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*Tell al-Fakhar (Kurruhani), a dimtu-Settlement
Excavation Report*

by

Yasin Mahmoud Al-Khalesi



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Published under the auspices of the State Antiquities Organization of Iraq

TELL AL-FAKHAR (KURRUHANNI), A *dimtu*-SETTLEMENT*

Excavation Report

Yasin Mahmoud Al-Khalesi

Tell al-Fakhar is a small site situated 35 kms. southwest of the site of Nuzi. It was excavated from 1967 to 1969 by a team of the Iraqi Department of Antiquities. The two upper occupational levels, I and II, have been almost completely uncovered, and the sounding pit which was opened in the second season shows that the site had been occupied since prehistoric times. — The architectural remains are impressive. A large administrative and residential complex, called the Green Palace, is one of the better examples of monumental architecture in the Middle Assyrian period. The layout of the palace represents a significant link between 2nd and 1st millennium architecture. A relatively large temple platform was uncovered along the northeastern side of the palace. A number of private houses and potters' shops were also uncovered and dated to the beginning of the 1st millennium B.C. — The historical significance of the site is highlighted by the discovery of approximately 1,000 clay tablets with cuneiform documents of the Nuzi and Arrapha type. The cultural materials which were found in the site are abundant—among them many human skeletons, cylinder seals, many seal impressions, pottery, glass and glazed wares, ornaments and various kinds of metal, stone, bone and terra-cotta artifacts. — *Kurruhanni* was the ancient name of the site. It shows strong Hurrian influence, and levels I and II appear to have been contemporaneous with levels I and II at Nuzi. *Kurruhanni*-level II seems to have been a *dimtu*-type settlement, which is often mentioned in the texts and which characterizes the socio-economic organization of Mesopotamia in the 2nd half of the second millennium B.C. It is probably the first archaeologically attested example of such *dimtu*-settlements.

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* [A first printing of this article appeared in April 1977, but without mention of the official sponsorship on the title page. The Editors regret that this has happened, and are pleased to reprint the article in such a way that the rights of the State Antiquities Organization of Iraq are explicitly recognized, since, as the Editors have been kindly informed by Dr. Muayad S. Demerji, President of the Organization, this "excavating body . . . possess(es) the report under the provision of the Amended Iraqi Antiquities Law no. 59 of 1936," in such a way that "the scientific report on Tel-al-Fikhar . . . is the ownership of (the) State Organization." June 1978.]

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INTRODUCTION

Tell al-Fakhar is situated 35 kms. southwest of the site of Nuzi (fig. 1). It was excavated from 1967 to 1969 by a team from the Iraqi Department of Antiquities. A report on the first season's excavations has been published in *Sumar* 26, 109-122 by the present writer. This report is mainly concerned with the archaeological results of the second season's investigations, as well as the general conclusions of the two seasons.

The second season of excavations at Tell al-Fakhar lasted from October 22, 1968 through January 29, 1969. I would like to thank here the other staff members of the expedition, Mr. Zuhair Rajab and Mr. Walid Yasin, without whose help and assistance the work would have not been as fruitful. In particular, I would like to thank Prof. Fuad Safar, the Inspector General of Excavations, for his many helpful suggestions and his genuine interest in the excavation's progress at Tell al-Fakhar.

Very often in the field of archaeology some points which are made in a preliminary report have to be revised in later reports. It should perhaps be mentioned here that the delay in publishing this second report was due to my preoccupation with studying at Yale University since the end of the second season in 1969. However, I feel that during that period (1969-1975) I have gained new insight into the problems of Near Eastern archaeology which has proved to be invaluable to this report.

The archaeological results of our small-scale excavations of the first season at al-Fakhar were very encouraging in regard to the architectural remains, the inscribed tablets and the abundant cultural material. Therefore, the Directorate General of Antiquities decided to undertake a second season with an enlarged scope. Our main objectives for the second season were threefold: 1) to complete the uncovering of the buildings of level I, which had begun to appear at the end of the first season. 2) to complete the excavation of the Green Palace and the temple platform of level II, 3) to test the layers of the mound in order to establish its stratigraphy.

The two upper levels, I and II, have been almost completely uncovered (fig. 2). Seven building structures, numbered A, B, C, D, E, F and G, and two roads were discovered in level I. The whole complex of the Green Palace and the outline of the adjacent platform were established in level II. However, we were not as lucky with the third objective;

we could not reach virgin soil in our stratigraphic sounding because of very bad weather conditions. We will begin our description with level II because of its historical and architectural significance, and for other archaeological and practical reasons.

I. LEVEL II

The Green Palace (fig. 3)

It may be more useful if we describe the layout of the Green Palace and its architectural features as a whole, rather than confine ourselves to the remains of the second season. In this way the description will be more coherent and the reader will have a better picture of the building. More emphasis will be given, however, to the second season's remains since those of the earlier season have already been published.

The Green Palace is a rectangular complex of considerable size (60 x 30 m.), its corners oriented toward the four points of the compass. A total of 26 chambers were uncovered in the building, but these were not all the rooms the building originally had, since there is evidence of a second storey. This is suggested by the thickness of the walls, the depth of the debris in the rooms and the location of some of the objects in the debris. The ground plan of the building shows two divisions, a public sector at the southeast side (Rooms 9, 10, 11, 14 and 15, and Court 13) and a residential sector at the northwest side (Rooms 1-6, 8, 12, and 16-22, and Court 7).

The palace has only one entrance (1.05 m. wide) in the southeastern façade of the building. The façade is 15.60 m. wide and juts out 7.20 m. from the body of the building. This façade contains two rooms (14-15) a court (13) and two towers. Such a layout is unique in Mesopotamian architecture and it appears to have been arranged in this manner for defensive purposes—which will be discussed below.

