

# The Neopalatial Period

Social Organization and the Palaces



# Distinctive Minoan “palatial” architectural features

- Light wells
- Pier-and-door partitions
- “Minoan hall” suite of rooms
- Lustral basins
- Pillar crypts
- Columns that taper down
- Porticoes with columns and pillars



Patrick Beason 2001

## Light wells





Pier-and-door partitions



Generic plan of  
a Minoan Hall  
(after Evans)

# Lustral basins

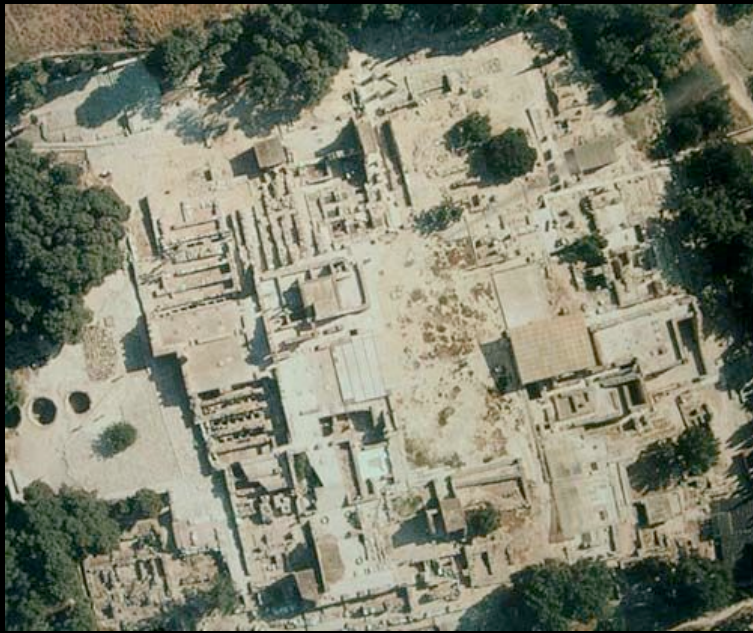


