the water sources around the site. The well has an oval shape, measuring 1.4 m. x 1 m.

The well is located in the E section of the drainage running N-S, just east of Khirbet al Nahas. The well appears as a semicircle embedded in the section with a maximum of 8 stone courses vertically, and



approximately 8 horizontally. The rest of the well has most likely been washed away in the drainage. The stones are uncut and measure approximately from 40cm x 30 cm x 15 cm, to 10 cm x 10 cm x 5 cm. There are also examples of large stone cobbles in the section. The built part of the well measure at its higher point 1.1 m. Excavation was conducted into the well, and we reached a depth of approximately 1.3 m.

At a depth of 1 m. moisture in the soil appeared. Will be further excavated tomorrow.

## **10/14/02**

A full round of boom shots was needed, in order to record all the stones that appear on the surface. To make it more efficient, we did not excavate until it was all done. However, ground shots were taken in most loci, including walls. The day started with sweeping the area, and a team started working with the camera for most of the day. After fruit break limited excavation was conducted in L. 257, L. 262, L. 266, L. 267, and L. 273.

### **L. 257**

The locus was excavated further in order to identify all the stones, located on and embedded in the surface. The distribution of the stones is confusing, so further excavation will allow us to remove large amounts. Tomorrow, we will continue to excavate another 10 cm. No finds were collected.

### **L. 262**

Large stones situated on the surface of the locus, in the close vicinity of the junction of W. 270 and W. 264, were removed. A perimeter middle was recorded, limiting the locus in the south. Large amounts of slag were collected from the clearance of the architectural collapse, possibly used as wall fill.

### **L. 266**

The locus was further excavated along W. 265. Possible furnace slag was collected, along with small amounts of pottery and slag.

### **L. 267**

The locus was further excavated in order to identify the stone concentration in the eastern part of the locus. We will record the boundary of the stone concentration tomorrow if lower courses of stones appear. Only small amounts of slag were collected.

### **L. 273**

Tomorrow will start with recording a perimeter middle for L. 268, and open a new locus (L. 274) in the former north-eastern part of L. 268. L. 263 will expand towards the east and will be recorded with a perimeter middle.

## **10/15/02**

Note: the soil inside the main structure is very light in color, and spans from compacted sediment to loose silt. Further, the interior of the structure has a very low density of finds, and most of the surface is completely covered in architectural debris. North and south of the structure there are two similar loci (L. 266 (N) and L. 263 (S)) containing several copper production related finds situated in ashy silty sediment. To the east of the structure, along all three squares the soil is represented by a dark, coarse silt with few finds. It slightly changes to the south where the largest concentration of slag was collected.

## **L. 262**

L. 262 was closed today. The perimeter of the locus has decreased limiting the locus on the west side, due to the expansion of L. 263. Misc. metallurgical ceramic was collected early and might possibly be connected to L. 263. L. 275 was opened below. Finds were very limited prior to closing the locus.

## **L. 263**

An extension of the perimeter to the east was recorded in the morning. The soil contains more ash than the neighboring L. 262. Density of finds is high, almost exclusively metallurgical. Finds include slag with radiocarbon charcoal and slag with copper, various metallurgical ceramics (furnace fragments, tuyere pipes, and nondiagnostic pieces), copper ore, general slag, and pottery. As excavation continues, a new locus will most likely be opened contemporary to neighboring L. 275.

## **L. 266**

Excavation continued as previous day, all soil was sieved. Further identification of wall 265 bounding to the south. Finds included low amounts of bone, pottery, and moderate amounts of slag. A very good slag with radiocarbon charcoal was recorded and collected. A third bead was collected in the sieve. If the locus is leveled and the wall is cleared, the locus will be closed tomorrow.

## **L. 267**

Further exposure of architecture was conducted in the eastern part of the locus. We gave the collapse/wall W. 276 and shot the preliminary perimeter. The locus contains very few finds and the sediment includes dark "greasy" silty soil. A probe was opened within the square, covering the northwestern quarter of L. 267. The initial locus of the probe was given number L. 277.

## **L. 271**

Several rocks located in the locus was removed today as we excavated another 10 cm. Most of the locus is still covered in what seems to be architectural collapse. The southern part of the locus a soil change from fill and compacted silt to loose silty sediment was noted. Very low amounts of pottery and slag were collected.

## **L. 273**

The locus was opened to expose the exterior wall line south west of the main structure. Moderate amounts of slag were collected. We identified a surface immediately below the ground surface that was swept and clearly defined. The surface consists of compacted silt or possible mudbrick decay, along with small pieces of crumbled slag embedded in the surface. We stopped excavating, and closed the locus in the afternoon in order to photograph it tomorrow morning.

## **L. 274 (opened today)**

The locus covers the southern room in the main structure. We are excavating further down another 20 cm, identifying more collapse below. The stone collapse may have fallen into the structure from the southwest corner. Two grinding stones were recorded and collected, although not in situ. A semicircular structure attached to W. 270 is excluded from L. 274 because the soil is ashier. Will be excavated later.

## **L. 275 (opened today)**

Very large amounts of slag were collected underneath the stone collapse bounding the locus in the southwest. Possibly, the slag may relate to L. 262 situated above L. 275. We will not excavate further down until the neighboring L. 263 is leveled with L. 275 and the wall line to the west is further defined.

#### **W. 276 (opened today)**

A fragmentary wall situated in Sq. CCC 43. Not until we excavate the surrounding L. 267 further can we finally decide if this is a wall, or collapse from a structure close by.

#### **L. 277 (opened today)**

The locus is the top layer of the probe that we will be excavated in Sq. CCC 43 and a small portion of BBB 43. The probe measures approximately 2 x 3 m. The purpose with the probe is to get stratigraphic control of the surrounding architecture and surfaces. L. 277 is contemporary to L. 267 which will be closed tomorrow, and that part of the area will not be excavated further in the near future. Very few finds were collected today.

**10/16/02**

#### **L. 263**

The high density of finds continues in this relatively small locus. It is also due to overly thorough excavation techniques and recording. Tomorrow we will try to sieve most of it contains to achieve more efficiency. The soil is still ashy silt. When the locus is leveled with neighboring L. 275, we will close it and assign a new number when we proceed further down.

#### **L. 266**

We photographed a nice sample of slag containing charcoal in situ that can be used for a RC sample. EDM # 70252 B # 5396. Furthermore, we collected low amounts of pottery, slag and bone, along with moderate amounts of slag. The wall line of W. 265 is further defines and a possible junction of walls was noted, south of the locus. The locus will hopefully be closed tomorrow.

#### **L. 267 (closed today)**

The soil surrounding W. 276 was leveled with the architecture over the locus. The probe is intrusive in the old perimeter of the locus, so when we closed the locus the perimeter was excluding the area of the probe. A piece of special pottery was photographed in situ in the morning, EDM # 70211/12 B # 5344/45. No finds except for the special pottery were collected. The locus will rest in the near future, and more effort will put into excavating the probe.

#### **L. 268**

Low amounts of pottery, slag were collected along with a few examples of PG, FF, TP and PR. These finds may relate to the north part of the locus close to W. 264, where metallurgical related finds were collected before. That part of the locus will be excluded as a separate locus in the future. Another approximate 10 cm are excavated, including the circular feature in the southeast corner, as we could not identify second courses of the installation. Hopefully this locus will be closed tomorrow.

#### **L. 271**

Very low amounts of finds were collected today. Tomorrow an effort in removing a large amount of the rocks on the surface has to made in order to proceed excavating.

### **L. 273**

The locus was closed yesterday but we photographed the surface this morning, EDM # 70210 B # 5343 (no finds). A new locus was opened below, assigned number L. 278.

### **L. 274**

We proceeded removing of the loose silt covering the rocks situated lower on the surface in the southern room of the main structure. Tomorrow we will make an effort into removing a large amount of them so that we can proceed further below. No finds collected.

