Publications of
THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
in cooperation with
THE ISRAEL EXPLORATION SOCIETY
Ayelet Gilboa, Ilan Sharon, Jeffrey R. Zorn and Sveta Matskevich

EXCAVATIONS AT DOR, FINAL REPORT

VOLUME IIA

AREA G, THE LATE BRONZE AND IRON AGES:
SYNTHESIS, ARCHITECTURE AND STRATIGRAPHY

DIRECTED BY
EPHRAIM STERN 1986–2000
ILAN SHARON AND AYELET GILBOA 2002–2004

with contributions by:
John E. Berg, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Allen Estes
THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION OF THE LATE BRONZE AND IRON AGE REMAINS FROM AREA G WERE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH:

The ongoing support of The Goldhirsh-Yellin Foundation, California

A publication grant of the Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications

Certain aspects of the research were conducted with the aid of the Israel Science Foundation: Grant No. 812/97 (stratigraphical and ceramic analysis); Grant Nos. 778/00, 141/04; The Getty Collaborative Research Program, the Israel-Hungary Bi-national Science Foundation and the US National Science Foundation (Grant EAR01–15488)

Anonymous donors

We also acknowledge the support of:

The Israel Exploration Society and its director, Joseph Aviram
The Muriel and Philip Berman Center for Biblical Archaeology
The Institute of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Zinman Institute of Archaeology, The University of Haifa
The Kimmel Center for Archaeological Science, The Weizmann Institute of Science
The Division of Humanities and the Department of History of Art, College of Letters and Science, University of California, Berkeley
The Cornell University Hirsch Fund
The Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University

Special thanks to:

Andrew Stewart, who directed the first decade of excavations in Area G and who graciously provided many of the photographs used in this publication.

“Hamizgaga” Museum (Kibbutz Nahsholim), also known as the Glass House, its curator Bracha Guz-Zilberstein, directors and staff: Israel Hirshberg, Nurit Shatzman, Liat Margalit, Roni Sofer-Rozenblum, Hava Mager, Roni Israeli, Inbal Shahaf-Gilad, Nurit Sela and Rina Zemmarin.

The Israel Antiquities Authority

The Israel Nature and Parks Authority

The Qedem Editorial Board and our editor, Nava Panitz-Cohen, for her professional and conscientious work.

Lastly, we gratefully acknowledge our debt to Professor Ephraim Stern, for initiating all of the principals to the Tel Dor staff, supporting us as graduate students and consigning to us the responsibility of bringing this publication to completion.
In memory of
Professor Ephraim Stern (1934–2018), Director of the Tel Dor Excavations
1980–2000
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CHAPTER 10

“DOREEN’S ROOM”: AI/33—PHASES 5–10

Jeffrey R. Zorn

Excavated by: Dennis Stanfill (1986)
Allen Estes (1987)
Dennis Stanfill, John Yielding-Sloan (1988)
Willem Boshoff (2000)
Elizabeth Bloch-Smith (2000)
Directed by: Andrew Stewart on behalf of UC Berkeley (1986–1994)
Jeffery Zorn on behalf of Cornell University (1997–1999)
Elizabeth Bloch-Smith on behalf of St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia (2000)

INTRODUCTION

The Iron Age room discussed here is located primarily in AI/33, along with a small section of the southern part of AI/34. It is defined by W9211 on the north, W9262 on the south, W9684 on the east and W9275 on the west. Loci in AI/33 west of W9275 are discussed in conjunction with material from AI/33 in Chapter 13.

In Phase 7, this room contained the complete intact skeleton of a woman, apparently crushed when the surrounding walls collapsed on her (cf., Chapter 29), whose nickname in the field gave this room its colloquial name—“Doreen’s room”.