## Pillar crypts

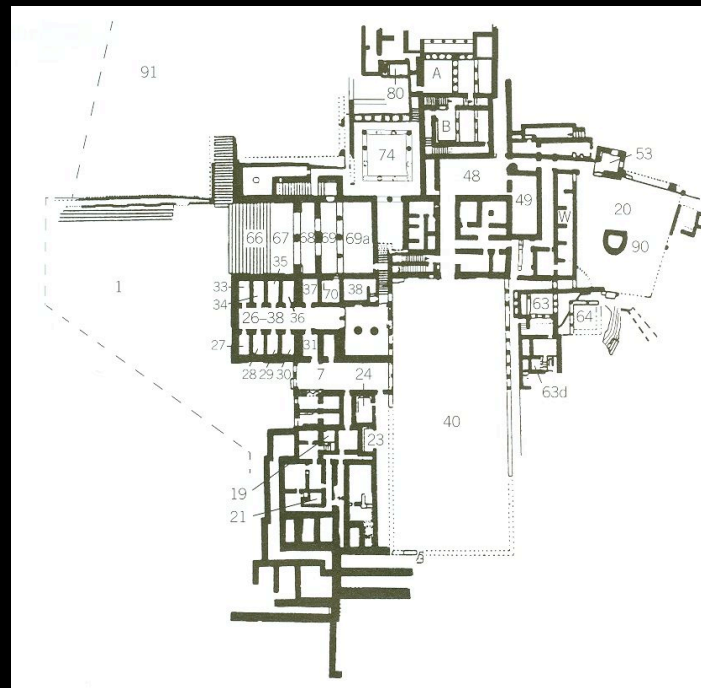
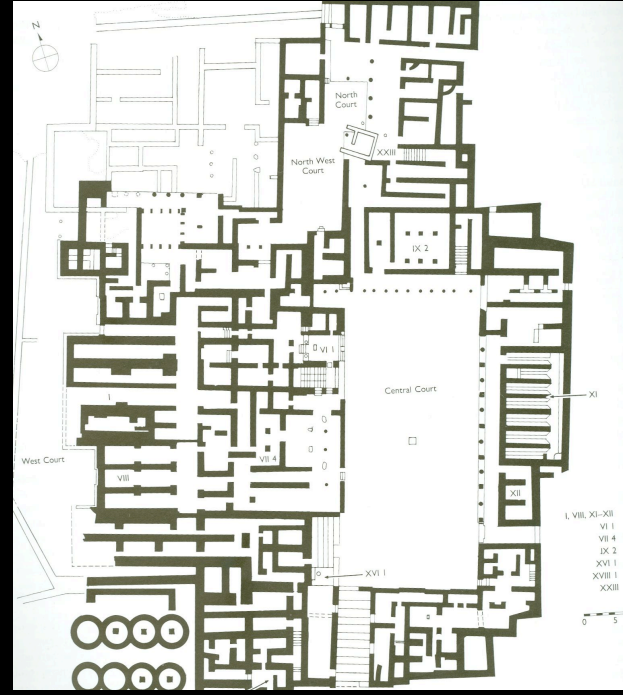
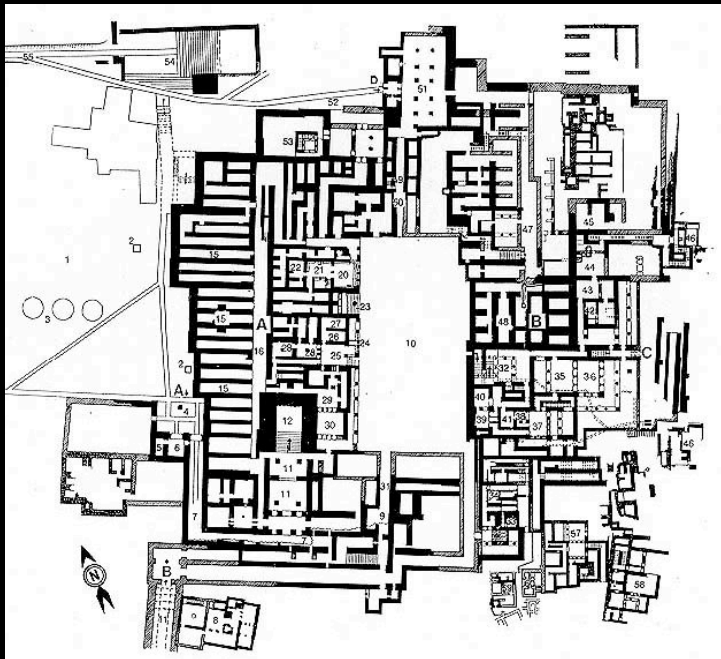


## Columns that taper down





Aerial views  
of the four  
main palaces:  
Knossos (top left)  
Mallia (top right)  
Zakro (bottom left)  
Phaistos (bottom right)



Plans of the four main palaces:  
 Knossos (top left)  
 Mallia (top right)  
 Zakro (bottom left)  
 Phaistos (bottom right)