### **L. 275**

The clean up after the removal of the collapse situated on the surface was finished. Large amounts of slag were situated among the collapse, possibly belonging to L. 262. The locus was not further excavated in the afternoon, since we want to level L. 263 to L. 275. Moderate amounts of slag were collected, along with low amounts of pottery and bone.

### **L. 277**

Representing the top locus of the probe. The locus is contemporary to L. 267. An interesting special find was recorded as OE today, but could possibly have been processed. Moderate amounts of slag and pottery were collected. The locus will be closed tomorrow as we further excavate the probe.

**10/17/02**

### **L. 257 (closed today)**

The locus has been open but not excavated in some time. We kept it open to expose more of the architecture, but as we went further down, we decided to close it today. L. 280 was opened below, related to L. 271 in Sq. BBB 42.

### **L. 263**

The locus was excavated a little faster today. All the soil was sifted. High concentration of metallurgical finds. The locus will be closed tomorrow, and a locus contemporary to L. 275 will be opened below. The soil consists of ashy sediment with very large amounts of slag, and fragmentary finds.

### **L. 266 (closed today)**

The locus was leveled to a depth of approximately 10-15 cm. A wall line is clearly visible (W. 264) bounding the locus to the east. The wall (W. 265) bounding the locus to the south is still unclear, but as we proceed excavating we will try to identify lower courses in the wall. L. 279 was opened below.

### **L. 268**

A possible lower wall line, running NE-SW, was identified in the southeastern corner of the locus today. The southern part of the locus is still covered in a lot of architectural debris, making the progress slow. Tomorrow the rest of it will be removed and the locus will be closed. A possible small circular installation was identified in the southern part of locus. The wall (W. 264) will also be further cleared tomorrow. Low

amounts of finds throughout the locus, except for small concentrations of metallurgical finds closer to W. 264, as well as around the wall in the southeastern corner.

#### **L. 271**

The locus is progressing slowly as the surface is completely covered in architectural debris that keeps going deeper. We are excavating further down, but it is slow and hard to define any guidelines for the removal. Very well preserved charcoal pieces were extracted from the locus, as well as low amounts of pottery and slag. Furthermore, worked stones were collected, there among a polishing stone and a grinder, none of them in situ. Tomorrow we will excavate the baulks dividing L. 271 to L. 280, and L. 271 to L. 274. That may help us defining the architecture from the collapse.

#### **L. 274**

The locus is very similar to L. 271. The surface is covered in architectural debris that continues deeper down in the soil. Therefore, the progress of the excavation is slow. The lack of soil between the rocks makes it difficult to identify "floating" rocks, and surrounding wall lines are not yet clear. Tomorrow we will excavate it further, trying to find a line to guide us in the removal. The locus is very low in finds, except for a more ashy part in the south, possibly relating to L. 263, or W. 270. The amount of slag embedded in the wall bounding the locus to the south, makes us believe that it might have been part of a dumping area for slag. The wall will be excavated tomorrow to decide if it is a wall after all. Very large stone slabs are situated diagonally along the surface.

#### **L. 277 (closed today)**

We decided to close the locus when approximately a depth of 15-20 cm was reached. Very few finds, only low amounts of pottery and slag were collected. The soil is dark sandy silt.

#### **L. 278**

As we keep excavating further down, more architectural debris keeps appearing. An incised piece of pottery was recorded as SP, along with a worked stone. A possible exterior wall line (W. 270) may possibly have been identified, and we will further investigate it tomorrow along with removing the debris. What seems to be purposely-crumbled slag is embedded in the soil in moderate amounts.

#### **L. 279**

The soil is very ashy, and a possible surface was identified within the locus. Situated on the surface, in the southeast, an abundance of charred ore was recorded as an artifact perimeter. Good samples of charcoal were collected in relation to the artifact. *Add B # and EDM #!* The wall line of W. 265 will be further investigated tomorrow.

#### **L. 280**

The locus was opened below L. 257 as we excavated further below. The fill is silty and compact. A possible wall line of W. 264 was identified, and we will work along that line tomorrow, as we will remove the baulk separating the locus from L. 271. Very low amounts of finds. Architectural debris is continuing further down, similar to all the loci inside the main structure.

**10/18/02**

#### **L. 268**

Further clearing of the exterior wall line (W. 264) was conducted today, including the possible circular feature in the northwest corner previously excluded. The progress is slow due to wall clearance. Compared to the inside of the structure, the collapse is limited to the vicinity of the wall, as if most of the architecture fell westwards, inside the structure, caused by a possible earthquake. Low amounts of pottery, bone, copper ore and slag were collected. A grinding stone was collected among the collapse, probable secondary use as building material. Close to the wall in the center of the locus, slags with copper along with crucible fragments were collected.

#### **L. 271**

The locus extended 50 cm to the north and south, due to baulk removal on both sides of the locus. We decided to remove the baulks in order to make the architectural collapse more clear. Low amounts of pottery, slag, copper ore and bone along with a hammer stone were collected from the locus. On an average the locus contains low amounts of finds as we are still above the collapse, covering surfaces below. Slow progress due to all the collapse, which seems to continue to a depth of at least 50 cm.

#### **L. 274**

The locus extended 50 cm to the north as we removed the baulk bounding the locus to the north, where it borders L. 271. The locus is still covered in architectural collapse as we proceed excavating to a depth of approximately 50 cm. The progress is slow due to the collapse. The density of finds is comparatively low, as we still excavate above the collapse, covering the possible surfaces below. Two grinding stones (not in situ), a worked stone, wood and slag was collected.

#### **L. 278**

The locus is situated outside the southwest corner of the main structure. A final wall line is not yet defined. More architectural collapse appears as we excavate further, to an approximate depth of 30 cm. The sediment is compact and the density of finds is very low. Miscellaneous metal, slag with copper along with slag, pottery and shell were collected from the locus, all in low amounts.

#### **L. 279**

A second artifact perimeter was recorded as more charred slag was collected in the same vicinity. The soil is ashy. Floatation samples were collected, and the rest of the sediment was sieved. The locus may include a hearth of multiple uses as we find metallurgically related finds as well as bone.

#### **L. 280**

The locus extended 50 cm to the south as we removed the baulk separating the locus from L. 271. The locus is covered in architectural collapse causing the progress to be slow. We will proceed excavating to a depth of approximately 50 cm. The locus is very low in finds, but a grinding stone and a pounder were collected although not in situ. Low amounts of slag were also recollected.

#### **L. 281**

The soil is "greasy" and dark brown, probably due to organic material. Floatation samples were collected, and 50 % of the soil was sieved. Low amounts of pottery, bone, slag and slag with copper was collected along with a worked stone found in the sieve. The locus will most likely be closed tomorrow as a soil change appears below.

#### **L. 282 (opened and closed today)**

It was decided to excavate the interior northwest corner of the main structure. It is situated outside the grid of the area, therefore two more squares will be opened namely: AAA 43 and AAA 42. The surface was

picked and low amounts of pottery, slag along with a grinder not in situ was collected. The topsoil locus below was opened as L. 283.

### **L. 283 (opened today)**

The locus was opened below L. 282 as we were excavating the topsoil to a depth of approximately 10 cm. We want to define the interior corner of the main structure, as well as removing collapse. The soil has the same qualities as the other topsoil loci within the structure, light brown compact silt. The amounts of finds are very low, only pottery and slag were collected.

## **10/20/02**

Two stratigraphic phases may already be identifiable in the area. The main structure would represent Stratum 1, whereas the wall line discovered and cleared in Sq. BBB 43 may indicate an earlier phase. As we excavate further, the architectural style of the possibly earlier wall may correspond to the building east of the area, excavated by the German team in the early 1990:s. The pottery that we extracted from the area up till now, points towards Iron Age II C, which would approximately date the main structure situated on the surface. As we remove the top layer of rocks from the structure situated on the surface (W. 264, 265, 270, 271) we discovered a layer of sediment underneath them. In particular this is clear of W. 270, as it seems like the wall does not have any further courses below. The pottery we have found in the probe as well as in L. 279 might relate to Stratum 2, corresponding to the new wall line.