Persian period pits, as well as the construction of later Hellenistic through Roman buildings, heavily disturbed the latest Iron Age levels. Although the eastern wall of this room, W9684, is preserved ca. 2.6 m high (#15.58–12.90), no clear floors could be identified from the top of W9684 down to the level with the skeleton (F9816, ca. #13.40), a depth of 2.1 m. Even this latter floor was not well preserved and could be observed only in the north of the room. No actual floor was observed under the skeleton, although clearly she had to rest on a surface of some sort. Suggested stages and floor levels above the skeleton are based on estimates derived from floors beyond W9211 on the north and W9729 on the south. In addition, the lack of a clear Phase 8 floor to associate with any of the surrounding walls makes it impossible to be certain if walls built on top of Phase 9 walls are initially Phase 8 or only Phase 7.

WALL AND FLOOR STAGES

Table 10.1. Walls and floors per stage and phase

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<td>Phase 9a – Ir1a late</td>
<td>W9684b = W9262c-d = W18481 = W18516 = W9961 = F9928 = F9927 (destruction level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td>Phase 9b – Ir1a late</td>
<td>W9684b = W9262c-d = W18481 = W18516 = W9961 = F9928 = F9955 (destruction level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi</td>
<td>Phase 10a – Ir1a early</td>
<td>W18514 = W18515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xii</td>
<td>Phase 10b–c – Ir1a early</td>
<td>W18503</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

pottery assemblage: Plates 20.51–20.52

DESCRIPTION OF WALLS

See Fig. 10.28 for a schematic representation of the walls in this unit. W9684, as noted above, marks the eastern end of the room. It is a single-stone-wide fieldstone wall, in which two phases, denoted a-b, were discerned. W9684a (top #15.58, base #14.40) was built of stones ca. 15–20 cm in diameter, while
W9684b (top #14.40, base #12.90) had much larger stones, as much as 50 cm long by 30 cm high; W9684b is 50 cm wide. In construction technique and use-history, it is similar to W9266 to the east. W9684a was bonded with W9729, while W9684b was abutted by W9262 (cf., Fig. 10.3).

A sequence of two walls, W9211 > W18516, defines the northern end of the room. W9211 (top #14.44, base #13.57) is an east–west fieldstone wall preserved six courses high and ca. 80 cm wide, built of stones 20–50 cm across. Rubble and mudbrick debris were found above its preserved top. W9211 is built on top of W18516 (see below), but is oriented slightly more due west, resulting in W18516’s southern face projecting at a slight angle below W9211 (Fig. 10.17).

W18516 (top #13.57, base not reached when excavation ceased at #13.42) is a fieldstone wall exposed ca. three courses high, built of stones 30–45 cm across. There is a doorway in W18516 where it makes a corner with W18481. It was not clear at the end of excavation whether it is built on, or forms a corner with, W18515. The latter, however, is likely, since in the adjacent unit to the west (the so-called “fish room”; Chapter 13), it was exposed much lower (base ca. #12.00); in that room, this wall is called W9211, since no offset was apparent there between W9211 and W18516 (Fig. 10.17).

The southern end of the room is marked by a sequence of four east–west walls: W9729 > W9262a-b > W9262c-d > W18514.

W9729 (top #15.01, base #14.36) is ca. 75 cm wide, preserved some five courses high, built of fieldstones, 10–30 cm. W9729 was built on top of W9262 (Fig. 10.3), with its foundation dug into the mudbricks of W9262a. To the east in AH/33, W9729 has three constructional stages, denoted a–c. W9729 in AI/33 corresponds to W9729a in AH/33, while the two lower phases in AH/33 probably correspond to W9262a-b and W9262c-d respectively.

