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A topic involving two civilisations and a multitude of sites could never have been attempted, much less completed, in a vacuum.¹ Without the official and unofficial help, support and advice of nothing less than a veritable army of scholars of different nationalities and specialisations, it could never have even begun. I owe initial support to Phil Betancourt who, over an ice cream one evening at Matala in the summer of 1987, convinced me the topic was worth pursuing. My thesis supervisor, †Nicholas Millet, fortunately concurred, and committee members Krzysztof Grzymski and Joseph Shaw, even more fortunately, agreed. They gave me every encouragement, excellent advice and suggestions for improvements at each reading of my thesis, and it was accepted by the University of Toronto in 1991.

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Much reassessment of relevant material and contexts on Crete (and the rest of the Aegean) was published in the 1990s, spurred in part by the unprecedented finds at Tell el-Dab^a and by controversy over the dating of the Thera eruption. Detailed research on the development of relevant material types within Egypt and elsewhere also has clarified much of the situation there. Thus this ‘in-between’ decade of research has resulted in considerable revision of my original thesis catalogue and conclusions, and of the situation under discussion. Acknowledgements here encompass both thesis and project research.

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¹ When two neighbouring research fields use the same standard abbreviation for different basic and fundamental texts, we know we are going to have trouble talking to each other. To Aegeanists, the *PM* can be nothing but Evans’s

Palace of Minos, whereas for Egyptologists, it can only be Porter and Moss’s *Topographical Bibliography*. As a word of warning to both sides, and to be non-partisan, this volume cites ‘Evans *PM*’ and ‘Porter and Moss.’

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² This workshop was published by the MANFRED BIETAK and ERNST CZERNY (Eds.), *Scarabs of the Second Millennium BC from Egypt, Nubia, Crete, and the Levant: Chronological and Historical Implications*, Contributions to the Chronology of the Eastern Mediterranean 8, Vienna 2004.