### **L. 268**

As we continued to remove collapse and further clear the exterior wall 264, a possibly earlier wall appeared underneath, running the same direction. Included in the locus is a semicircular feature in the north-west corner which was previously excluded. Higher find concentrations are found closer to the wall. Some pottery and slag was collected, along with two nice tuyere pipe fragments, and 3 pieces of copper metal extensively corroded.

### **L. 271**

The baulks to the north and south were removed almost entirely adding 50 cm to the north and the south of the locus respectively. The main effort was to remove architectural collapse covering the surface. The increasing number of finds indicate that we are getting closer to an occupational level underneath the collapse. Once we expose the layer, new loci will be opened corresponding to the new architecture that is appearing below the collapse. A possible foundation to a roof support, alternatively an entrance, is visible in the south-east part of the locus. A second possible wall line running north-south corresponds to this. Finds include bone and slag, 2 prills, and charcoal. The charcoal might predate the collapse.

### **L. 274**

Further soil removal was conducted in order to expose architectural collapse covering the surface. A nice tuyere pipe fragment was collected in the south-east corner, again indicating a possible relation to L. 263. Limited collapse removal commenced today. The baulk to the north of the locus was removed entirely adding 50 cm to the northern boundary of the locus. Pottery, slag, tuyere pipe fragments, slag with copper, radiocarbon samples, possible manganese ore, and copper ore were collected. The find densities are increasing as we approach the layer underneath the collapse.

### **L. 275**

Not excavated today.

### **L. 278**

Further excavation continued in order to identify collapse and architecture outside the south-west corner of the stratum I structure. The locus consists of light colored, silty, compacted soil. Very few finds were collected; very low amounts of pottery, shell, and slag.

### **L. 279 (closed today)**

L. 279 was closed in order to begin removal of W. 265. The soil and finds from the bottom levels of W. 265 were consistent with L. 279 indicating that the locus predates W. 265. L. 279 might be related to stratum II as it continues all the way up to the new wall line underneath W. 265. All soil was sieved from L. 279. Finds include bone, shell, pottery, slag, copper metal.

### **L. 280**

The baulk was removed, extending the locus 50 cm to the south. Approximately 20 cm of additional soil removal was conducted in order to further identify the collapse. Removal of the collapse is the first priority beginning tomorrow. Low amounts of finds (bone, slag) along with a possible manganese prill and charcoal were collected, although the density is increasing consistent with other loci within the stratum I structure.

### **L. 281 (closed today)**

Underneath the organic soil, an ashy sediment is appearing. We exposed the ash layer over the probe and decided to close the locus. Low amounts of bone, pottery, and slag, as well as tuyere pipe fragments, non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramics and slag with copper were all found in the sieve.

### **L. 283**

Further topsoil removal was conducted including identification of collapse as well as the interior corner of the stratum I structure. We will level the locus with neighboring L. 271 and L. 280. The progress is slow due to dense collapse. Low amounts of pottery, slag, and shell were collected, along with 2 grinding stones not in situ. The grinding stones are most likely of secondary use in the building of the wall. The reuse could originate from the stratum II structure below.

### **W. 265**

A long, well preserved wall line below the northern wall of the main structure was exposed in sq. BBB43 as we removed W. 265. The wall line continues into sq. AAA43 being intrusive in L. 283. The wall line is most likely related to stratum II, as well as with L. 279. Further exposure will continue before we will define the limits of the new wall. W. 265 continues into sq. AAA43, where it creates the north-western corner of the main stratum I structure, where it meets the continuation of W. 269. Limited amounts of slag, bone, and pottery were collected from the wall removal in sq. BBB43.

### **W. 270**

As we removed the rocks on the surface, we did not note any further courses below. A possible earlier wall line is visible in the west end of W. 270. We have excavated to a depth of approximately 15 cm, and the soil is very similar to L. 263, situated to the south-east of the wall. The metallurgical finds are dense, further corresponding to L. 263. The wall lacks a foundation; possibly, the wall was built on top of the earlier production area, perhaps an extension of L. 263. Bone, pottery, shell, and a large amount of slag, along with slag with copper, non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramics, and tuyere pipe fragments were all collected.



**10/21/02**

Extended wall perimeters were recorded for W. 265 and W. 269, as they extend into the recently opened squares to the west, namely AAA 43 and AAA 42. These polygons will be connected to the previous ones from BBB 43 and BBB 42. By doing this the entire structure from Stratum I is now included in area S. Overview photos were taken at the beginning of the day, including a detail of the new wall appearing underneath W. 265. Photos are linked to EDM 70361.

## **L. 268**

The locus will be closed tomorrow morning, following the new perimeter created by removal of parts of W. 264. A new wall line clearly appears underneath W. 264. Not until we have further cleared the collapse in area S, will we assign new wall numbers for the architecture possibly predating the main stratum I structure. Low amounts of pottery, bone, slag, and copper ore, along with charcoal was collected today.

## **L. 271**

We concentrated on collapse removal, and further clearing today. A soil change was noted from light colored silty soil to a darker sediment located at the base of the collapse. A higher density of finds further indicates that we are getting closer to an occupational phase and the locus change is needed. Finds included bone and pottery, slag, 3 pieces of copper metal, along with a very nice charcoal sample recommended for C14 analysis (B. 5621, EDM 70384).

## **L. 274**

Brief excavation occurred in this locus today. Collapse removal will be done tomorrow. No finds today.

## **L. 280**

The locus is almost level with L. 271. The locus will be closed when the loci of the interior of the main structure are all leveled and the collapse is removed. Very low amounts of pottery, some shell and low slag were collected. Wood from along the southern portion of the locus was also collected.

## **L. 283**

Further excavation will proceed tomorrow in order to level the locus with L. 271 and L. 280. Tomorrow we will further expose the interior north-west corner of the stratum I structure. The new wall line exposed underneath W. 265 is intrusive into L. 283, running parallel on the inside of the AAA43 portion of W. 265. Aside from limited amounts of pottery and slag, a number of worked stones were collected, which appear to have been reused in the architecture of stratum I.

## **L. 284**

L. 284 was opened today, following the new wall line bounding the locus to the south. The locus consists of ashy fill on top of a possible surface containing slag, charred ore, and more ash. The locus relates to the new wall line, therefore part of stratum II. L. 284 may be a metallurgical production area situated on a courtyard to the north of the new stratum II wall line. Finds included slag, pottery, and bone, as well as slag with charcoal, tuyere pipe fragment, copper metal, and charcoal. A possible concentration of charred ore is located in the south-west part of the locus, which will be further defined tomorrow.

## **L. 285**

L. 285 was opened in the probe, represented by an ash layer. Small pieces of crumbled slag are mixed with the ashy, silty soil. The amounts of slag are decreasing compared to previous loci in the probe. Finds include pottery, flint, bone, slag, charcoal, burnt and regular copper ore.

### **W. 270**

As excavation preceded to a depth of 15 cm, it has become more and more clear that the structure from stratum I was built upon the ground surface with no lower courses. Instead of excavating a wall, we are working in a soil locus situated right underneath the southern boundary of the stratum I structure. The soil is very similar to L. 263, very dense in metallurgical finds. As we finish leveling it to 15 cm, we will join L. 270 with L. 263. As we become level with L. 275, a new locus will be opened for the further excavation.

### **W. 264**

Today's excavation focused on the portion of the wall situated in sq. CCC42. A clear but thin wall line appeared underneath W. 264, possibly relating to stratum II. The wall line has not yet be numbered. The closing perimeter of L. 268 will follow the new wall line bounding it to the west. Worked stone in secondary use was recorded along with charcoal.

### **W. 265**

The portion of W. 265 situated in sq. BBB43 was completely removed exposing a wall line running the same direction underneath it. The new wall is not yet numbered. L. 284 is now following the new wall line, bounding it to the south. The perimeter of W. 265 was extended to include the wall portion in sq. AAA43, which has not yet been cleared.