## The central courts of the palaces



Central court at Phaistos, looking N toward Mt. Ida



View from central court at Knossos, looking S toward Jouktas



Central court at Knossos, looking N along western rooms

## West Courts

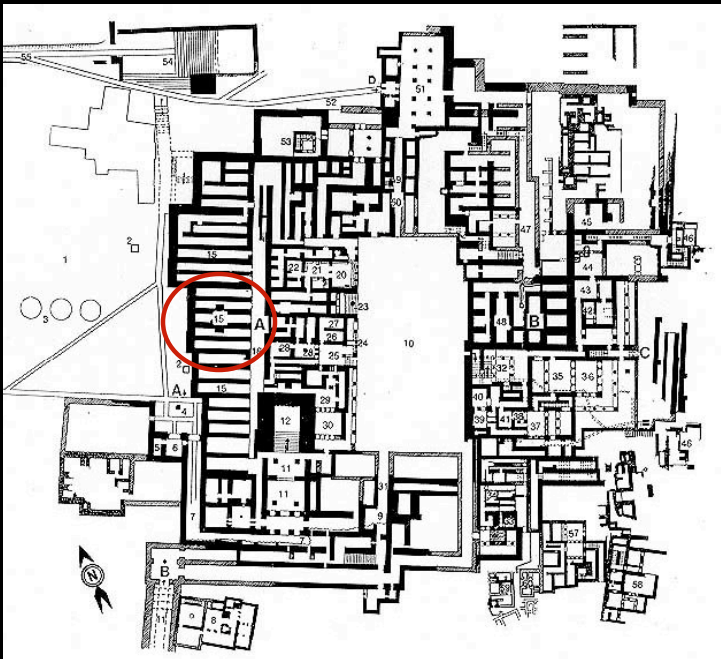


The west court at Knossos



The NW corner of the west court at Phaistos

# Storage Magazines



# “Residential Quarters”



Light well in the residential quarter at Knossos

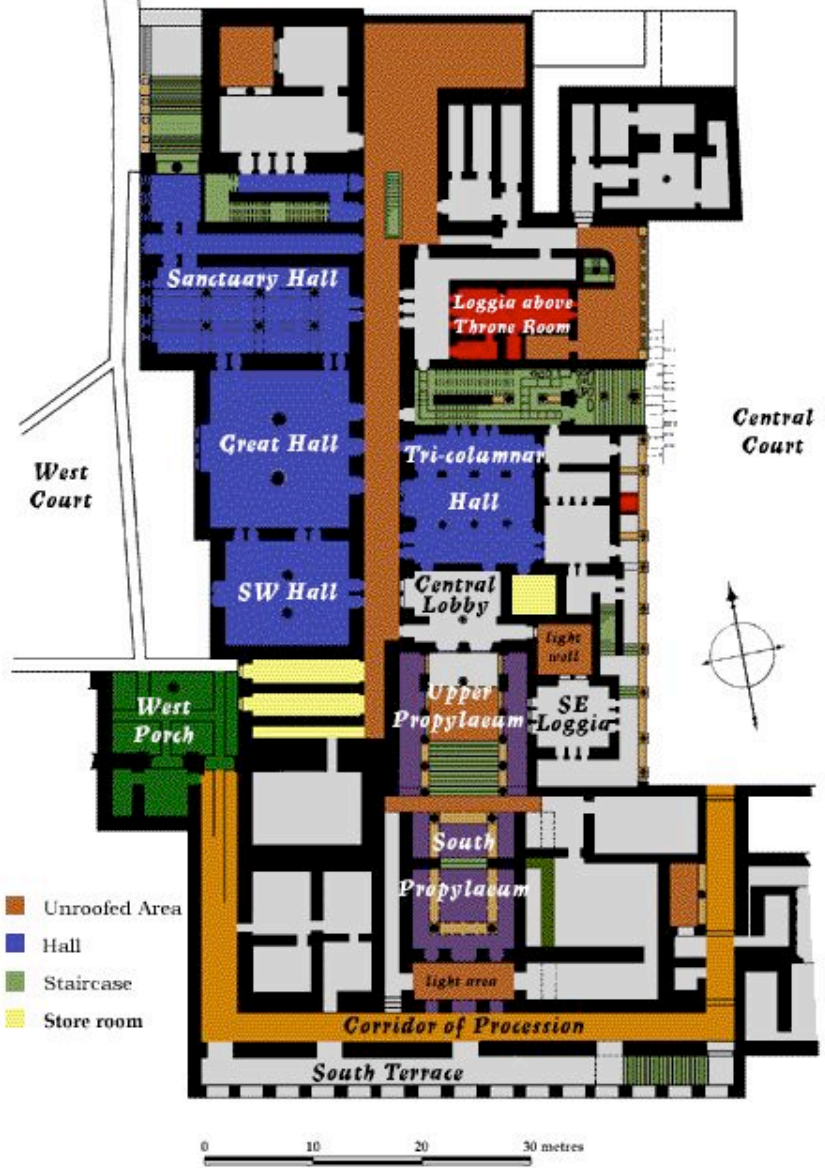


Evans' reconstruction drawing of the “bathroom”