W9262 had four stages, denoted a–d (Figs. 10.19–10.20). W9262a (top #14.36, base #13.89) was a mudbrick superstructure, preserved four to five courses high. The size of a few traceable bricks was ca. 7 x 25 x 35 cm. W9262b (top #13.89, base #13.46) was a fieldstone socle of W9262a; the stones were 10–25 cm across and two courses were preserved. W9262c (top #13.46, base #13.20) was a mudbrick superstructure; only one to two courses were preserved and no individual bricks could be traced. W9262d (top #13.20, base #12.90) was a fieldstone socle of W9262c, consisting of two to three courses of fieldstones, 25–40 cm across, with an additional top course of stones, 10–15 cm across, used as a bedding for the mudbrick courses above. A layer of reed-mat material, seen as black and white streaks, was found on top of W9262a. The upper two stages (W9262a-b) were ca. 80 cm wide, while the lower two stages (W9262c-d) were only ca. 50 cm wide and W9262a-b extended about 30 cm farther to the south compared to W9262c-d below. A doorway with a threshold leading to the courtyard to the south was found at the western end of W9262d, where it made a corner with W18481. The eastern end of W9262 was built on top of W18514, partially using it as a foundation.

W18514 appeared under W9262, offset northwards (Fig. 10.24). Only the top of the first course of W18514 was excavated (#13.05); it is at least 60 cm wide, although its southern face still lies hidden under W9262. Visible stones were 20–30 cm in diameter. W18514 corners with W18515, but goes westwards beyond it. The relationship between W18514 and W9648 was not quite clear, but apparently the latter floats above, or is built on, the former.

The wall sequence marking the western edge of the room is: W9725 > W18481 > W18503.

W9725, 70 cm wide, was composed of a mudbrick superstructure (W9275a) and a stone socle (W9275b). W9725a (top #14.44, base #13.62), the mudbrick superstructure, was preserved ca. three courses high; dimensions of some visible bricks were 30 x 40 cm. A layer of reed-mat material, seen as white streaks, was found running the length of this wall between the brick courses (Fig. 10.1, see also Figs. 10.7, 10.9, 10.14–10.15, 10.19). W9725b (top #13.62, base #13.26–12.97) was a fieldstone socle for W9725a, preserved two to three courses high, with stones 20–40 cm in diameter. The stone socle of W9275 abuts W9262b at the southern edge of the room, while the mudbrick superstructure is integrated with the mudbricks of W9262b (Fig. 10.20). On the north, W9275 abuts W9211 (Figs. 10.7, 10.9, 10.15).

Under W9275, and at a slightly different orientation, is W18481 (top #13.45, base #12.55 when excavation ceased). It is built of large fieldstones, some up to 75 cm across, others 50 cm or 30 cm, and is a single stone wide, up to 75 cm, preserved one to three courses high (Figs. 10.17–10.18). There was a doorway leading to the room on the west (nicknamed the “fish room”; Chapter 13) at the corner with W9262 (Fig. 10.18). W18481 abuts W9262d on the south (Fig. 10.19) and is separated by a doorway from W18156 on the north (Fig. 10.17). The construction style of W18481 is similar to that of other north–south walls built in Phase 9 (W9140N, W9684, W9266), although its preservation is not nearly as impressive. W18503 of Phase 10b-c (top of mudbricks ca. #12.50–12.40, top of stone socle #11.94–11.87; Fig. 10.25) was only partially excavated and so most of its relations are unknown. This wall was revealed in the balk between this unit and the one to the south, in which excavation was pursued to a greater depth (Fig. 10.26). There are ca. six courses of mudbrick on top of two visible courses of fieldstones. The fieldstone courses were called W18349a in the adjacent unit to the south (Chapter 9).
W18481 was founded directly on the mudbrick section of W18503.

Several additional walls bisect this room in some of its phases. W9841 is a single row of stones, running east–west, connecting W9684 to W9275, creating a narrow space, ca. 1–1.5 m. wide (nicknamed “the pantry”), at the southern edge of the room. The skeleton was found lying just outside this “pantry” (Figs. 10.10–0.11).

W9961 (top #13.20, base #12.90) was another east–west wall, below W9841 and to the north of it, connecting W9684 to W18481. It is ca. 40 cm wide and preserved ca. three courses high, with typical-sized fieldstones. It bisects the space into two small, equal-sized rooms. The floors of the destruction layer, which were the only ones to reach this wall (see below) actually partly covered it. Hence we think that it was a sleeper-wall, rather than a standing partition, forming some sort of a step from the higher northern part of the room to the lower southern part.