Four pilasters decorate the exterior wall of the façade, two at the front (measuring 1.25 x 0.45 m.) and one at either side (measuring 1 x 0.45 m. and 1.45 x 0.45 m., fig. 13). The front also has a bench (2.90 m. long, 0.45 m. broad and 0.30 m. high) on either side of the entrance (figs. 3 and 12). The benches begin 0.80 m. short of the entrance and join the pilasters at the other end. These benches, like the ones in Court 13, were most likely for people waiting to see the owner of the building. A similar architectural arrangement is still in use in sheikhs' buildings in modern Iraq. Only the front side of the façade showed traces of the bluish green pigment with which the rest of the building was painted.

The entrance leads to a short passage and then into Forecourt 13 (4 x 5.70 m.). The floor in the passage and the forecourt is neatly paved with baked brick (fig. 14). Court 13 contains three mud brick benches (fig. 15) built against the northeast, northwest and southwest walls (measuring 3.10 x 0.58 m., 3 x 0.58 m. and 2.60 x 0.58 m., respectively, and between 0.35 and 0.45 m. high), hence the designation 'waiting room' for this court in the first report. A doorway is near the eastern and southern corners of the court leading into two symmetrical rectangular rooms (Rooms 14 and 15; 5 x 2.05 m. and 5.35 x 2.50 m. respectively). These rooms were storerooms containing several large storage jars and pots (fig. 16).

Another doorway in the northwestern wall of Court 13 leads to the largest room (10) in the palace (14.85 x 4.80 m.). Room 10 communicates with Room 11 (5.40 x 5 m.) through a doorway flanked by single buttresses. Rooms 10 and 11, as well as Room 9 which is situated at their rear, have all the appearance of a Mesopotamian reception suite. Room 10 was used as a reception hall, and Room 11 an archive. The reception hall is of bent-axis type with a doorway close to the eastern corner and a brick hearth close to the southwestern short end. The position of the hearth indicates the place where the owner of the building would have sat, against the southwest wall.

A doorway near the northern corner of the reception hall leads to Room 9 (7.16 x 5.40 m.), which is the last chamber in the public sector. The function of Room 9 is not yet clear. The room yielded, however, some of the

most valuable objects in the building. It should be emphasized that the occurrence of a small subsidiary room or rooms at the back of a reception room or a throneroom (here, Rooms 10 and 9) and their location between two courts, fore and inner (here, Courts 13 and 7) is a standard formal arrangement in the 2nd and 1st millennia palaces in Mesopotamia (see my unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, 'Mesopotamian Monumental Secular Architecture in the Second Millennium B.C.', Yale University, 1975). Room 9 leads to small Inner Court 7 (5.06 x 3.04 m.) which has a brick pavement. By entering this inner court we are now in the residential sector (harem) of the building.

The inner court is surrounded by rooms of different domestic functions as is normal in Mesopotamian private houses. Court 7 was used as an outdoor space to provide light, ventilation and access to the rest of the chambers. It has a doorway in each of its four walls leading to Rooms 1, 3, 8 and 9. Room 1 (10.75 x 5.55 m.) is the largest chamber in the residential wing and was probably the main domestic room. Room 2 (3.40 x 1.50 m.) was an entryway. Room 5 (4.35 x 3.40 m.) was a bathroom; it contains a brick toilet in the southern corner and part of the walls and floor are protected by brick and coated with bitumen. Room 4 (4.75 x 3.20 m.) may have been another archive. It has a low brick bench (0.30 m. high and 0.20 m. broad) along the northwestern wall, and yielded the largest number of tablets. The tablets which were found scattered on the floor of the room with broken pottery might have originally been stored inside jars placed on the bench.

Special attention shall be given to Room 6, since it yielded several interesting installations. It is an L-shaped room measuring 7.45 x 2.40 m. at the long side and 3.60 x 3.60 m. at the short side. The room appears to have been designed to accommodate the water supply, drainpipes and presumably a staircase. The wide short (northeastern) side of Room 6 contains a well built of baked brick, and its long (southwestern) side conveniently holds two lines of drainpipes which run from the well towards a main drain in Room 3 (see below).

Unfortunately, Room 6, like other rooms of the palace, was badly disturbed by illicit digging and, therefore, we could not establish the connection between the pipes and the well, and more important, the location of the staircase. Room 6 was found filled with mud bricks similar in size and color to those used in the construction of the building. This brick filling seems to have served as a platform around the well and as a foundation for the drainpipes, which slope slightly downward from the well toward the main drain in Room 3. The mud brick packing along the southwestern and northwestern walls of the room (fig. 19) was possibly the remains of a staircase foundation. A staircase could have been built against these two walls, beginning at the southeastern side of the room, where there seems to have been an opening, and continuing upwards along the southwestern wall; it might have turned northeast above the well. Evidence supporting this reconstruction is the strong indications of a second storey in the building and the absence of a stairway elsewhere. Denuded stairs, it should be noted, have usually been found as a solid block of masonry similar to the packing in Room 6.

There is nothing noteworthy about Rooms 3, 8 and 12. The household utensils and other objects which were found in them indicate that they served domestic functions.

Interesting and peculiar to the Green Palace is a series of seven small rooms (16-22) which were uncovered along the northwestern and southwestern sides of the buildings (figs. 3 and 17a). Rooms 16-22 measure 2.95 x 2 m., 3.65 x 1.75 m., 2.85 x 2 m., 2.05 x 1.60 m., 2.15 x 1.90 m., 2.25 x 1.90 m. and 2.25 x 1.90 m., respectively. Each room of the series has two deep narrow niches, except Room 16, which has only one niche. These niches measure from 0.35 to 0.75 m. wide and from 1.15 to 2.60 m. long. The curvature of side walls in some of those niches leaves no doubt about their having been vaulted (figs. 17 b-d). As for the purpose of the rooms and their niches, we are not quite certain. The rooms are small and are the only unpainted rooms in the building. They were devoid of objects except for some tablets and a fragmentary human skeleton. The niches were all opened and nothing was found in them except soft clay in some. Their depth, width and low height make them unusable for storage. We are more of the opinion that the niches were tombs. The rooms themselves were possibly inhabited by servants. It appears that the tombs were sacked and plundered by the attackers who destroyed and burned the palace.