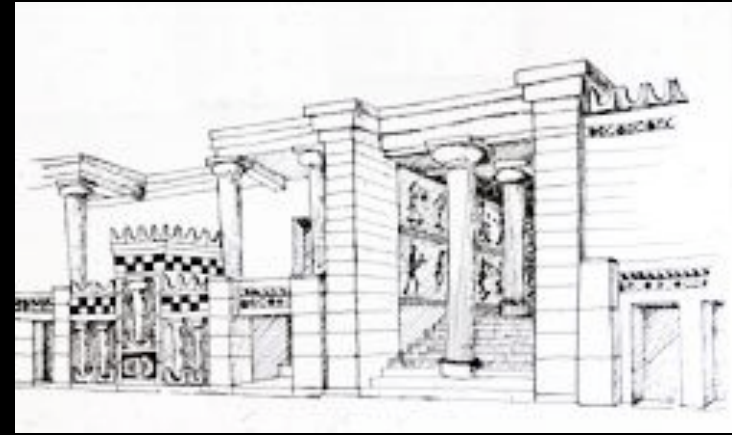
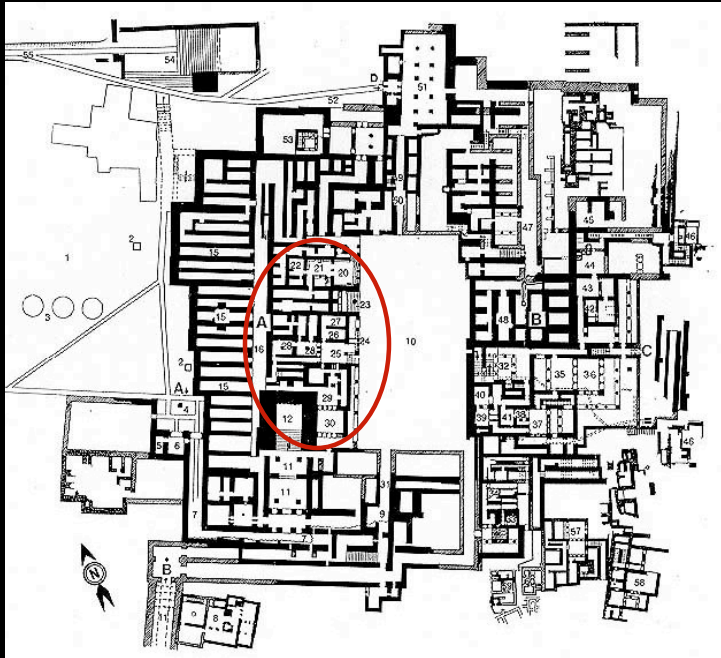


The “Queen’s Megaron” at Knossos

THE PALACE OF KNOSSOS  
Restored Plan of the Piano Nobile of the West Wing



Plan of the “piano nobile” at Knossos



Reconstruction of façade with tripartite shrine

Cult rooms to west of central court



The Throne Room



# Theatral Areas



Knossos



Phaistos

# Nirou Chani



Detail of Wall Construction and  
Gypsum Veneering (Rooms 6A and 6, from SW)