**10/22/02**

### **L. 268 (closed today)**

The locus was closed early in the day. The closing perimeter is now following the new wall appearing underneath W. 264 bounding it to the west. No finds were collected today.

### **L. 271**

Extensive removal of architectural collapse was conducted today, revealing two possible rooms along the new wall line underneath W. 264, bounding them to the east. The northern most room is very small (approximately 1 x 1.5 m); the room is separated from the southern room by a wall perpendicular to the new wall line underneath W. 264, running east-west. The southern room is larger and rectangular, oriented north-south. The southern boundary is visible by a short wall line running east west ending in a possible roof foundation in the west. Possibly there is a wall line running north-south bounding the room to the west including an entrance. The rooms might have been used as storage facilities. The wall underneath W. 264 is very thin, possibly indicating a division between a structure and a courtyard, rather than an exterior wall of a structure. The soil is changing to a slightly darker hue indicating the need for a locus change soon, which will be dictated by the room divisions. Finds include low amounts of pottery, slag, and copper ore. Several grinding and worked stones in secondary reuse from the architectural collapse were recorded and collected.

### **L. 274**

L. 274 was minimally excavated today. Only low amounts of slag were collected today. No collapse removal was conducted.

#### **L. 278**

This locus was minimally excavated with only limited collapse removal was conducted. Very limited amounts of slag were collected and no other finds.

#### **L. 280**

The northern possible storage facility is partly appearing within L. 280. We excavated to an approx. depth of 50 cm further identifying the walls running underneath W. 265 and W. 264 hoping to find an interior corner. One piece of pottery, very low amounts of slag and copper ore, along with a palette were collected. The excavation will proceed towards the west within sq. BBB43 towards the neighboring L. 283, situated in sq. AAA43.

#### **L. 283**

Continuation of northern stratum II wall (running underneath W. 265) is now clearly defined, along with a corner in the north-west. A second wall line was identified running north-south underneath W. 269. The W. 269 collapse in the southern part of the locus will be removed tomorrow in order to clarify the new stratum II wall line which is visible in the northern part of sq. AAA42 and the western portion of BBB41. The new wall line underneath W. 265 in sq. BBB43 extends into sq. AAA43/42 parallel and to the south of W. 265b. The sediment to the north of the new wall line is consistent with L. 279 indicating a possible courtyard north of the stratum II structure. Possible metallurgical activity is noted from the density of charred ore, ash, and various metallurgical ceramics. Several worked stones in secondary use were collected from the architectural collapse removal. Other finds include pottery, slag, slag with copper, and copper metal were also collected.

#### **L. 284**

Minimal soil removal was conducted today, although a possible copper production surface was identified. This surface, rich in burnt ore and other metallurgical finds will be photographed at the start of the day tomorrow and possibly removed. Tomorrow we will begin excavation and wall removal in sq. AAA43 so that we can expose a larger part of the possible courtyard along with the full definition of the new exterior wall line underneath W. 265. Finds included pottery, bone, slag, tuyere pipe, slag with copper, glassy slag, copper metal, copper ore, and furnace fragments.

#### **L. 285**

The ash layer in the probe continued to be excavated. Large amounts of bone were collected, along with pottery, flint, slag, slag with copper, copper ore, worked stone, miscellaneous metallurgical ceramic, and tuyere pipe fragments.

#### **W. 264**

The portion of the wall situated in sq. BBB43 was further cleared today. The new stratum II wall under W. 274 is more defined and extends the lengths of W. 264. A possible corner butts up perpendicular to the northern most portion of the new wall running underneath W. 265. Finds include slag, bone, shell, pottery, flint, a hammerstone, 3 grinding slabs, slag with charcoal, corroded copper metal, and furnace fragments.

#### **W. 269**

Wall clearance began today. A large mortar and grinding slab were collected in secondary use in the architectural collapse. A wall line extending from AAA42 to BBB41 is becoming visible. The remaining wall collapse will be removed tomorrow. Very limited amount of slag was collected along with one large mortar and one large grinding stone, both in secondary use found in the wall collapse.

#### **W. 270**

The finds from the sediment below the clearance of W. 270 indicate a possible refining area, relating to stratum II. As we take the locus down further, it will be merged with L. 263. Finds include large amounts of slag, pottery, flint, bone, slag with charcoal, two nice tuyere pipe fragments, furnace fragments, slag with copper, and copper metal.

## **10/23/02**

Several loci along with walls were closed today. As we now reach stratum II, new loci were required in order to excavate according to rooms within the new main structure appearing below the stratum I structure. As we have removed the stratum I wall collapse we also excavate the surfaces below the collapse, outside the structure, possibly relating to stratum II. Tomorrow we will record the new architecture with a set of boomshots.

### **W. 264 (closed today)**

W. 264 has been completely removed, except for some collapse at the northern (sq. BBB43) and southern (sq. CCC41) extents. The wall was mostly built from large wadi boulders of sand and limestone and rare examples of shale slabs. Most of the rocks are large, and secondary use of worked stones are relatively common. The wall is not embedded in a surface, and to a large extent is built on top of a previous structure. It follows the same general orientation of the previous structure, but is slightly larger. Pottery, bone, slag were collected in low amounts, along with a crucible and copper metal, possibly a “bun ingot” from a crucible.

### **W. 265 (closed today)**

The wall was completely removed today, including the portion in Sq. AAA43, where it runs parallel to the new wall (W. 287). It was decided to remove this portion in order to identify the possible courtyard situated underneath it. The wall was mostly built from large wadi boulders of sand and limestone and rare examples of shale slabs. Most of the rocks are large, and secondary use of worked stones are relatively common. The wall is not embedded in a surface, and to a large extent is built on top of a previous structure and slightly to the north. Pottery, bone, and slag were collected; one piece of possibly worked quartz was collected from the sieve.

### **W. 270 (closed today)**

L. 270 appeared to be a part of the collapse of the stratum I structure, but the soil underneath is part of the processing area of L. 263. The top layer was excavated today, and thereafter closed. The remaining soil was merged into the boundaries of L. 263. The wall was either poorly built or was in a more disintegrated state compared to the other stratum I walls. The more extensive collapse could also be caused by the higher elevation of the southern portion of the structure. The collapse consisted of large wadi boulders and some shale slabs; W. 270 did not include secondary use of worked stone. Finds included pottery, bone, and slag, along with corroded copper metal, tuyere pipe fragments, and charcoal.

### **L. 271 (closed today)**

The locus was closed today finally after excavating approx. 50 cm below ground level. After completing the stratum I collapse removal, new architecture appears on the surface along with a soil change and a

higher density of finds. The locus increased in size as we excavated and covered the central part of the new structure. Pottery, slag, prills, charcoal, ore, and 4 worked stones in secondary use were collected today. The reused worked stones appear in a concentration from the western portion of L. 271 and into L. 283, primarily along the interior wall line below W. 269.

#### **L. 274**

More collapse was removed, which further clarified the wall line situated underneath W. 269 in sq. BBB41. A possible corner was identified that may be an extension of W. 289 separated by an entrance. This wall line runs from the northeast to the southwest, possibly bounding the stratum II structure to the south. Further removal of collapse will continue tomorrow. Finds include pottery, bone, slag, corroded copper metal, and charcoal.

#### **L. 280 (closed today)**

The locus was closed today finally after excavating approx. 50 cm below ground level. After completing the stratum I collapse removal, new architecture appears on the surface along with a soil change and a higher density of finds. A possible storage facility in the shape of a small rectangular room in an east-west orientation appears below the collapse. The locus was closed so that we could further excavate the room as a new locus (L. 292). No finds other than slag were collected today.

#### **L. 283**

Limited excavation was conducted in this locus today. Further defining of the wall line beneath W. 269 along with removal of collapse continued. A possible corner was identified lining up with a wall, running northeast to southwest, in the northern part of the stratum II structure (wall bounding L. 292 to the south). The wall line will be further identified and assigned a locus number tomorrow. Two worked stones were collected from the collapse removal, which is part of a concentration of reused worked stones extending into the western portion of L. 271. Low amounts of slag and pottery were collected today.