It should be noted here that such tombs are unique in Mesopotamian architecture as far as we know. The only

comparable niches which might have been tombs appeared in the so-called 'White Building' in the Kassite palace of level I at Aqar Quf. The 'White Building' of level I consists of three long parallel chambers, each with a double row of deep vaulted niches. These chambers have been considered storerooms and the niches as cellars by the excavator (T. Baqir, *Iraq* (supplement), 1945, pp. 5-6, figs. 14 and 18-19). We have discussed (Al-Khalesi, 1975, pp. 165 ff.) the architectural features of the 'White Building' from the archaeological and textual points of view, and come to the conclusion that the 'White Building' was a funerary quarters and the niches were tombs of the Kassite royal family.

Room 26 is a large elongated chamber (17.50 x 3.60 m.). It is situated at the southern corner of the palace behind Rooms 8 and 10. Its outer wall is decorated with pilasters as is the whole side of the building (fig. 18). It has no internal communication but one doorway opens to the outside. The purpose of the room is uncertain. The walls were left standing only to a very low height (0.20 m. or less), for this area was the most denuded part of the mound. Its interior walls are also painted with the bluish green pigment. We can only suggest, on the basis of the room plan, its communications and the paint, that it may have been a guest room. The lack of internal communication could have been for reasons of privacy.

Unique to the Green Palace among the 2nd millennium palaces in Mesopotamia is the defensive character of its architecture. The building is surrounded by outer walls averaging 3.70 m. in thickness. The outer walls are reinforced at intervals by seven large towers of mud brick (fig. 3). Two of these towers can be seen behind Storerooms 14 and 15 at the southeastern side of the building (fig. 24); two others are almost at the middle of the southwestern side (fig. 25); and three towers are at the northwestern side of the palace and the temple platform (fig. 26). The solid masonry which extends from the northeastern side of the platform could have been another tower, but this is not certain (see below). The towers measure 5 x 5 m., except the tower at the northern corner of the platform (fig. 28), which measures 7.50 x 5.50 m.

Three of these towers—the two at the southwestern side and the one at the northwestern side of the palace—have a small room (Rooms 23-25) built adjacent to each of them (fig. 25). The rooms' dimensions are 2.90 x 2 m. (Rm. 23); 3.30 x 2.60 m. (Rm. 24) and 3.20 x 1.70 m. (Rm. 25). There were no doorways found in any of these rooms, although the height of their walls was sufficiently preserved above the floor level (0.40 m. in Rooms 23 and 24, and 1.60 m. in Room 25; fig. 27). Therefore, we are inclined to believe that those rooms might have been used to store defensive materials, as well as other materials, and were entered from the roof by means of ladders. There was evidence of intense fire in the rooms.

The two towers at the southeastern side of the palace must have been higher and overlooked Storerooms 14 and 15 in order to have served their functions. A brick drain was found built within the mud brick of one of the southeastern tower. The drain begins almost in the middle of the tower and continues towards the inside of the building. Another brick drain was discovered under the walls of weapon Storeroom 25. These drains were most likely intended to protect the towers and the walls by draining rainwater from the roofs and the tops of the walls by means of vertical pipes. Such a vertical pipe was found during the first season built inside one of the walls of Room 6. The northern tower of the southwestern side of the palace has a buttress at its western corner, and appears to have been reinforced at a later time by a mud brick wall (8.80 m. long and 1.50 m. thick), built against its northwest side and along the palace outer wall at this area.

These defensive measures at Tell al-Fakhar were more likely motivated by local enmities rather than by a need to defend the building against major external invasion. The palace seems to have been the fortified manor of a family commune/village of *dimtu*-type (this is discussed below).

One of the well-constructed features of the Green Palace is a drainage system. Drains run from various parts of the building to Rooms 3, where they connect together into one main drain (fig. 20). This drain penetrates the whole thickness of the building at the southwestern side, carrying sewage to some distance outside the building. The drains are made of either pottery in U-shaped or cylindrical pipes, or of baked brick, with their insides coated with bitumen (more information is to be found in *Sumer*, 1970, p. 113, pl. 7).

Our decision to follow the main drain by cutting the walls was a fortunate one. The main drain yielded some elaborate architectural features, and most of the objects of this season were found in it. As mentioned above, the drain begins under the floor of Room 3 at a point 0.45 m. from its southwestern wall, and continues through the walls at this side of the building to a point outside the building. The main drain is 17 m. long, although its final outlet outside the palace was not investigated. It slopes gradually towards the outside; there is a level difference of 1.35 m. between the beginning of the drain and the point where it exits the outermost wall.

The main drain can be divided into three parts on the basis of its architectural construction and building materials: starting from the inside of the building, *part 1* is 6.80 m. long, 1.06 m. broad and 1.04 m. high. It is built of baked brick and the drain floor is coated with bitumen. The bed of the drain is 0.54 m. wide and 0.48 m. high; it is roofed by a vault which is supported on a partition wall (0.12 m. wide) built inside the drain itself (figs. 7a and 20). *Part 2* is 3.20 m. long, 0.70 m. broad and 0.55 m. high; the drain bed measures 0.20-0.35 m. broad and 0.30 m. high. This part is also built of baked brick, and bitumen coated the floor and the sides of the drain. The roof of this portion is made of large flat bricks (8 x 52 x 52 cm.) which seem to have been made specifically for this purpose (fig. 7). In both parts there is a layer of bitumen under the foundation of the drain. *Part 3* is 5.10 m. long, and is constructed differently. The drain bed, which is an average of 0.48 m. broad and 0.18 m. deep, is cut into the soil and its sides are laid with mud brick.