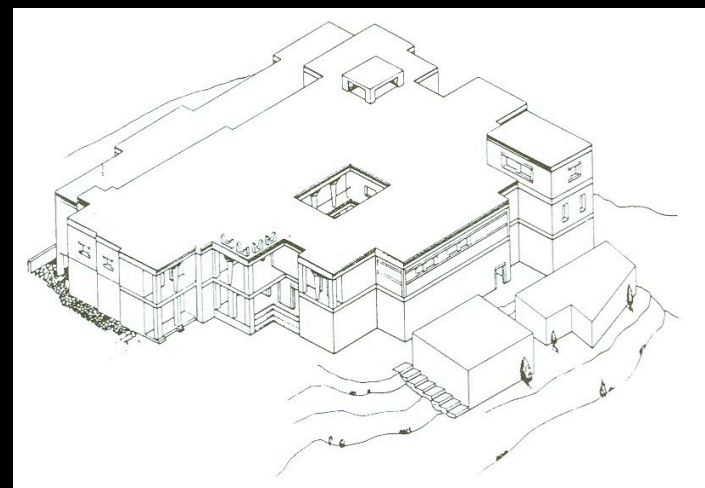


East Court with stepped base for “horns of consecration”

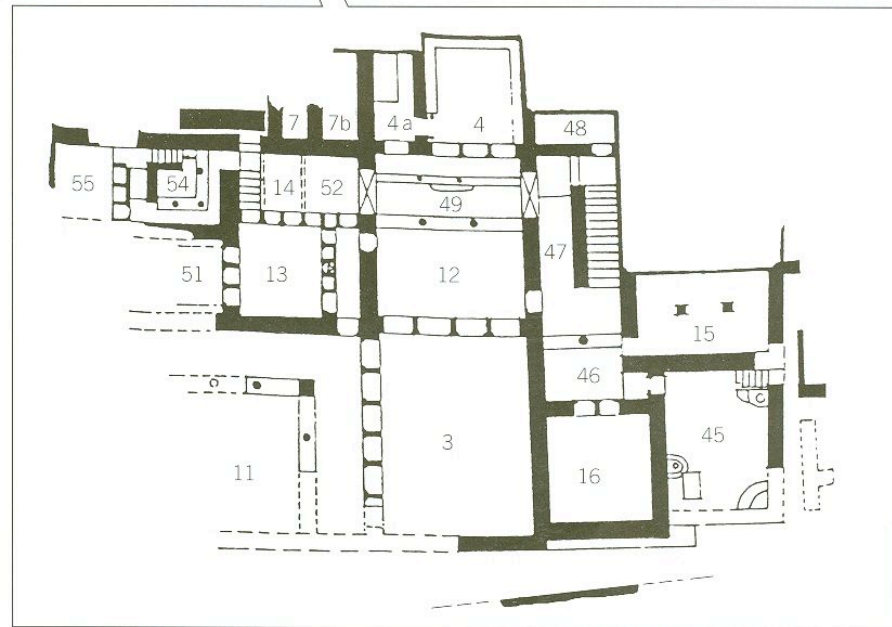
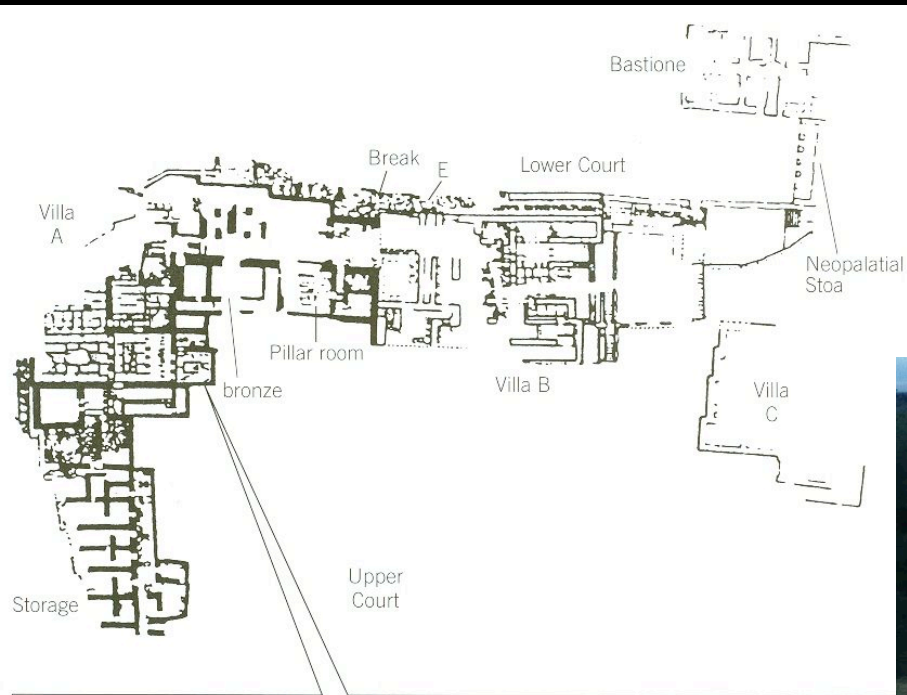