W18515 (top #13.05–12.95), 55 cm wide, ran north–south, across the middle of the room, below W9961 and the destruction floors. It was constructed with fieldstones 20–40 cm across (Figs. 10.22–10.24). Only the tops of the stones were cleared, but as seen from the section (Fig. 10.26), it is four to five courses high. It corners with W18514 on the south; neither wall extends further than this corner. Its relationship with W9211 and W18516 to the north was described above. The relationship between W18515 and W18503 is difficult to assess. Top of preservation for both walls is nearly at the same elevation, although W18503 goes down much deeper (Fig. 10.26). However, the two walls run roughly parallel, at a distance of about 30–40 cm apart. Thus, it is unlikely that both were in use together.

Putting together all the relationships discussed above, we obtain the following scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(N)</th>
<th>(W)</th>
<th>(S)</th>
<th>(center)</th>
<th>(E)</th>
<th>Stage &amp; Phase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W9211 = W9729</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W9275 = W9262a + b = W9004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W18516 = W18481 = W9262c + d = W9961</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W18503</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For the assignment of local stages to area-wide phases, note that the sequence under (S) above (W9729 > W9262a – b > W9262c – d > W18514) is, in fact, the “Eastern Wall Sequence” (east–west walls in the east of AJ/33 and AI/33), radiating from the “Central Wall Junction”, upon which the phasing of Area G was defined; see detailed explanation in Chapter 3.

DISCUSSION OF PHASES AND STAGES

Phase 5/6? (Stage vi)

W9684a? = W9729? (late Iron Age fills)

Stage vi represents the first identifiable Iron Age material. However, the architectural remains of this stage are fragmentary. There is only one small floor fragment which might be Phase 5: F9723, south of W9729 and thus technically outside of the room, although in grid square AI/33, W9729 (top #15.02) and W9684a (top #15.48), which dovetail with each other (Fig. 10.3), are preserved close to or above the height of Phase 5 W9675 (top #15.57) and W9702 in AH/33 (Chapter 5). F9723 (#14.86–14.77) sloped up towards W9729 on the south, but did not reach it. Thus, W9729, W9684a and F9723 might be Phase 5 or perhaps, very late in Phase 6. W9275a at #14.46 and W9211 at #14.41 are preserved to only about the height of W9262a (#14.36), upon which W9729 of stage vii is built. It is uncertain if any of these other walls continued to function or were rebuilt in stage vii and thus are not included in the discussion of this phase.

Comments on the Nature and Integrity of the Stage vi Deposits

The assignment of debris loci to this stage is most tentative. The first selection criterion is that only mudbrick loci below stage iv, and clearly not contaminated by the stage v pits,
are included. The second criterion is that the loci come from above the level of F9723, ca. #14.80; this assumes that this floor was approximately level across the entire area. The two most secure loci from this stage are L9631, sealed below drain L9111 of stage i, and L9726, sealed below W9051 of stage iv. L9667 is below sealed L9631, but also below unsealed L9643, which contains material from stages i–vi and thus might be mixed. L9666 is mostly sealed below W9287 of stage ii, but is partially unsealed below L9638, although it may be a homogenous deposit. Other less-secure loci include L9638, L9639, L9665, L9692 and L9723. L9648 contains contamination from stage v pits. L9694 probably contains mixed material from stages vi and vii because it includes material from above and below the assumed #14.80 floor level. Similar deposits containing mudbrick material, but that seem less secure, are L9192, L9194, L9209, L9308 and L9309.

Phase 6 (Stage vii)

W9684a ≡ W9729 (Iron Age fills)

The architectural remains of this stage are fragmentary. W9729 (top #15.01–14.83, base #14.36) dovetails with W9684a (top #15.58; Fig. 10.3). North of W9211 is F9789 (ca. #14.57) which is at an elevation above the base of W9729, but below the elevation of F9723, discussed above. W9275a (top #14.46) and W9211 (top ca. #14.41) are only preserved to about the height of W9262a below W9729 and seem to have been severely damaged by Phase 4 pits above them. Based only on evidence from AI/33, it would not have been possible to place W9275 and W9211 in Phase 6. Assuming that all four walls were extant in Phase 6, no floor was located in the room defined by them.