The roof of part 3 is an interesting piece of architecture. It is made of two attached barrel vaults of mud brick. These two vaults do not roof the drain channel only, but span a larger area; therefore, they form a tunnel over the drain (fig. 22). The vaults measure 1.40 m. wide, and one is 3.50 m. and the other 1.60 m. long. The springers of the vaults are supported on two smaller relieving arches built inside the walls on either side (fig. 8). The arches probably served as a means of reducing the weight in the walls, which were supported by the vaults.

The only apparent reason for constructing a tunnel above the drain channel is to facilitate cleaning of the drain. One person or more could have easily got inside the tunnel from the outlet of the drain (figs. 9 and 23). In fact, many objects (gold, metal, stone, pottery, cylinder seals and skeletons) were found in this part of the main drain (fig. 21). It seems very likely that some of the palace inhabitants had hid with their possessions in the tunnel during the siege of the palace. But there was no escape, and they were discovered and killed right there, where we finally found them in situ.

The Temple Platform (fig. 3)

A relatively large solid platform (37 x 22 m.) was uncovered along the northeastern side of the Green Palace. It is built of mud brick of the same measurements as the palace bricks; the most common size is 35 x 35 x 10 cm. The platform begins almost at the middle of the northeastern wall of Room 11 and continues the length of the whole palace.

The platform has a curious shape, zigzag in outline, which looks like a stepped merlon (figs. 29-31). Traces of shallow buttresses and recesses can still be noticed on its wall face. The highest (1.45 m.) preserved area is at the northern corner of the terrace, and the lowest point (0.64 m.) is at its southern corner. The platform appears to have twice suffered destruction: once by the enemy who captured and destroyed the village, and secondly by the later inhabitants of level I, who cut into the remains and leveled the ground for their structures (fig. 30).

We are almost certain that this terrace was used as a platform for an important public building, a temple of which no remains were found. It is unfortunate, indeed, that circumstances did not allow us to scrape the surface of the platform to determine the original ground plan of the presumed temple. The practice of scraping the surface is based on the platform construction technique in Mesopotamia, because the substructure (platform) duplicates the plan of the superstructure before it is filled in with brick.

The general rectangular shape of the platform may suggest a rectangular plan for the superstructure temple. The

shrines of the nearby city of Nuzi are of a rectangular ground plan. But, whether the temple at al-Fakhar had a zigzag façade similar to the substructure platform is not known. The only other comparable structure of somewhat similar zigzag façade is the first Sin-Shamash temple of Ashur-nirari I (ca. 15th century B.C.) at Assur (W. Andrae, *Das Wiedererstandene Assur*, 1938, p. 100, fig. 44). The temple at Assur has an entrance in the middle of the central buttress. Whether our temple had a similar entrance in the middle of its central buttress or a stairway is unknown. The central buttress was found badly damaged down to the ground level. Two small walls which were added against the southern corner of the central buttress might have been intended to support a staircase.

The platform appears to have been encircled by a temenos wall (1.10 m. thick), part of which was found attached to the outside eastern corner of Room 11. We decided not to follow this wall because of the thick strata of water-laid silt deposits. A rectangular storeroom (Room 27, 4.90 x 2.70 m.) was discovered next to the southeastern side of the terrace. It contained various types of storage vessels. A fragmentary thin wall (0.20 m. thick and 2.50 m. long) was found parallel to one of the sides of the southeastern area of the terrace. A circular clay hearth (0.88 m. in diameter) with a central depression (0.28 m. in diameter) was found 1.35 m. southeast of the thin wall (fig. 41). The hearth was placed on a hard packed ground about 0.65 m. above the paved floor level of this open area. The hearth and the surrounding area were burned red with ashes. The floor around the hearth and the thin wall was paved with irregular broken bricks.

Trial Pits

Several small trial pits were dug in some of the Green Palace rooms (1, 3, 4 and 11) in order to gain information about the history of the structure and the technique of construction. The results obtained from those pits are similar but with minor modifications. The results can be summed up as follows: 1) The walls are supported on mud brick foundations (0.65 to 0.70 m. deep) which extend 0.65 m. inside the rooms like a sole (fig. 6). The foundations' bricks are light in color with ashy mortar, while the standing walls are of reddish brown color. 2) The rooms have either one or two floors of fine clay mixed with chopped straw. The upper floor is 6 cm. thick and has a very thin layer (1 cm. thick) of bluish green clay on top. This bluish green clay seems to be the same material with which the palace walls were painted. Similar bluish floors had also been used in some of the level I buildings, as well as in the earlier level III.

Walls with similar bluish green or blue pigment have been reported from several Mesopotamian sites. Examples are Tell Shamlu (Al-Janabi, *Sumer* 17, pp. 174-193, especially pp. 179-181 and 184 (Arabic section)), Tell Bakr-Awa (Al-Husaini, *Sumer* 18, pp. 141-164, especially pp. 150 and 152 (Arabic Section)), Tell Basmusian (Al-Soof, *Sumer* 26, pp. 65-104, especially p. 69) and Nuzi (Starr, *Nuzi*, 1939, p. 491) in northern Iraq, and the Temple of Enlil (level III) and the private houses of TB level I at Nippur (McCown, Haines and Hansen, *OIP* 78, pp. 2, 13 and 59) in southern Iraq. The plinth along the walls of Court 106 in Zimrilim's palace of Mari is decorated with grey-blue pigment (Parrot, *Le Palais; Architecture, Mission Archéologique de Mari, Vol. 2*, 1958, p. 89). Those structures are dated between the 20th and 15th centuries B.C. The wide distribution of this bluish pigment suggests a popular usage of this clay in Mesopotamian structures.

