

# Brooklyn College

BEDFORD AVENUE AND AVENUE H  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL LANGUAGES  
ACADEMIC BUILDING

1050 E. 43rd St.  
Brooklyn 10, N.Y.  
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Dear Mr. Bennett,

Our librarian got your dissertation for me on an inter-library loan, and very happy I was to see it. I've just finished looking it over. It is interesting and provocative. Some of your material supplements mine very nicely.

There can be no doubt now, I think, that the languages are either identical, or very similar, and that it is quite safe to throw all the material together. Before then I had my doubts. Here are a few more words from Knossos, also at Pylos:

⊕ X17 ✓  
⊕ X12 ✓  
T7 ✓  
A95 ✓  
U0G ✓  
U2 ✓

These are in no order--just as I jotted them down when I met them in the text.

There may be more. If so, I'll send them eventually. I have no time to check further now, since I have so much to do to get my material ready for England.

Corrected →  $\eta\iota\kappa$   
 $\eta\iota\kappa$  (the  $\eta$  may be a termination, not a word)  
Corrected →  $\eta\psi$  = Aufg only  
 $\eta\psi$

I understand, at last, your sign  $\eta\kappa$ . It is confusing that you write  $\eta$  so that it resembles my  $\eta$ . While your writing is quite typical for Pylos, it is rare at Knossos. Knossos is mostly like what you call "~~Handwritten~~" "Class II", though there are some examples of typical "Class I" forms. It will, however, be necessary to reach some agreement for standard forms. It will take some time for me to check about rare forms like  $\eta\psi$ . It does occur, at least once to my certain knowledge, though I can't locate it right now, since it is buried in  $\eta$ .

Are you positive that there is no distinction between  $\eta$  and  $\bar{\eta}$  at Pylos? The two never occur in the same word at Knossos, but do seem to have a slightly different vocabulary range. It is true that  $\bar{\eta}$  is used at Knossos where Pylos has the other form, in otherwise identical forms, but it may be possible that Pylos lost a distinction present at Knossos. *and may be the same sign in different hands!*

I was somewhat amused to note that you have already adopted the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ principle of numbering inscriptions that I have begun to use in sorting them according to content. Of course, they will be published according to the place found, since that may have some significance which must not be lost, but I've been trying to sort them. The trouble is, your classification won't do for Knossos. The Aaol principle is good, because it makes for easy reference,

and like you, I started with A for humans, but at Knossos we have three classes of Humans, and I need A, B and C for them, so we part company.

Also, I need from three to five capital letters for the "Cattle Inventories", of which I have almost 500.

I have tentatively assigned the same consonant to  $\zeta, \eta, \theta, \iota$  for reasons quite different from yours. The last two alternate regularly for "Case III",  $\zeta$  for "cases" I and II, as I think I pointed out in my talk at Yale. Also,  $\kappa, \lambda$ . All this only for certain stems.

I don't think we can do anything about our respective classifications until all the material is available. Your descriptions are not detailed enough to help me identify some of the categories, even when I suspect they are similar. Also, I need all the letters of the alphabet for my inscriptions. I'll try to rearrange, to leave blanks where I can identify Pylos types not at Knossos, but that is going to be very unsatisfactory.

Your identification of  $\zeta$ , etc., with  $\zeta$  is invalid, I think. Also  $\iota$  is certainly an ideogram that is used alone. I can't help with the "scale" since it is rare at Knossos; practically all inscriptions using it have been published. Perhaps all.

By the way, I am enclosing my copy of two inscriptions sent me by a European correspondent, who got them from someone to whom Professor Blegen gave a photograph. I suspect the two are the two sides of Kno2, from your description. Your statement doesn't say it is opisthographic, but it must be. There are many errors, I know, some of which I have already corrected from what you say, but I am sending exactly what I was sent. I myself have followed the policy of correcting Knossos inscriptions for people who already have them, on the theory that I am giving away no information and preventing errors. If your ~~withxxxix~~ ethics permit, I'd be grateful for corrections. If not, just forget about the whole thing. *Throw away the copy - I made several on the hectograph.*

Evans' drawings are almost always absolutely accurate. He occasionally omits a sign in a word, but the signs he draws are practically always exactly what is visible in an inscription, and reproduce the idiosyncracies of the "hands"---at least for those where photographs are available. I haven't seen the originals, and in a few cases that will be necessary before final judgement can be passed, but by and large, you can rely on his transcriptions.

Type A	B	C	D	E
I 49A8 (6)	B 49A8	9 49A8	3 5 4 8	9 49A8
II 49A5	8 49A5	9 49A5	3 5 4 5	9 49A5
III 49A7	8 49A7	9 49A7	3 5 4	9 49A7
I * 49A8	6 49A8	9 49A8	4 5 4 8	9 49A8
II * 49A5	6 49A5	9 49A5	4 5 4 5	9 49A5
III * 49A7	6 49A7	9 49A7	4 5 4	9 49A7
I * 36A8 (36A80)	4 36A8	9 36A8	3 6 4 8	9 36A8
II 36A5	4 36A5	9 36A5	3 6 4 5	9 36A5
III 36A7	4 36A7	9 36A7	3 6 4	9 36A7

*These are not all - I can add a few other types - but none with 9, 49A, 35 at present - I'm still working on that one.*

\* means not found      □ letter restored

*This will be in ASA room (though the table there is a little different)*