Main entrance into the “Minoan Hall”

# Gournia



# Ayia Triadha



# Neopalatial Pottery: marine style and floral style



Flask from Palaikastro

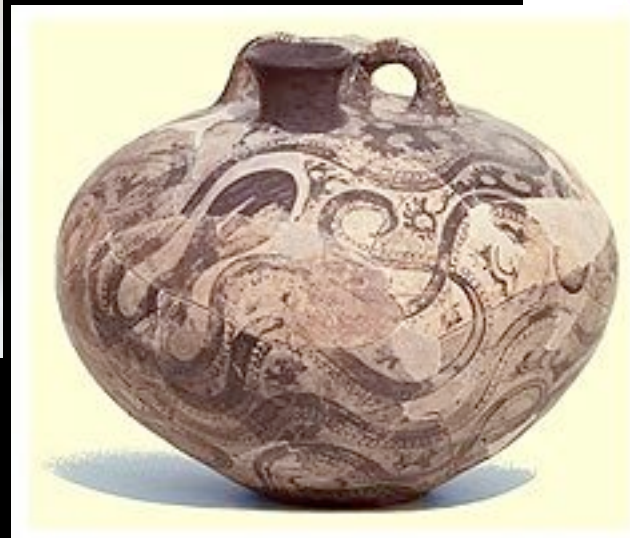


Rhyton

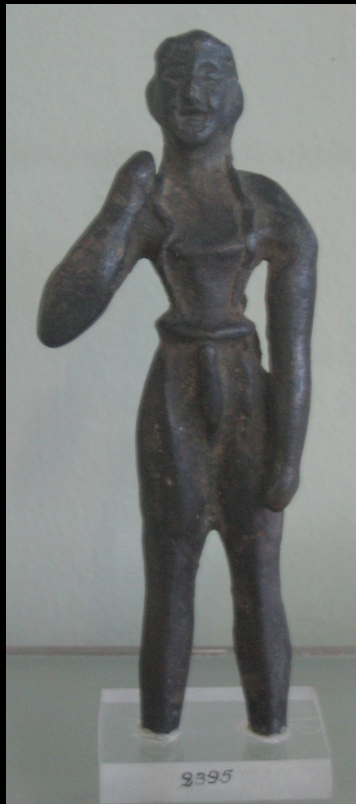
Stirrup jar from Palaikastro