Lumps of this bluish green material were found in some of the Green Palace rooms. The bluish material seems to be an element of the white clay, which is colloquially known today as *ṭīn ḥawa* (*ḥawa* clay). The latter is being used as a kind of hair soap by old-fashioned Iraqi women. The bluish green clay is called *gīl*, which seems to have derived from the name of the village Gīla near the city of Mosul in the north of Iraq, where the clay is common (for this information I am obliged to Prof. Fuad Safar).

3) Below the rooms' floors there is a pavement of two courses of mud brick supported on the sole. This pavement was laid down to support the floors. Underneath the brick pavement is a layer of a hard packed fill of clay (0.16-0.28 m. thick). 4) Underlying the packed fill is a number of floors or walls belonging to the earlier level III. These earlier remains were found cut by the foundations of the palace (fig. 6). Thus, the architect of the Green Palace had carefully laid down the foundations and pavements and subpavement of the floors. 5) To add one more feature, it

was found that the clay plaster of the walls continued down to the foundations, but not the bluish green pigment, which stops with the level of the floor.

Another architectural feature which appeared in the construction of the palace should perhaps be mentioned here. Many of the inner and outer walls are not bonded. Unbonded walls have usually been taken as a sign of a rebuilding or later addition. We believe that should not necessarily be so. We have in the Green Palace strong evidence—the layout of the building and the correlation of the walls and their foundations—that almost all the unbonded walls were planned at the same time. Evidence of later additions is also attested in the building, however. The technique of using unbonded walls is not rare in Mesopotamian architecture, as attested by the Kassite palace at Aqar Quf, and Ishtar Gate and the Southern Citadel in Babylon. Because of our interest in the technique of construction at al-Fakhar we found this feature to be clearly represented in the Green Palace. Whether the technique of unbonded walls served a specific function or was a procedure of construction is not yet clear. There is, however, archaeological and textual documentation indicating that Assyria had been subject to frequent earthquakes (R. Campbell-Thompson, *Iraq* 4, pp. 186-8; Mallowan, *Nimrud and its Remains*, p. 223). Unbonded walls would provide buildings with sufficient elasticity to protect them from total collapse during such tremors.

II. LEVEL I

Buildings A, B, C, D, E, F and G (fig. 4)

Level I yielded seven buildings, lettered A to G, and also two roads (I and II). Buildings A, B and C, and the two roads were discovered during the first season, and the remaining structures (D, E, F and G) were uncovered in the second season. These buildings had been built above the outline of the Green Palace and the platform of the earlier level II, leaving an unoccupied area in the center of the mound (fig. 5). This fact may suggest that when the inhabitants of level I first settled on the mound, the ruins of the Green Palace and the temple were still standing high. This prevented the settlers—because of the labor involved in clearing the area—from fully occupying the tell. Mud brick of the same measurements and characteristics as those of the Green Palace and the platform were found among the mud brick of level I buildings. It appears possible, therefore, that the bricks were reused and the later inhabitants completed the destruction of the level II structures.

The foundations of the level I buildings were found either resting directly on the structures of the preceding level II (especially on the top of the platform), on hard packed debris of fallen mud brick, or atop a series of water-laid strata of silt deposits separating them from the level II structures. For buildings B and C, which were found resting on the northeastern zigzag outline of the platform, the lower ruins had to be cleared away and leveled, and their foundations cut into the solid terrace, resulting in a terrace 0.70 to 0.90 m. lower than the rest of the platform (fig. 30).

The water-laid silt deposits indicate that the site was abandoned for some time in antiquity after the Green Palace had been destroyed. It became evident to us that those silt deposits had been built up by floods in 'Wadi al-Nafat' which is supplied by rainwater running down the foothills that surround the city of Kirkuk (Arrapha). Indeed, the rain flood was so big and strong during our second season work that we were cut off from the rest of the world for at least one week. Such floods, as well as irrigation water, could have caused the surrounding alluvium to rise up.

The buildings of level I are all incompletely preserved, except Building E. Their ground plan is that of the typical private house of Mesopotamia: a courtyard with brick pavement surrounded by a number of rooms of various domestic functions. Building E may serve as a standard plan for the other six buildings at al-Fakhar (figs. 4 and 32).

Two occupational phases—indicated by several floors, repavements and minor wall and door modifications—have been recognized in those buildings. The floors in the rooms of the upper (later) phase are made of stamped clay mixed usually with straw and sometimes with bluish green clay, whereas the floors of the lower (earlier) phase are

mostly covered (partially or wholly) with poor pavements of brick and stone. A number of kilns (discussed below) were discovered in some of the buildings and were associated with the earlier phase. In other words, they had been abandoned during the later phase. Except for the pottery only a very small number of insignificant objects were found in those buildings. The pottery shows no distinctive type or types associated with either phase. The pottery is mostly dated to the beginning of the 1st millennium B.C.

We shall now touch briefly on the individual buildings of level I, emphasizing their distinctive characteristics. Buildings A, B and C have already been described in our first report. Nevertheless, more information has been obtained during the last season, especially about Building B.

Building A (fig. 4)

The remains of this building were discovered above the southeastern part of the Green Palace of level II. Some parts of Building A were found resting directly on the walls of the palace and in other places there was a series of water-laid silt deposits separating the two structures. The building has been partially preserved; only a 23 x 16 m. area was uncovered, containing six rooms (1-4 and 6-7) surrounding a large court (5) paved with brick. The entrance of the building was not recovered; it was most likely in the eroded southeastern side of the structure. Room 4 opens onto Court 5 and contains one kiln near the eastern corner and two hearths near the southwestern end of the room. The two hearths are erroneously identified as kilns in our first report (*Sumer* 26, p. 117).