Given the above considerations, the assignment of debris loci to this stage is most tentative. The first selection criterion is that only mudbrick loci below stage vi, and likely not contaminated by the stage v pits, are included. The second criterion is that the loci come from above the base of W9729 (ca. #14.50) and thus are in the range of F9789 (ca. #14.60), assuming that the floor was approximately level across the entire area. Loci that may belong to stage vii include L9183, L9731 and L9732 (the latter two below F9723 of stage vi). Another possibility is L9639, referenced under stage vi above because its elevations could match either stage. L9648 and L9694, also discussed above, could be stage vii as well.

Phase 7 (Stage viii)

W9684b ≡ W9262a–b = W9275a–b = W9211 = W9841 = F9816 = F9842 = ? F9883 (“Doreen’s room”)

Stage viii (Phase 7) is especially significant due to the complete skeleton of a woman found crushed below collapsed stones from W9211 and probably W9684b, and the vessels associated with her (Figs. 10.6–10.10; cf., Fig. 9.2). It is also the first stage in which clear architectural units with associated
floors appear below stage i.

Between the suggested lowest level for Phase 6 (#14.60) and the floor level at which the skeleton was found (#13.40) is at least 1.2 m. In other parts of Area G, it was sometimes possible to isolate sub-phases within Phase 6 (6a and 6b). This is not the case here. It is impossible to say if any of the loci between these two floors belong to an earlier phase of 6, or if they all belong to 7. For purposes of this discussion, only those loci immediately above the Phase 7 floor are included in the index as pure Phase 7, while those above are marked as some variation of 6/7.

W9211 is abutted by W9275a-b and W9684b (Figs. 10.7, 10.14, 10.17). The stone socle of W9262a-b abuts W9684b (Figs. 10.3, 10.8). W9841 abuts W9684b and W9275b (Figs. 10.8, 10.11) and W9275a-b abuts W9262a-b (Fig. 10.20). Dismantling of mudbrick walls W9262a and W9275a revealed a layer of reed-mat material running the length of each wall. It is unknown if there would have been more such reed layers, since only a few courses of mudbricks survived on each wall.

Fig. 10.7. Pottery found in wall collapse debris on F9816, suggesting material stored on a shelf (photograph courtesy of Andrew Stewart). (p10Z3-0078)

Fig. 10.8. F9816, before exposure of the skeleton, looking southeast. (p08Z3-1247)

Fig. 10.9. F9816 before the skeleton was discovered against W9841 on the south, looking north. Left and top: W9275b (stone socle) abuts W9211. (p08Z3-1121)

Fig. 10.10. The skeleton against W9841 after partial clearance, looking south. Note remaining stone collapse above skull. (p08Z3-1248)
Such reed layers were found in other walls and general debris in Area G as well. In Phase 9 (see below), three doorways led into this room from the north, south and west; no doorways, however, could be identified in this stage or in any later stage (see Chapter 2).

Only patches of F9816 (ca. #13.45; Figs. 10.7–10.9) were found and of these, only one clearly reached W9684b. However, the floor is at an elevation that comfortably fits with the stone socles of W9262b and W9275b, as well as W9211. Another isolated patch of floor was F9883 (ca. #13.39). No clear floor was found under the skeleton itself. However, the presence of fallen pottery and rubble found across much of the room, and the skeleton of the woman crushed in place as she fell, argue that the floor covered the entire room.