#### **L. 284**

The locus was not excavated today, but in the sweeping in preparation for a photograph, limited pottery and slag was collected. The surface will not be excavated until we have further extension of the locus in square AAA43. Photo EDM #70430.

#### **W. 287 (opened today)**

W. 287 runs northeast to southwest bounding the stratum II structure to the north. It is built of smaller rectangular cut stones mixed with smaller uncut stones. The wall consists of one to two courses in width, becoming wider in the northeast. A corner is identified in sq. BBB43, where W. 288 butts up against it. A second corner is identified in the southwest end where it meets the wall situated below W. 269.

#### **W. 288 (opened today)**

W. 288 runs from the northwest to the southeast bounding the stratum II structure to the east below W. 264. At the southern end, the wall meets with W. 289, running parallel to W. 287. Tomorrow we will further excavate the southern extent of W. 288. A possible entrance that might have been blocked may have been identified in the center of the wall, at the northeastern corner of sq. BBB42. At this same location a wall line is appearing, which will also be further investigated. The wall is very thin, built from smaller rectangular cut stones with small, uncut cobbles.

#### **W. 289 (opened today)**

A short wall running northeast to southwest. It meets with W. 288 at its northeastern extent. This wall might bound the stratum II structure to the south. A possible extension of the wall, divided by an entrance, will be investigated tomorrow. The wall is built of smaller rectangular cut stones with small, uncut cobbles. At its southwestern extent, W. 289 meets at a corner with W. 290.

#### **W. 290 (opened today)**

The wall consists mostly of square cut stones, which may have functioned as a roof support and a portion of an entrance connected to W. 289. It runs northwest to the southeast, parallel to W. 288. W. 290 lines up with W. 291 divided by a long opening.

#### **W. 291 (opened today)**

W. 291 is a short wall running northwest to southeast, parallel to W. 288. It runs in line with W. 290 separated by a long opening. W. 291 meets with (at its north limit) and is perpendicular to a wall line running northeast to southwest that will be assigned a locus number tomorrow.

#### **L. 292 (opened today)**

The locus represents a small rectangular room in the northeastern portion of the stratum II structure. It might have been used as a storage facility. It is bounded by W. 287 to the north, W. 288 to the east, to the south by an emerging wall line, which will be numbered tomorrow. A possible entrance is identified bounding it to the west. The entrance is indicated by two doorposts embedded in soil. Only limited pottery and slag were collected.

#### **L. 293 (opened and closed today)**

This locus was a surface clearing north of W. 265. A large amount of slag was collected, along with low amounts of pottery.

#### **L. 294 (opened today)**

This locus is situated below L. 293 and L. 264 and contemporary to L. 266. The topsoil will be excavated at a depth of approx. 10 cm. The soil is silty, ashy sediment. A nice piece of copper metal was found, along with slag and low amounts of pottery. Very limited excavation took place today, because the locus was opened towards the end of the day.

## **10/24/02**

#### **L. 263**

The remaining elevation of soil, situated below the former W. 270, is excavated to the same level as L. 275 and the lowest level of L. 263. The soil is ashy and silty, and the finds indicate the theory of the locus being a part of a processing area. Low amounts of pottery and bone were collected along with very large amounts of slag. Furthermore, charcoal, slag with charcoal, slag with copper, tuyere pipe fragments, worked stone, a furnace fragment, charred ore, copper metal, a possible bellows tube, copper ore, glassy slag and a metal awl incising a piece of bone were recovered from the locus today.

#### **W. 264**

Further clearance was conducted on the northern portion of the wall, situated in Sq. BBB 43. Collapse on the northeast side of the wall is still not entirely clear, including the connection to W. 287. Pottery, flint and slag was collected along with a possible pestle fragment.

#### **W. 269**

The northern part of the wall, situated in Sq. AAA 42, was removed today. Below the wall a stratum II wall line appears, being the western exterior wall line of the stratum II structure. A possible entrance from the west was indicated by a cut square corner stone along with an interruption of the interior wall line. We will investigate this further tomorrow. A hammerstone was collected along with slag and a semi-perforated stone.

#### **L. 274**

Extensive removal of architectural collapse was conducted today. In the process we identified a possible stratum I wall in relation to the appearing stratum II. A room is also identified in the southwestern part of the stratum II structure. A possible wall line, bounding the structure to the south will be further investigated tomorrow. Pottery, bone and slag were collected from here today. An overview photograph was taken, with EDM photo #: 70488. The locus will hopefully be closed tomorrow, as we are noticing a soil change along with a corresponding depth of excavation with former L. 271.

#### **L. 283**

Further collapse removal was conducted today. The depth was leveled with surrounding loci, along with further identification of the northern interior wall line of the stratum II structure. As we excavate further a new locus will be opened. Pottery, slag, and 3 worked stones were collected.

#### **L. 285 (closed today)**

As we reached the bottom of the ash layer, a possible processing area was identified in the northwest corner of the probe and recorded as a perimeter artifact with EDM #75106. A sample for flotation was collected, B. 5791. We decided not to excavate the processing area any further but to change locus and excavate around it. The new locus number is L. 295. Bone, pottery, and slag were collected along with tuyere pipe fragment, charcoal, and possible furnace fragment.

#### **L. 292**

A large grinding slab in situ identified a possible surface. The walls surrounding the room to the north, east, and south were further identified, along with a possible threshold to the west. The room will be photographed tomorrow (EDM photo #70489), and the grinding slab collected. A broken polishing stone was collected along with slag and pottery.

#### **L. 294**

The topsoil was scraped down to approx. 15 cm in depth. The soil is ashy and metallurgically related finds indicate a possible processing area. The exterior wall line of W. 287 was further defined. Pottery, bone, and slag were collected along with tuyere pipe, furnace fragments, and copper ore. The topsoil will be removed throughout the locus tomorrow, and a new locus contemporary with L. 279 will be opened.

#### **L. 295 (opened today)**

The locus was opened in the afternoon surrounding the processing area in the probe. The soil is less ashy and appears to be consistent with the sediment deposit, which was above the ash layer (L. 285). Finds included slag and bone. Interesting to note is the combination of bones with metallurgical debris and ash.

#### **L. 296**

The rectangular southern room of the stratum II building was opened as a new locus today. Further clearance of walls bounding the room along with collapse embedded in the surface will be conducted.

Tomorrow we will try to identify a surface and to expose it throughout. Finds included a grinding slab not in situ and slag.

## **10/25/02**

Several overview photographs over the area was taken today. They are linked to photo EDM # 70504. The overview clearly shows the outline of the stratum II complex with possible metallurgical processing courtyards to the north and south.

### **L. 263**

The locus was further excavated today in order to level it with earlier levels of L. 263 along with L. 275. The soil is ashy and silty with a high density of metallurgical finds. Pottery, bone, flint, slag, tuyere pipe fragments, slag with charcoal (EDM # 70522), crucible fragment, slag with copper, burnt ore, snail fossil, copper ore and furnace fragments were all collected from the locus today. The charcoal embedded in the slag is recommended as a C<sup>14</sup> sample.

### **W. 264**

Limited wall clearance was conducted at the southern portion of the wall, situated on the gridline between Sq. BBB 42 and BBB 41. The baulk needs to be partially removed in order to identify the exterior wall line of the stratum II structure. Only small amounts of slag were collected from the clearance.

### **W. 269**

Limited wall clearance was conducted at the southern portion of the wall, situated on the gridline between Sq. AAA 41 and BBB 41 and further south. The exterior wall line was identified of the stratum II structure. The remaining stones on the top surface were removed. A bottom elevation of the wall was recorded. Pottery and slag was collected from the wall clearance.