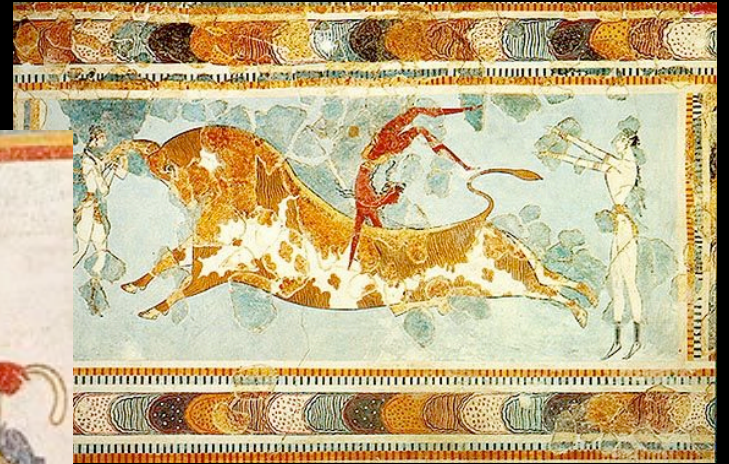
Jug from Phaistos



# Neopalatial metallurgy



# Fresco paintings



## Stone vessels (Rhyta)

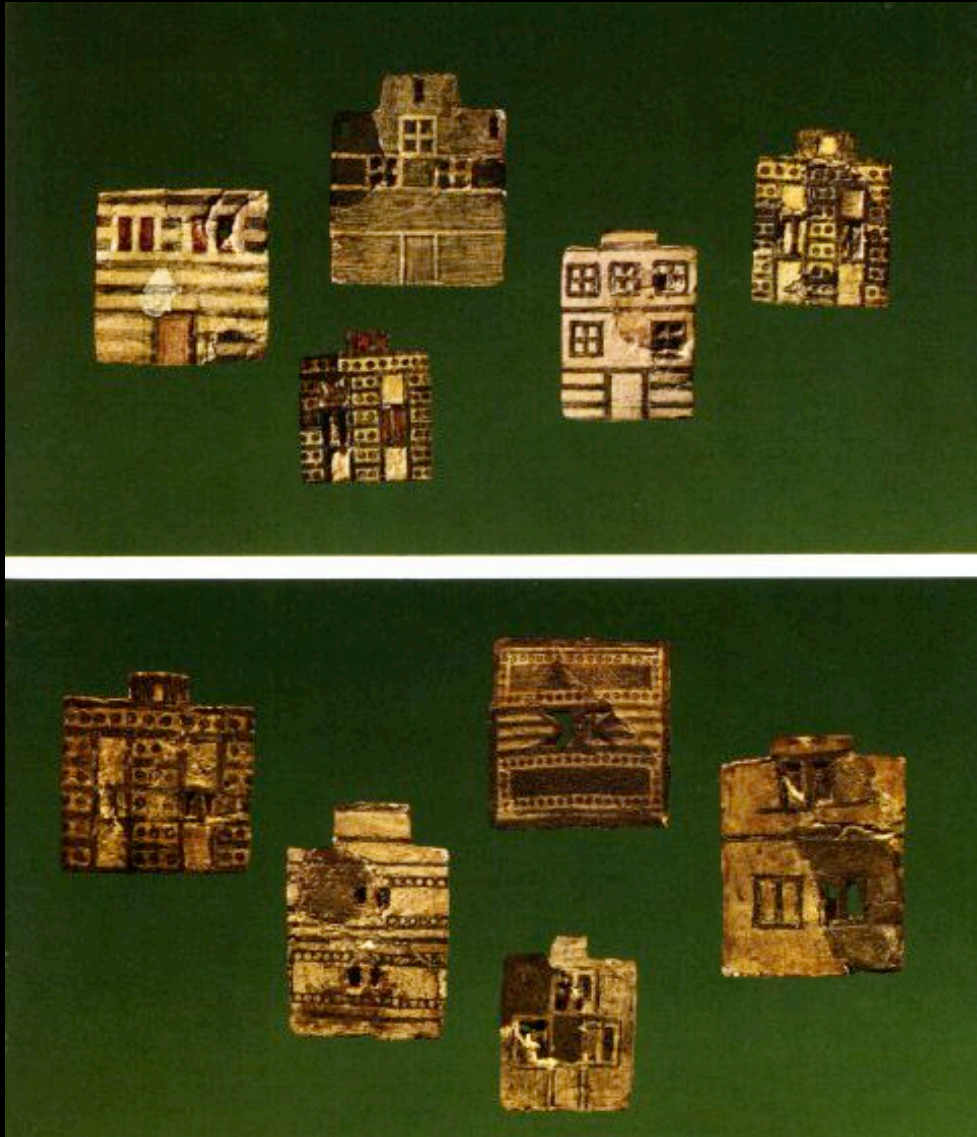


Seal rings  
and sealings



# Faience

plaques from the town mosaic from Knossos



Snake goddess figurine