As often happens, the skeleton was found during end-of-season cleaning, in a “twilight zone” opened to try to delineate W9841 from the stone collapse (L9842) in which it was buried. Because of time constraints, the skeleton had to be excavated with some haste. Unfortunately, these baskets—and hence the skeleton itself and the associated finds—were ascribed to W9841 rather than to L9842, as they should have been. By the time the error was realized, the season was over and the finds were either in storage or in various stages of processing in different labs. Post mortem changing of the locus number on the tags was deemed impractical and thus, primary finds next to the wall ended up with the wall number. The rest of the collapse, L9842, was removed only after the skeleton was exhumed. Quantities of pottery were found in the collapse, some of which mended with the vessels found on or around the skeleton (see below). However, no clear floor surface was located and it was assumed that the bottom of the collapse marked the floor level.

The skeleton was found crushed under rubble probably fallen from W9211 and W9684b (Figs. 10.10–10.11). The upper body lay on the right side, while the legs were supine. Her head was facing south, with her hands raised to her face, as if trying to protect herself from falling debris. Stones crushed her head, ribs, pelvis and legs (twisting the latter into a painful position). One of her fingers was crushed into her nasal cavity, her neck was severed and her spine possibly pushed into the brain case. A small juglet was found just to her north and a jar was located at the base of her head. Much other pottery lay smashed beneath her and in the rubble L9816 to the north (see Chapter 20 for the pottery and Chapter 29 for additional information on the skeleton).

To the south of W9841 was a narrow irregular space, about 2.5 m. long (between W9684 and W9275) and 60–90 cm wide (between W9841 and W9262), excavated as L9835. It is too small to have been a room, so possibly it was a pantry or some storage space. Like the area to its north, no floor surface was detected. However, since there was no collapse or in situ pottery to indicate the level of the floor, excavation was continued under the same locus number until the walls around it were floating. Thus, L9835 should be considered a mix of Phase 7 and earlier material.

**Phase 8**

No floors associated with Phase 8 could be identified between stage viii (securely identified with Phase 7) and stage ix (Phase...
9). Three of the walls around the room—W9211, W9262a-b and W9275a-b—were built anew after the Phase 9 destruction (W9684 apparently survived and continued in use throughout Phases 9–6). Thus, the hypothetical Phase 8 floors must have reached the same walls as those of Phase 7. From the evidence in this unit, it cannot be determined if the same floors were used from Phase 8 to 7 or if the builders of Phase 7 had actually dug through and removed all traces of Phase 8 floors.

Note that our usual convention of naming the room in each phase by the locus number of the (main) floor in it cannot be used in this case, since no such floor exists. L9919 is actually the makeup of F9816 and is labeled 8?/9?, but is the only locus even tentatively associated with Phase 8 in the room (Fig. 10.12).

**PHASES 9a–b (STAGES ix–x)**

**Phase 9a (Stage ix)**

W9684b ≡ W9262c–d ≡ W18481 ≡ W18516 ≡ W9961 ≡ F9928 = F9927 (an entrance or a basin)

Both W9262c–d and W18516 abut W9684b. W9961, which abuts W18481 and W9684b, may have been in use at this time, but perhaps only as a foundation for the southern edge of F9928 (see below).

In the northern half of the room is a thick (ca. 20 cm), mud-plastered, basin-like surface, F9928, ca. 2 x 2.4 m, on which was an *in situ* jar (#13.13–13.45; Figs. 10.14–10.16, 10.20). The mud-plaster was yellow/orange colored and extremely hard. At the time of excavation, these properties, together with the marked slope towards all four walls around the floor, were considered intentional water-proofing of the “basin” floor. In hindsight, they might be the result of heat-alteration (i.e., partial baking of the clay in the floor), but this could not be checked, since no samples of it survive. The makeup of the floor is mud plaster (2 cm thick), a layer of brown clay soil (3 cm thick) and a layer of crushed kurkar (10–15 cm thick), excavated together as L18495. Below the mud-plaster floor was a white ashy layer, ca. 15 cm thick.
(L18504, L18507, L18508). Alternatively, the white ashy layers might be occupation debris on the Phase 10a floor (this latter scenario is the one represented in the locus genealogy; Fig. 10.29). The lowest elevation of the floor is ca. #13.13, but it slopes up to reach the face of both W18515 and W9684b at ca. #13.45. F9928 slopes up and onto W18481 and also slopes over and covers the northern half of W9681. It is unclear if the sunken nature of the floor is intentional or the result of the center of the floor settling over time, perhaps due to the compression of the ashy layer beneath. On the function of this “basin”, see below.