### **L. 274 (closed today)**

The locus was closed early in the day as we reached a soil change and were leveled with the closing level of neighboring L. 271. The locus below follow the same outline, and was assigned locus number 300. The majority of the collapse was removed before closing, with a concentration of the eastern part of the room. The interior wall line of W. 288 was identified, indicating that the wall continues into Sq. BBB 41, up to the beginning of L. 263. In order to identify it further we will have to remove parts of the baulk, along with the rest of wall 264. Pottery, a polishing stone and slag was recorded and collected.

### **L. 283 (closed today)**

The locus was closed early in the day as we had reached the level of the neighboring loci. Locus 299 was opened below, further extending the locus to the east, towards the possible storage room of L. 292. No finds were collected from the locus today.

### **L. 292**

WE excavated this possible storage room further today. The soil is silty but of a slightly darker hue than the previous layer. One well preserved grinding stone was recorded and collected, along with four more grinding stones not in situ. A polishing stone, a worked stone with depressions on each side, pottery, slag and copper ore was collected. It is interesting to note that the second room south of L. 292 has not yet presented any groundstones.



## **L. 294 (closed today)**

The locus represents topsoil in Sq. AAA 43. The soil consists of ashy, silty sediment, very similar to contemporary L. 266 to the east. Very large amounts of slag were collected along with moderate amounts of pottery and bone. Two tuyere pipe fragments and charcoal was also collected, but most likely they relate to the locus to be opened below (L. 301) as it was excavated slightly too deep. The sediment along with the very large amounts of slag indicate that this truly is a copper processing area, along with L. 263 to the south of the structure of stratum II.

## **L. 295**

The possible processing surface identified yesterday appeared over the whole surface of the probe today. After studying the sections, it is easy to trace this layer. Therefore, a new locus will be opened on Sunday and the layer will be removed. The surface is compact, consisting of ashy clay with finely crumbled slag. Possibly, a furnace was situated here. The south section of the probe was labeled today for stratigraphic control. Burnt ore, copper metal, slag, pottery and bone were collected.

## **L. 296**

The locus represent the eastern rectangular room within the stratum II structure. Moderate amounts of architectural collapse still covers large amounts of the surface. A compact silt layer was noted today, and it was exposed throughout the room. As we excavate further below, a lot of the collapse can be removed. Very limited amounts of finds indicate that the layer we exposed today was created by compacted sediment collapse and does not include any occupation surface. Low amounts of pottery, slag and a small grinding slab were collected.

## **W. 297**

The wall is running northwest-southeast, bounding the stratum II structure to the west. It is situated below the later wall of 269. It is built from small rectangular cut stones and small-uncut slabs, which is distinct from the stratum I building material. The exterior wall line needs to be further exposed. A possible entrance from the west was identified, but needs to be further cleared. The outline of the wall was recorded with the EDM.

## **W. 298**

The wall is running northeast-southwest, parallel to W. 287 inside the stratum II structure. It separates the rooms represented by L. 292 and L. 296. It is rather poor built with larger stones on top and smaller slabs below. A possible entrance will be further investigated, located west of W. 291. Including the entrance the wall connects wall 288 with wall 297.

## **L. 299 (opened today)**

The locus was opened below L. 283, and the perimeter now follows the architectural boundaries within the northern part of the stratum II structure. L. 299 is situated in the junction of Sq. AAA 43, BBB 43, AAA 42 and BBB 42. Further identification of the interior northern wall line was conducted. More architectural collapse is situated on the surface, and some of it was removed today. The soil is silty but has a slightly darker hue than the previous layer of L. 283. Low amounts of slag were collected. The possible entrance in wall 298 will be further identified as we excavate this locus.

## **L. 300 (opened today)**

The locus was opened below L. 274 in the southern portion of the stratum II structure. A soil change along with a higher density of finds and collapse removal indicated the locus change. A possible interior wall

line was identified, bounding the main structure to the south. A corner was noted where the new wall line meets with wall 297 in the west. The interior wall line of wall 288 was also cleared, although no corner to the southeast was identified.

Pottery, bone, slag, and a large grinding stone not in situ was recorded and collected.

#### **L. 301 (opened today)**

The locus was opened today, below the topsoil removal of L. 294. The locus is contemporary with L. 279 to the east. We opened it late in the day and limited excavation was conducted. The soil contains ashy sediment. Pottery, bone, slag and copper ore was collected.

**10/27/02**

#### **L. 263**

Excavation continued in order to level the locus throughout the ashy sediment. The density of metallurgical finds continues to be high. About ½ of the soil was sieved. Large amounts of slag were recovered, along with pottery, bone, flint, tuyere pipe, furnace fragments, copper metal, crucible fragment, copper ore, slag with copper, glassy slag, quartz crystal, three worked stones, and prills. Once the locus is level, a new locus will be opened to excavate to the same level as the locus to the north (L. 300).

#### **W. 264**

Clearing of the southern portion of W. 264 continued. A possible corner was detected under W. 264, which would be the southern limit of the structure. A portion of the baulk has been excavated in order to clarify the lower, stratum II walls. Finds were limited to slag, pottery, tuyere pipe, and a hammerstone. We will continue in the southern portion of the wall to determine the limits of the stratum II structure and the neighboring loci.

#### **W. 269**

Collapse and wall clearance of W. 269 continued, primarily in the northern portion of the wall; the southern portion has been removed. Clearance will continue in order to reveal the stratum II walls. Finds included pottery, slag, a worked shell (a similar one was recorded from L. 302), and a grinding slab from the collapse.

#### **L. 295 (closed today)**

This locus was not excavated today but closed so that the processing surface could be removed (L. 303).

#### **L. 296**

Excavation in the eastern portion of the structure continued to an addition depth of around 15 cm, which consisted primarily of removing collapse; however, it appears that we may be approaching an occupational phase. Metallurgical finds are more frequent in the southeastern portion of the room. A large piece of blue furnace slag (indicating high levels of ore) was collected today. A large grinding slab was also collected from the collapse. Other finds are few but include pottery, bone, slag, radiocarbon, and 4 other worked/grinding stones.

#### **L. 299**

Excavation continued in the northwestern room of the structure. Lots of collapse was removed, but very few finds: pottery, slag, and one worked stone. Future excavation will concentrate on clarifying the bounding walls of L. 299, especially W. 287 and possible threshold/entrance leading to L. 292.

### **L. 300**

Excavation was limited in L. 300 due to the realization that debris from L. 270 and 263 is contaminating the finds. Excavation will continue once the surrounding loci are brought down and more wall definition is reached of the wall bounding L. 300 to the south.

### **L. 301**

Excavation continued, clearing another 10 cm in order to level the ashy sediment with neighboring sq. BBB43. The sediment and finds are consistent with L. 279, and the area north of W. 287 will be joined as one locus when the level in AAA43 is brought down to that of BBB43. Finds include pottery and bone but are primarily metallurgical: slag, tuyere pipe, and furnace fragments, non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramic, and one piece of red slag was collected today (B. 5903).

### **L. 302 (opened today)**

L. 302 was opened in the western-central portion of the structure. Much of the excavation still consists of removing debris and clarifying external walls and internal divisions in the structure. There appears to be a possible blocked entrance in the western boundary of the locus in W. 297. Finds include pottery, slag, a worked shell (one also collected from W. 269), 2 worked stones, a hammerstone, a door socket, 2 radiocarbon samples, and copper metal. The northeastern portion of the locus has been excavated deeper than the rest, so future excavation will focus on leveling the entire locus and clarifying divisions within the structure.

### **L. 303 (opened today)**

This locus was opened in order to remove the processing surface in the probe in sq. CCC43. Once the processing remains were removed (about 15-20 cm in depth), a clear surface was detected below the ashy sediment. The surface is light in color and compact. Tomorrow, L. 303 will be closed, and a new locus will be opened in order to excavate the surface. Finds from L. 303 included pottery, bone, slag, tuyere pipe, slag with copper, corroded copper metal, ore, and 3 bags for flotation.

