

§ 69. DISCOVERY OF 'SPIRAL CEILING' AND 'MINIATURE FRESCOS' DERIVED FROM CORNER SANCTUARY—DATE AND COMPARATIVE MATERIALS; EMBROIDERED DESIGNS ON HOLY ROBE.

Small corner Sanctuary containing remains of 'Spiral Ceiling' and Miniature Frescoes; These fallen from Upper Chamber; The 'Spiral Ceiling'—Egyptian analogies; Parallel from Tomb of Senmut; Mature L. M. I decorative style; The 'Miniature Frescoes'—triple group; Chronological materials; Fragments found on M. M. III floor—law governing discoveries of fresco remains; M. M. III date of frescoes ascertained; Fragments from Thirteenth Magazine; Characteristic specimen beneath base-blocks of later façade; Fragment from 'Ivory Deposit'; True 'Miniature' style obsolete by L. M. I; M. M. III date of 'Miniature' fragments from Tylissos; Boxers as on 'rhyton'—unique bronze vessel; Frescoes from 'Ramp House' at Mycenae; Fragments from 'Threshing-Floor heap'; Miniature designs from embroideries on female robe; Embossed bands; Comparison with painted reliefs from Pseira; Pairs of flutes; Flutes in sacrificial scene on H. Triada sarcophagus; Bull's head trophy between pair of Sphinxes; Embroidered swallows on robe of Melian fresco; 'Miniature' fragments of Threshing-floor heap, perhaps from robe of Goddess; Commanding position of Shrine, at angle of Central Court and N. Entrance; Its small dimensions; Miniature Frescoes set over gypsum dados, on line of vision.

THE fact that the Western of the two larger basement chambers described in the preceding Section was provided, according to its original structure, with a central pier leads to the conclusion (adopted by Mr. W. G. Newton in the Restored Plan C)¹ that there had been a room with a central column above it, such as elsewhere seems to have been the arrangement above pillar crypts. We may even assign to it a certain religious destination.

Small
corner
Sanctuary.

This square, presumably columnar, chamber, opened by its S.W. angle into a smaller oblong space, having, apparently, a cell-like recess at its Northern end. Despite its narrow dimensions, this structure held one of the most conspicuous positions in the whole of the building. It occupied, in fact, the corner space at the point where the Northern Entrance Passage entered the Central Court, and, standing as it did well above the ascending gangway, it would have received light from that side as well as from the Court.

¹ At the end of Vol. ii.