In the southern part of the room is F9927 (#13.26–13.21; Fig. 10.16). F9928 seems to rise slightly higher than F9927, where they meet above W9681. F9927 is a moderate-size patch of floor in the middle of the room that does not reach any walls. It seems to be a replacement of F9955, the original floor in the south of this room. Initially, it seems that there had been a step down from F9928 to the lowest Phase 9 floor (F9955); see further below, stage x. Subsequently, the last users of the room decided to raise the floor level on the south to match that on the north.

Three doorways lead into this room. One is in the north in the corner of W18516 and W18481 (Fig. 10.17). The second doorway, F18482 (ca. #13.00; Fig. 10.18), is in the eastern wall, in the corner of W18481 and W9262c-d. On the south, there is a probable doorway in W9262c-d into the area of the courtyard/bakery in AI/32 (Fig. 10.19), as evidenced by larger threshold stones (partly covered by ashy floor-accumulation), as well as the fact that the stone socle is ca. 20 cm lower at this point than the rest of the wall. L9960 seems to be some wall collapse in the vicinity of these latter two doorways.

As noted above, the builders of Phase 7 seem to have

Fig. 10.17. Phase 9 W18481, W18516 (below W9211), W9684, looking north. Note doorways in the back between W18516 and W18481 (blocked) and in W18481 (lower left). Center: Phase 10 W18515 and L18509, the floor makeup of F9971. (p08Z3-1260)

Fig. 10.18. Detail of L18482, the doorway in W18481, looking east. (p08Z3-1257)
destroyed any remains of a Phase 8 floor, as well as virtually all remains of the Phase 9 destruction. One clear small pocket of destruction material, L9926, was discovered on top of F9928. It is not clear whether this material is *in situ* or is debris removed from the area of AI/32 (where such material is common) to level out a hole in the Phase 8 material. If it is *in situ*, it shows that the fiery Phase 9 destruction extended into AI/33.

The function of the room is open to some debate. The presence of not less than three doorways may indicate that the gap in W18516 is perhaps a doorway into this building (or to other rooms beyond?), with the other doors providing access to the interior (see discussion in Chapter 2). On the other hand, the sunken nature of F9928, which slopes from #13.05 in the center to up to #13.35 on its edges, and its thick plaster makeup, may indicate that the room had some function in relation to this basin-like surface. However, as noted above, the sunken nature of this floor might be understood as simply due to the shrinkage and compression of the ashy layers beneath.

**Phase 9b (Stage x)**

W9684b ≡ W9262c–d ≡ W18481 ≡ W18516 ≡ W9961 = F9928 + F9955 (step down in south of room)

The walls of this room, described above, were all founded in stage x. The floor that can be isolated as belonging to stage x (Phase 9b) is F9955 in the southern part of the room (#13.11–13.02; probably the same as F9844, #13.10–13.06; Fig. 10.20), which reaches W9961, W9262d, W9684b and W18481.

It seems that when Phase 9 was founded, W9961 (top #13.20, base #12.93–12.90; Figs. 10.20, 10.22) functioned as a step down from F9928 on the north (ca. #13.35, where it partially covers W9961) to F9955. As noted above, in Phase 9a, the southern floor level was raised (F9927) to about the same level as F9928; W9961 at that point no longer functioned as a step. This room is one of the few places in Area G where a pre-destruction stage can be isolated within Phase 9.

