

Tell Report for the MSA, 2017.

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Fig.1. View of the Ptolemaic workshop in M5.2 and M5.3 looking east.

with contributions by Skylar Joseph and Julian Hernandez

The Limestone Temple Foundations

The 1st Century BCE Temple Destruction

In 2009 a large limestone casemate temple foundation was identified in M5.1. The excavations this season in M6.17 demonstrated that a mudbrick building found in 2015 was constructed on the destruction deposits of the limestone temple. Below the mudbrick building were several large limestone blocks that had fallen from the adjacent limestone temple. There was also considerable limestone debris that overlay a series of small mudbrick rooms that may date to the original construction phase of the limestone temple.

Within the limestone collapse [M6.17.021] which filled one of the small mudbrick rooms was a white ground lagynos from Greece. Lagynos of this type were most popular about 150-50 BCE. Examples from Athens show this low angular form the same as the Tell Timai example but with rope handle instead of the strap handle and can be dated to 115-50 BCE. Similar examples have also been found at the Agora and can be dated to 115-86 BC. Also in the limestone collapse was an AE3 amphora which can be dated to the Late Ptolemaic and Early