Building B (fig. 4)

This building is situated between Buildings C and F. It was partially built upon the platform of level II and partially on a hard packed fill. Only a rectangular area (27 x 13 m.) of the structure has been preserved, revealing 7 chambers surrounding a relatively large court (4) paved with brick. The entrance was not found, and was probably located at the eroded northeastern side of the structure. Rooms 3, 5 and 6 are partially paved with poor brick. Room 3 appears to have been a kitchen, with a sewer similar to the one in Room 8 (see below) during the early phase, and two ovens during the later phase. Room 1 was the largest chamber (8.90 x 4.10 m.) during the early occupation, but in the later phase was divided into two rooms (1 and 2). Room 7 contains an ovoid-shaped kiln (no. 2) and Room 8, a well preserved brick pavement.

A sewer installation made of pottery and brick was found running between Court 4 and Room 8 (fig. 38). It consists of a sink, a drain and a cesspool. The sink is shallow and ovoid in shape (0.40 x 0.28 m.) flush with the level of the pavement in Court 4; it is connected to a drain of three U-shaped channels (1.68 m. long and 0.20 m. wide), which joins a sewer under the pavement of Room 8. The sewer is bell-shaped, and its sides are lined with square baked brick. Its outer side is intentionally surrounded by broken brick, presumably to protect the wall. It is 1.10 m. deep and 0.70 m. diameter at the bottom; these are not the original dimensions as it was not cleaned). It has a square opening (0.25 m.) covered by one brick of the room pavement. The sewer seems to have served two purposes, to drain rainwater from Court 4 and to collect the water from domestic usage.

Building C (fig. 4)

An elongated area of this building was unearthed between Buildings A and B. The northeastern side of the building where the entrance was probably located was completely denuded. The northern part of the structure was supported directly by the terrace of level II, while the southern part was founded on debris separating the two levels (I and II). The preserved portion of the building contains five rooms (1-5) and a court (6).

Building D (fig. 4)

This building is situated next to Building E at the northwestern part of the mound. Its foundations were laid upon either the walls of level II, on a hard packed fill or over a water-laid silt deposit. Only an area measuring 18.80 x 9 m.

has been preserved and must have extended in south- and northwestern directions. The walls are preserved to a height of from 0.10 to 0.55 m. The entrance to the building appears to have been at the denuded northwestern side as is the case in the adjacent Building E.

Building D has two phases with some plan modifications during the later phase. Of the earlier phase six chambers are preserved. Doorways were found connecting Rooms 1 and 2, Rooms 3, 4 and 6, and Rooms 4 and 5. Room 2 has a niche in its southeast wall, most likely the remains of a ventilation shaft which originally penetrated the wall up to the roof. Room 4 is partially paved with poor brick. A large kiln is found in Court 6, which is paved with broken brick.

During the later phase of occupation wall alterations occurred. A mud brick wall was built against the northeastern side of Room 3, blocking communication with Room 4 and Court 6. Another wall was built inside Room 5 running in a northwest-southeast direction. These two later walls were found resting upon the upper floor of the earlier phase. The walls of Rooms 4 and 5 and Court 6 appear to have been torn down and the three chambers were turned into one large open area during the later phase. The doorway between Rooms 1 and 2 might have been blocked at the same time.

Building E (figs. 4, 32, and 34)

Building E is almost completely recovered. It is situated at the northwestern side of the mound between Buildings D and F. Its foundations rest upon either the walls of the preceding level, on a hard packed fill or water-laid deposit, as in Building D. A rebuilding phase is indicated by the differences in the foundation levels between the southwestern and northeastern (0.50 m. deeper) sides, and by the number of floors in the two sides (1 floor in the former and 2-3 floors in the latter), as well as by the unbonded walls of Rooms 1 and 2.

Building E is approximately square in plan (14.90 x 12 m.) containing 8 rooms (1-8) and a large courtyard (9). The building entrance is near the western corner, opening into a small vestibule (8) which leads to the courtyard. A sewer similar to the one in Building B (see above) was found in the western corner of the court, continuing under the walls and floor of the vestibule. The court is surrounded at its northwest, north- and southeast sides by a series of rooms, which communicate with each other and with the court. There is little to note about these domestic rooms, except that Room 4 has two niches (one of them was most likely a ventilation shaft) and that the doorways of Rooms 1, 4, 5 and 7 have doorsills. The preserved northwestern outer wall of Building E may suggest a similar outer limit for the adjacent Building D and possibly Building F.

Building F (fig. 4)

This building is situated at the northern side of the mound between Buildings B and E. Its southeastern outer wall runs parallel to the northwestern wall of Building B, while it has a common outer wall (southwestern) with Building E. An area 11 m. long and 9.20 m. broad has been recovered for this structure. The height of the walls ranges between 0.30 m. (mostly) and 0.80 m. above the floor level. Three clay floors were identified in the building. The upper floor is 0.07 m. thick (mixture of clay, ash and bluish clay) separated by a fill (0.22 m thick) from the two lower floors (0.07 m. thick each).

We have been able to recover only three chambers, two rooms (1-2) and part of what is probably a court (3). Room 2 is small (3.40 x 2.15 m.) and partially paved with poor brick. Much larger is Room 1 (6.75 x 4 m.) which has two doorways (one with a brick doorsill) in its northeastern wall leading to Court 3. No doorway was found between Rooms 1 and 2 nor between the latter and Court 3.

Most interesting is the discovery of seven kilns in this structure. One kiln was found in the northern corner of Room 1 and the other six in Court 3 (fig. 35). The kilns were associated with the two lower floors; in other words, they had been disregarded during the occupation of the upper floor. It became evident that these were pottery kilns, and, consequently, we would like to consider Building F a potter's shop.