**PHASES 10a–c (STAGES xi–xiii)**

**Phase 10a (Stage xi)**

W18514 ≡ W18515 ≡ W18516 = F9971 = F18517 + F18509

Below Phase 9, the configuration of walls in AI/33 changes dramatically. The builders of Phase 9 changed the function of the area and so needed a different type of building. Very little of Phase 10 was excavated, mostly only the top course or so of the latest Phase 10a walls. This means that little evidence of the metallurgical activities associated with Phase 10 to the south (AI/32) were uncovered here (see, however, Fig. 10.27). Note that loci on the line of W9262 and to the south (e.g., F18286 in Phase 10c) are treated in Chapter 9 (AI/32), since this space was previously included in the discussion for loci above it in that chapter.

W9961 of Stage x is clearly built on top of W18515 (top #13.02–12.81; Fig. 10.22). The foundation trench of W9961 (L18522, L18523, L18524) cut W18515.

W18515 (Figs. 10.23–10.24, 10.26) is bonded with W18514 on the south (top #13.05–12.95) and W18516 on the north (top #13.57–13.42; Fig. 10.17). F9971 (#12.99–12.90; floor makeup is L18509) and F18517 (#12.86–12.81, Figs. 10.22–10.24) reach both W18514 and W18515. For the most part, only the upper preserved courses of these walls were exposed and only one floor was identified. Possibly, the ashy material in L18504, L18507 and L18508, discussed above...
CHAPTER 10

Fig. 10.21. Thumbnail plan of Phase 10a, AI/33. For details, see Plan 4. (d09Z3-1249)

Fig. 10.22. W9961 abutting W18481 and floating over Phase 10 W18515. (p08Z3-1259)

Fig. 10.23. Corner of W18515 and W18514, just visible below stone socle W9262d, looking southeast. (p08Z3-1261)
under Phase 9, is occupation debris for this stage. Note that since foundation trenches for both Phase 10a walls were identified, the courses exposed are probably only foundation courses and perhaps the first above them. The foundation trenches (L18527, L18519, L18520) were packed with a mix of sandy and mudbrick material.

Phases 10b–10c (Stages xii–xiii)

\[W18503 = W18349 \equiv F18512 (stage xii)\]

F18512 (#12.89–12.85) is cut by the foundation trench of W18515. Only L18512 consisted of the sandy-ashy lenses so characteristic of AI/31–32 and AJ/32 to the south (see Chapter 9) and so, may belong to Phase 10b.

\[W18503 = W18349 \equiv W9466 (stage xiii)\]

Only the western face and part of the top of W18503a–b were excavated (Figs. 10.25–10.26). The mudbrick portion of W18503a equals W18273 (= W18349a) in the northern end of AI/32, while the stone portion of W18503b in the south equals W18349b, the stone socle for W18273. Fig. 10.26 seems to show W18515 extending down to about the level of the base of W18503a, but the space created between the two walls is too small to be usable. For this reason, W18503a–b is probably earlier within Phase 10 than W18515.

An east–west line of bricks, W9466 (top #12.19; Fig. 10.27), was originally uncovered at the base of late pit L9251 when that pit was first cleared. By the time excavation of the surrounding deposits finally reached the level of the top of that wall, all trace of W9466 had disappeared. W9466 is attributed to Phase 10c, as its top elevation would match other walls of this phase and because thin ash layers and fire pits, characteristic of Phase 10, can be seen in the balk sealing it. Its narrow width (of a single mudbrick) and lack of a foundation suggest it was a partition wall within this room.

Fig. 10.24. L18509 (makeup of F9971) reaching W18514 and W18515, looking southeast. (p08Z3-1262)

Fig. 10.25. W18503, stone socle and mudbrick courses, looking east. (p08Z3-1258)

Fig. 10.26. Phase 10b W18503 directly below Phase 9 W18481, looking north. Note lower unexcavated course of W18515 in section below. (p08Z3-1193)
Fig. 10.27. Bricks of W9466 at base of pit L9251. Above the bricks: fire pit characteristic of the Phase 10 metalworking activity in the area (photograph courtesy of Andrew Stewart). (p08Z3-1470)

Fig. 10.28. Schematic cutaway 3D sections of walls in AI/33, looking east (left) and south (right). (d10Z1-1123)
Fig. 10.29. Locus genealogy for AI/33. (d09Z3-1252)