**10/28/02**

### **L. 263**

The level of this locus is nearly even with the original level of L. 263. The natural topography creates a slope, which is highest in the west sloping down to the east. A possible furnace was identified in the west part of the locus and will be photographed and analyzed tomorrow. A high density of metallurgical finds continues represented today by pottery, bone, flint, copper metal, tuyere pipes, slag, non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramic, slag with copper, hammerstones, prill, worked stone (hand grinder), miscellaneous metal, charcoal, quartz crystal, copper ore, furnace fragment, glassy slag, one large furnace slag fragment, and nice samples of radiocarbon in slag (EDM 70600; B. 5954) recommended for C14. After the possible furnace installation is analyzed and removed, the locus will be closed.

### **W. 264**

The extreme northern and southern portions of W. 264 were removed today. Nothing of the stratum I wall remains in the area. A corner below W. 264 was clearly identified in the southern portion (now W. 288). Parts of the southern collapse were embedded in the baulk, so the baulk was removed only the eastern most portion remains. From the southern collapse removal, only small amounts of pottery and slag were collected. The northern collapse removal will be discussed under L. 304. The closing elevation for L. 264 was recorded by EDM 70512 on 10/25/02 and is still valid.

#### **L. 275**

The locus has been idle while excavation in L. 263 continued in order to reach a contemporary level. As we cleared the southern corner of W. 288, a complete vessel (EDM 70626; B. 5989) in situ was discovered below the collapse, on the surface of L. 275. It is a shallow bowl with a painted rim and a light colored slip; it was found upside down. Before removal, two photographs were taken in situ (EDM 70626) one at an early stage of excavation, and a second when the entire vessel was exposed. The soil situated below and inside the vessel was collected as a flotation sample (B. 5993).

#### **L. 292 (closed today)**

This locus was not excavated today and was closed when neighboring L. 299 was brought to the same level. The locus below was opened as L. 305.

#### **L. 296**

Lots of collapse was removed along with clarification of interior wall lines bounding the room. Under the collapse in the northern portion of the room, more finds were recovered and a possible surface was detected. This surface will be exposed throughout the room, and then a new locus will be assigned to the room. Several worked stones (all from the northern part of the room) were collected along with pottery, ore, and wood.

#### **L. 299 (closed today)**

Once the locus was excavated level with L. 292, the locus was closed. A considerable amount of collapse was removed and interior wall lines clarified. Two large door sockets were recorded and collected today from the eastern portion of the locus, possibly serving as the entrance through W. 298 and into L. 292. Finds were few but include pottery, bone, slag, a hammerstone, and a polishing stone.

#### **L. 301**

Further exposure of the underlying surface was continued today. Slow progress is due to the large size of the locus. Finds aside from pottery and bone are dense and metallurgically related: large amount of slag, tuyere pipe fragments, non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramics, and furnace fragments.

#### **L. 302**

The locus is large and there is still a large amount of collapse embedded in the sediment, which slows excavation. Large amounts of collapse were removed today, including a possible lintel (EDM 75121). A very well preserved piece of copper metal (EDM 70625) was recovered from the northern portion of the locus, which may be at the stage just prior to casting. Also among the finds were pottery, bone, shell, a hammerstone, charcoal, slag, and another copper metal piece. Tomorrow, final leveling of the locus will be completed, and thereafter the locus will be closed.

#### **L. 303 (closed today)**

The surface was brushed and photographed (EDM 70586). The locus was then closed. One tuyere pipe fragment was collected from the sweeping.

**L. 304 (opened and closed today)**

The remaining collapse of the northern portion of W. 264 was removed, clearing the exterior corner between W. 288 and W. 287. Most likely the extension of W. 287 east of the corner creates an exterior division between possible courtyards. The perimeter of the locus will be maintained and will continue to be excavated as new loci consistent with the probe, in order to expose the surface in relation to the architecture. All the loci will be linked according to the layers detected in the original probe in sq. CCC43. Finds included only bone. The locus was closed once it was leveled with the bottom of the surrounding L. 267.

**L. 305 (opened today)**

This locus represents the northern rectangular room of the structure below L. 299 and L. 292. Limited excavated was conducted, because the locus was opened late in the day. We have now reached the sediment below most of the collapse. The soil is light brown silt. Finds included charcoal and slag.

**W. 306 (opened today)**

As we cleared the southern portion of W. 264, including the western portion of the baulk, a new wall line appeared running southwest to northeast. The wall is only one course wide and is still embedded in the surface. It butts up to the southeastern corner of W. 288. The wall might indicate a new room east of the structure. Only pottery was recovered from the wall clearance and all of it came from a lower elevation, possibly relating to the locus yet to be opened below in sq. CCC42.

**10/29/02****L. 263 (closed today)**

A concentration of packed ash was located in the west part of locus, being the last portion of L. 263 to excavate before closing. A soil sample was collected (EDM 75129) from the concentration, which was recorded as a perimeter artifact (EDM 75129). Charcoal was also collected from within the perimeter, given a separate basket number, but using the same perimeter EDM #. After the installation was removed, the locus was closed and L. 310 was opened below, following approximately the same perimeter.

**W. 269**

The last, northern portion of the wall was removed today. The exterior northwest corner of the stratum II structure was identified below, connecting walls 297 and 287. Approximately 50 cm west of wall 297 was partially excavated in the process of the wall 269 removal. Two large grinding slab were collected from the collapse, in secondary use. Low amounts of pottery and copper ore were collected along with a flint core.

**L. 278 (closed today)**

The locus was not excavated today we only closed it in order to open a new one below (L. 309) so that further identification of the exterior wall line of W. 297 could be conducted.

**L. 296**

A compacted sediment layer was noted yesterday, and further exposed today. More collapse was removed, and when it was leveled with neighboring loci, we did not excavated it any further today in preparation for

an overview photograph to be taken tomorrow. Pottery, slag, two worked stones and a palette were collected.

#### **L. 300**

The soil of the locus was not excavated today. Wall clearance was conducted in the western half, identifying the western continuation of W. 289, along with the southwestern corner of the room. No finds.

#### **L. 301**

Excavation proceeded towards the level of the surface 10 cm below. Process slow due to the large size of the locus. It is still evident that this is a copper processing area, north of the structure (stratum II) Pottery, bone and very large amounts of slag was collected along with tuyere pipe and furnace fragments, charcoal, slag with copper, organic material, copper ore and burnt ore was recollected from the locus today.

#### **L. 302**

The locus was leveled by the end of the day and a lot of collapse removal was conducted. Pottery, bone charcoal, slag and six grinding slabs were collected, along with worked stones, a hand grinder, a core, and a flint hand stone. The locus was prepared for the over view photograph that will be taken tomorrow.

#### **L. 305**

The locus was excavated to the same level as the neighboring loci of L. 296 and 302. The architectural collapse on the surface was removed. A bead, slag, pottery, bone, two hammer stones and charcoal was collected from the locus today. The surface was swept by the end of the day to prepare for the over view photograph that will be taken tomorrow.

#### **W. 306**

The wall was further cleared today, as we recorded it with the boom. In the process we collected low amounts of pottery and slag.

#### **L. 307 (opened today)**

The locus was scraped down to the level of the former L. 277 located in the probe right east of the locus. The last of the collapse was removed. Very small amounts of pottery, bone and slag along with one piece of copper metal. One dimpled hammer stone was also recovered.

#### **L. 308 (opened today)**

The locus is represented by the light colored surface located in the probe. The locus was opened, but not excavated today. No finds.

#### **L. 309 (opened today)**

The locus was opened as we excavated further down in order to clear the exterior wall line of W. 297. A possible extension running NE-SW was identified in the southeastern part of the locus. The wall line might indicate a room located outside the structure. Collapse from the former W. 269 was removed. Finds included small amounts of pottery and bone along with moderate amounts of slag. One small round worked stone was recovered.

#### **L. 310**

The locus is situated below L. 263, and was opened to further investigate the copper processing area situated south of the structure. Beautiful examples of tuyere pipe fragments were found today, along with large amounts of furnace fragments and slag. Pottery, bone, copper ore, flint, a hammerstone, slag with copper and non-diagnostic metallurgical ceramic were collected. The locus will be excavated to the same level as L. 300, in order to clarify the wall and an entrance separating the two.

