The Neopalatial Period

Social Organization and the Palaces
Some important Neopalatial sites
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
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
Plan of the “piano nobile” at Knossos
Cult rooms to west of central court

Reconstruction of façade with tripartite shrine

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

Stirrup jar from Palaikastro

Rhyton

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