

GEORGE E. MYLONAS

A NEW TABLET FROM MYCENAE, MY Fu 711

A section of the northeastern slope of the acropolis of Mycenae, above the Postern Gate, was excavated for the first time in the summer of 1968. In that area was preserved an undisturbed fill belonging to the Hellenistic period (the second half of the third century B. C.) and to the last period of the Mycenaean Age. Immediately below the Hellenistic layer, dated by coins and containing scanty fragments of foundations of a large building, was revealed a rather shallow stratum, some 0.40m. in depth, belonging, as proved by pottery, to the Late Mycenaean III C period. It was evidently reduced to that small depth by the levelling carried out in the course of the construction of the Hellenistic building. The stratum was followed by a layer of burned debris, the remnants of collapsed walls, evidently caused by the destruction of the end of the Late Mycenaean III B period. The burned layer covered the entire area and thus sealed the fill below it, which thereby proved to belong to the closing years of the Late Mycenaean III B period. In that fill were disclosed the foundations of a series of storerooms, on the floors and in the fill of which were found pithoi and vases as well as smaller objects of marble, of faience, of ivory and of metal.

The two fragments of the tablet illustrated in Plate I were found at a short distance from each other, only 0.31m. apart, in the fill immediately below the burned layer and some 1.15m. above the floor of storeroom B—1. Evidently the fragments had rolled from above just before the burning walls collapsed to cover the area. The fragments therefore belong to the years of the destruction which the associated pottery places at the very end of the Late Mycenaean III B period. They join securely, but unfortunately they do not give us the entire tablet, which was evidently rectangular in shape. The fraying on the top and the edges seems to indicate that the tablet was broken and its fragments dispersed before the fire hardened them to their final form; perhaps the burning walls, which collapsed over the area of the fragments, contributed to their final hardening.



Side *b*: Line 2: *to-wo-na*

Line 3: *a-re-ke-* cf. Side *a* line 9

Line 4: *go-we* ? cf. PY Jn 845. 3 *re-go-we*, perhaps also  
*go-wo-*[, PY Jo 438. 17

Ideograms: Nos 110, 111, 112 measures

No. 65, Farina

No. 121, Hordeum

No. 122, Oliva

It is evident that the tablet deals with produce, flour, barley and olives<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Some identifications incorporated here were suggested to Mr. Ktistopoulos by Professors Bennett and Olivier, and Professor Bennett has kindly allocated, at the author's request, the identity number of the tablet, MY Fu 711 (MYcenae class Fu # 711). To Mr. Ktistopoulos I owe a debt of gratitude for his collaboration and assistance. The numbering of the ideograms follows Bennett's "Notes on the Transcription of the Mycenaean Ideograms", *Minos* 8, 1967, 63ff.