

Plan 161: AD-AE-AF,22-23-24 - Overview

Little can be said about this area because of its incomplete excavation and poor preservation. No remains of Stratum 5 were evident, but architectural fragments and rock-cut installations which may be attributable to Strata 4, 3, 2 and 1 were found, though the suggested assignments are tentative.

Evaluation -

Most of this area was left unexcavated. Rubble heaps cover over 60% of the plan. The area is also close to the central ridge of the site, which means that preservation in general is probably not very good. Two areas were excavated: AF24 in 1927, and AD24 in 1929. No photographs or levels were taken of the features in AF24, and there are only a few of each for AD24. A separate 1:100 plan was not prepared for this area; it appears only on a large scale plan which covers the entire S half of the site at 1:100 scale. Because of the small area excavated, and the fragmentary and disjointed condition of the remains, only a few comments can be offered.

Rm 19 is an ill-defined space bounded by walls of different strata. The double-stone walls S and W of Ci 51, and those on the border of AF-AG24, probably belong to buildings of Strata 2 to 1. In AF25 of Plan 162 there is a N to S single-stone wall which might mark the front of a structure connected with the casemate-like wall farther E. If this is accepted as a working hypothesis, then the thin walls in AF-AG24 might belong to buildings on the other side of a road from the one in AF25. Note that Si 124 and Si 125 in AF25 are cut by one of these single-stone walls. If indeed the thin wall belongs to Stratum 3, it is possible that this installation belongs to Stratum 4, and therefore

fragments of as many as four strata are found in this small area.

Rm 281 and Rm 282 are very fragmentary. Rm 282 at least seems to be oriented toward the casemate like wall, and was thus probably in use throughout Stratum 3. Even less survives of Rm 281, but its orientation may be similar. Note that both rooms are delimited by walls of single- and double-stone work, suggesting long use and reuse.