Building G (fig. 4)

This structure is situated at the southwestern side of the mound. A very small area (11 x 1.70 m.) was uncovered, containing three chambers (1-3) separated by thin walls (0.26-0.40 m. thick and 0.40 m. high). A doorway with a door socket was found between Rooms 2 and 3. The inhabitants of this building had reused the southwestern outer wall of the Green Palace as one of their house walls. They built cross walls at right angles to the palace wall. The foundations of the building rest on the ground floor of the palace. The reusing of the Green Palace wall strengthens our opinion above that the ruins of the palace and the temple were still standing to some height during the reoccupation of the site. Only one floor (0.4 m. thick) of clay mixed with the bluish green material was found in Building G. The mound was too denuded at this point to establish anything.

Kilns of Level I (figs. 10 and 35-37)

An interesting discovery in the buildings of level I is that of ten kilns. We shall give below a descriptive outline of those kilns and their use. More comprehensive information such as locations, forms, structural material and measurements are to be found in the table following. The kilns are given sequential numbers (1-10) according to the order of their discovery.

Seven of the kilns (nos. 4-10) were found in Building F. The other three (nos. 1-3) were found in Buildings A, B and D, respectively. The kilns are associated with the earlier (lower) phase of the buildings and were abandoned and covered by the floors of the later phase.

The kilns are constructed by similar techniques and probably served the same purposes. They have, however, three or four forms: ovoid, circular, square and possibly rectangular. Except for two of them (nos. 8 and 10) each of the kilns has a fuel opening at one side. Kiln no. 8 has no opening because it was most likely demolished by later rebuilding. However, kiln no. 10 was never used as a baking kiln; it was found full of ashes and appears to have been a temporary ash-dump for the surrounding kilns. This assumption is suggested by the absence of traces of fire usage—found intensively in the other kilns—and the location of the ditch in the middle of the five other kilns in Court 3 of Building F. The reason we classified the ditch as a kiln is because, first, the ditch seems to have been first intended to be a kiln—suggested by its regular ovoid shape—but used as an ash-dump instead before its completion; second, its use was part of the baking process.

The fuel opening is always near the top of the fire-chamber which is a ditch underground. The opening tends to slope slightly inwards. It is square, rectangular or triangular in shape with rounded corners.

The kilns of al-Fakhar are incompletely preserved. Only the lower part (fire-chamber) is preserved. This is a pit dug into the soil, so it is below the floor level. Traces of the tool (4-5 cm. wide) with which these chambers were dug were still visible (fig. 36). The fuel opening is flush with the room level in almost all the cases. Therefore, it appears that an upper baking-chamber was above the floor level. Such types of kilns are known from several other ancient sites, as well as from modern Iraq. Those from other sites have a floor with smoke and heat vents separating the fire and baking chambers. They also have two openings for fuel and draft.

The fire-chamber at al-Fakhar is coated either with layers of clay plaster or a wall of brick covered with plaster (fig. 36), the latter technique being used more commonly. The mud brick in the structure of the kiln is to support the floor which separates the two chambers. In several cases, it was difficult to distinguish between the clay plaster and the brick, because of the intensity of fire which must have been used in the kilns. The fire had turned the sides of the lower chamber into globules of melted clay and sand. The sides of the fuel opening are always made of thick clay plaster. The opening floor of kilns nos. 3 and 9, and the floor of their fire-chambers and the opening of kiln no. 1 were found covered with mud brick.

As we have mentioned above none of our kilns retained its upper baking-chamber nor the floor which separated the

two chambers. However, we obtained evidence concerning the roofing technique of the floor between the fire and baking chambers. The walls of the fire-chamber of kiln no. 2 slope slightly inward as they approach the top, probably terminating in a dome supporting the floor above it (see table for difference in measurements between the bottom and top parts of the chamber). Indeed, we found in kiln no. 6 the lower four courses of mud brick of what was originally a corbelled dome.

The best preserved proof of roofing comes from kiln no. 9, the largest in the group. This kiln is circular (1.40 m. in diameter) with a fire-chamber 2.15 m. deep. At a point 1 m. high from the bottom of the fire-chamber a mud brick arch begins, of which only five courses are preserved (figs. 10 and 37). The arch is two bricks wide (each 0.38 x 0.38 x 0.11 m.) with a rounded vent (0.12 m. in diameter) between them. Thus, the arch is 0.88 m. wide. The arch is not exactly in the middle of the chamber; it is 0.20 m. from the fuel opening and 0.32 m. from the back side of the kiln. The open area at the two sides of the arch appears to have been roofed by vaults. The existence of such vaults at either side of the arch is indicated by the inward slanting of the chamber walls. Thus, the floor which separates the upper and lower chambers appears to have been supported upon a dome-like roof consisting of a central arch and two vaults.

In connection with the structure of the kilns, kiln no. 7 has two curious features. This kiln is of square shape, but with one irregular wavy side. This wavy side is adjacent to kiln no. 6 and the wall separating them is only 0.10-0.20 m. thick. Whether the unevenness of this side was caused by the thinness of the wall and the intense baking fire, or whether it was made this way for some functional purpose is not known, though the latter alternative is more likely. A kiln with similar wavy sides was found below the city wall of Nuzi (Starr, *Nuzi*, p. 329, fig. 46, plan 25). A smoke vent (0.27 x 0.24 m.) is at one corner of the wavy side, opposite the fuel opening. The other exceptional feature of kiln no. 7 is that the side walls slant outward as they approach the top (see table for measurements). Whether the outward slanting was related to the uneven side and the structure of the kiln as a whole is not known. Since the floors and the upper baking chambers of the kilns at al-Fakhar are not preserved there is no way of knowing their structural arrangement and what means of access there was from the outside.