## **10/30/02**

### **L. 275 (perimeter middle was shot today)**

As we started to excavate the neighboring L. 310, we wanted to excavate L. 275 simultaneously to the same level. The soil is very silty and light brown, with an appearing ashy layer below. The new perimeter includes the eastern part of the southern baulk, which was removed today. A possible wall line (NW-SE) situated between L. 310 and L. 275 was identified today, which might be the reason why L. 310 is so distinct from L. 275. The wall line could be a western enclosure of a room just south of wall 306. Considerable amounts of pottery were collected along with large amounts of slag. Furthermore, bone, tuyere pipe fragments, slag with copper, copper metal, copper ore, a worked stone and furnace fragments was recovered.

### **L. 300**

The southern room was excavated to level it with L. 302, L. 302 and L. 296 all situated inside the building. Remaining collapse from this layer was removed. The wall line bounding the room to the south was further identified along with the entrance situated on the eastern side of the wall. The soil is silty and yellowish brown. Very low amounts of pottery and slag was collected along with a pestle, copper ore, copper metal and charcoal.

### **L. 301**

The locus was almost completely excavated today, and very large amounts of slag were collected along with more pottery and bone than collected previously. Metallurgical finds, such as charcoal, copper metal, slag with copper, copper ore, charred ore, furnace fragments, prills, tuyere pipe fragments and glassy slag were collected along with a worked stone. The locus is similar to L. 310, although the density of metallurgical finds in L. 310 is higher, but all categories are also found in L. 301. The loci are distinct from area M in the fact that we have large amounts of pottery within copper processing areas.

### **L. 307**

The locus was excavated until we reached a layer with ashier soil below, following the same pattern as the probe. Remaining collapse embedded in the soil was removed, and the exterior wall line was further cleared. Pottery was collected including diagnostic pieces such as handles and rims. Slag, bone, a miscellaneous stone, a dimpled hammerstone, a small handstone and copper metal was collected from the locus today.

### **L. 308**

The probable surface that was identified a few days ago in the probe was excavated today. Only half of the probe was excavated. The surface proved to be virgin soil. We excavated to a depth of approximately 30 cm, and no finds were collected and no soil change was visible. The soil is yellow, very compact and slightly moist. We will excavate another 20 cm, and closely look at the section before we come to the definitive conclusion of virgin soil. The locus is situated at an approximate depth of 1.2 m below ground level. Very low amounts of slag were collected, which most likely belong to the previous locus.

### **L. 310**

A big effort was made today to expose the wall bounding the locus to the north along with leveling L. 310 and L. 275 with neighboring loci. The extreme density of finds slowed us down, but very nice samples of metallurgical remains keep appearing. The density of pottery is rising when we now have reached the deeper layers. Very large amounts of slag, along with furnace fragments and tuyere pipe fragments were collected. More well-preserved samples of those fragments were recorded as special finds adding to the number. Furthermore, we collected bone, slag with copper, charcoal, glassy slag, copper ore, copper metal, a bone awl, partially processed ore, prills and worked stone.

## **11/04/02**

### **L. 275**

Excavation proceeded in order to level it with the northern part of neighboring L. 310. A possible wall line is appearing between L. 275 and L. 310, possibly being the definitive eastern boundary of L. 310 as the soil is less ashy on the east side of the wall. Finds include pottery, bone, and moderate amounts of slag, tuyere pipe fragments, and seeds/organic material.

### **L. 296 (closed today)**

Not excavated today.

### **L. 300 (closed today)**

The locus was closed after being leveled with contemporary L. 296 and L. 302. The room still contains a lot of collapse and more is appearing below. Very low amounts of pottery, copper metal, and charcoal, one hammerstone, one dimpled hammerstone, and slag were collected. Comparatively low amounts of finds indicating that we are still excavating in collapse above the occupational level.

### **L. 301**

Leveling continues identifying a possible processing surface covering most of the square (AAA43). The soil is ashy and contains a very large amount of slag of which large amounts are crumbled. Larger amounts of copper metal have been collected in the western part of the locus, along with slag with copper. The locus will be completely excavated tomorrow and closed. The actual processing surface will then be excavated. Finds include shell, bone, pottery, very large amounts of slag, prill, several pieces of copper metal, charcoal, slag with copper, and a misc. stone.

### **L. 302 (closed today)**

Not excavated today.

### **L. 305**

A compacted soil layer was exposed throughout the room, probably due to collapse situated on top of it. Several copper metal pieces were collected from that layer. We proceeded excavation by excavating a layer of approx. 10 cm. Finds include bone, pottery, slag, copper metal, partially processed copper, a grinding slab, 2 door sockets (not in situ), a fragment of a large hammerstone or chopper, and copper ore. The increase in finds might indicate that we are approaching the occupational level.

### **L. 307 (closed today)**

Not excavated today.

### **L. 308**



The virgin soil was further excavated to a depth of approx. 50 cm. The soil is moist and yellow and sandy. No finds have been collected, further indicating that this layer predates any occupation in the area. We will continue to excavate another 50 cm.

### **L. 310**

The depth of the locus measures approx. 30 cm, and the density of finds is great. No surface has been detected, which might indicate that the area could have been used as a waste pit. We need to excavate further to see if the locus is related to the slag mound south of the locus outside the area. Possibly, the structure bounds the extended waste mound to the north and to the east by the new wall line appearing between L. 310 and L. 275. Further, we have a possible extension of W. 297 leading south (into BBB40), which appears to be the western limit of the metallurgical debris very distinct from L. 309, situated west of W. 297. Very large amounts of slag and tuyere pipe fragments were collected, along with pottery, bone, flint, slag with copper, furnace fragments, charcoal, copper metal, glassy slag, crucible fragment, a hammerstone, and copper ore.

### **L. 311 (opened today)**

L. 311 was opened today below L. 307 and is contemporary to the ashy sediment in the probe **L. 281\***. Collapse situated on the surface was removed. A large amount of pottery was collected close to the wall. The soil is slightly ashier than the previous L. 307. Finds include bone, pottery, slag, and a very nice charcoal sample (B. 6185, EDM 70758). The area of this locus will continue to be excavated following the same loci divisions as found in the probe all the way down to virgin soil. We will do this in order to clarify the function of W. 288.

### **L. 312 (opened today)**

L. 312 was opened today below L. 296 once L. 296 was leveled with L. 302 and L. 300. L. 312 still contains collapse, but the density of finds is slightly higher than previous loci. We excavated to a depth of approx. 15 cm, removing the collapse within that layer. Finds include pottery (including a straining spout), flint, slag, and a dimpled hammerstone.

### **W. 313 (opened today)**

W. 313 is a short wall running northeast to southwest, butting up to W. 297 and running along the same line as W. 289, which create an entrance into the large room/courtyard situated in the central western part of the structure.

### **W. 314 (opened today)**

W. 314 runs northeast-southwest parallel to W. 289 and creates a corner with W. 288. The wall runs along the same line as W. 315, which together create a wide opening of the main structure to the south. The wall is poorly preserved.

### **W. 315 (opened today)**

W. 315 runs in a northeast-southwest direction parallel to W. 313 and following the same line as W. 314, which creates a wide opening in the southern portion of the structure. It is also poorly preserved, but considerably higher in the western portion, which butts up to W. 297.

### **L. 316 (opened today)**

This locus was opened below L. 300 in order to continue excavation through the collapse in conjunction with the other interior rooms of the structure: L. 312 and L. 305 and the locus yet to be opened below L. 302. A deeper level of collapse is appearing and was partially removed. The density of finds is

considerably higher than the previous L. 300 indicating an approach to an occupational level. Finds include low amounts of pottery, bone, and slag, along with a large (carnelian?) bead, 3 dimpled hammerstones, charcoal, a possibly work surface stone with copper remains, a palette fragment, and copper ore.