The use of the kilns is another subject. One is tempted to think that the differences in the forms of the kilns (circular, rectangular and ovoid) might suggest the possibility of diversification in the types of objects which were being manufactured. Kilns such as those from al-Fakhar seem to have been used to manufacture pottery or brick in Mesopotamia. Since vessels (some of them are complete, fig. 45c) were found in some of our kilns, and the kilns are too small for baking brick, they were, therefore, for baking vessels. We would like further to suggest that Building F, which housed seven kilns, was a large potter's shop, whereas Buildings A, B and D, each of which yielded one kiln, were private houses, where vessels were made in small quantities.

III. STRATIGRAPHICAL SOUNDINGS

Two stratigraphic soundings were opened in the second season with two different objectives. One was to examine the area in front of the Green Palace bearing in mind the possibility of more structures in the area; and the other was to determine the stratigraphy of the mound down to virgin soil. These different objectives determined the type and the technique of our soundings—a trial trench for the former and a sounding pit for the latter.

Trial Trench

A trial trench 1 m. wide was opened at the eastern corner of the Green Palace façade to a distance of 16 m. in a southern direction (fig. 2). Offshoot trenches were later cut toward the northeast (6 m. long) and southwest (6.50 m. long). The depth of the trenches is between 1.80 m. and 2 m., which is the depth of the ground floor (level II) outside the palace. In none of the trenches did we encounter standing walls. Nonetheless, the trenches yielded the following information: The deposit is 1.80-2 m. thick with two occupational levels, which appear continuously along the trenches. The upper occupation (level I) is between 0.30 m. and 0.40 m. below the surface of the tell, and the

The Kilns in the Buildings of Level I

Kiln No.	Locus	Bldg.	Shape	Structural Material	Measurements in cm.			Wall or Plaster	Remarks
					Body	Opening	Opening		
1	Room 4	A	circular	a small portion is made of mud brick	85 in diameter 30 deep	70 long & 45 wide		It was rebuilt at a later time	
1	Room 4	A	rectangular	mud brick	70 long, 45 wide & 45 deep	70 long & 45 wide	20		
2	Room 7	B	ovoid		Bottom: 165 x 90 Top: 126 x 76 75 deep	30 long & 25 wide	6	The opening is approximately rectangular in shape	
3	Court 6	D	circular		130 in diameter 70 deep	50 long & 42 wide			
4	Room 1	F	ovoid	mud brick (?)	110 long, 85 wide & 30 deep	60 long & 55 wide	6		
5	Court 3	F	ovoid	mud brick	95 long, 75 wide & 50 deep	33 long & 20 wide		Next to the SW wall of the court	
6	Court 3	F	ovoid	mud brick	110 long, 100 wide & 59 deep	55 long & 45 wide	6	North of kiln 5, their openings facing each other	
7	Court 3	F	almost square	mud brick	Bottom: 113 x 110 Top: 132 x 118 110 deep	50 long & 40 wide	8-14	Situated N-NE of kiln 6	
8	Court 3	F	square		85 long & 80 deep	not found	6	Situated next to SW wall of the court, S of kiln 5	
9	Court 3	F	circular	mud brick	140 in diameter 215 deep	64 long & 52 wide	6	The largest and best preserved kiln: east of kiln 8	
10	Court 3	F	ovoid		110 long, 80 wide & 45 deep			In the middle of the kilns of Building F—used as an ash-dump	

lower occupation (level II) is between 1.80 m. and 2 m. below the surface. Between the two levels is a layer (0.30 m. thick) of fallen mud brick mixed with ashes covering the floor of level II, and a series of water-laid silt deposits (1.10-1.30 m. thick) above it. In the southwestern trench, below the silt deposit, we notice two clay floors separated by a fill (0.37 m. thick) belonging to level II. The ground floor outside the Green Palace was found mixed with the bluish green clay and ashes resulting from the fire which destroyed the building. The ground slopes downward from the palace. Sloping floors were already found in Rooms 9 and 10 and Court 13 (*Sumer* 26, p. 111). Such sloping floors were usually caused by the existence of earlier structures, but they also functioned to prevent the accumulation of water next to the walls, as is probably the case in our palace.

Sounding Pit (figs. 6 and 39)

We must express regret for our inability to furnish the reader with a complete report on the sounding pit. This is due to my departure from Baghdad shortly after the end of the second season in 1969. We were unable, in any case, to reach virgin soil because of bad weather conditions. It was the rainiest winter in living memory. Archaeologists know very well that rain creates the worst conditions in the field.

Under those conditions we began penetrating the strata of the mound. The place of the sounding pit was chosen almost in the middle of the mound, at a point covering part of the Green Palace and part of the platform, in order to determine the relationship between the two. The pit was of rectangular shape (6 x 4 m.) with its long side running northeast-southwest. But a limited budget and bad weather forced us later to reduce its length by 0.80 m. and 2.25 m. at the northeastern and southwestern sides, respectively, leaving us with almost half of the original size (2.95 x 4 m.).

There is very little to report about the contents of the sounding pit and the chronology of its various levels. Ten levels have been recognized (I-X) beginning with the top level II (fig. 6); level I was not found in this area, but it was retained for chronological consistency. The three levels (III-V) underneath level II yielded comparatively thick walls (1.10-1.20 m. thick) of different alignments from the level II walls and from each other. In level IV a complete skeleton of an onager was found (figs. 11 and 42; I am indebted to Mr. S. Bökönyi of the Archaeological Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences for this identification). The walls of levels VI-VII were much thinner (0.18-0.25 m. thick) than the later walls and were of different alignments. Part of a room was found in level V, paved completely with potsherds. Painted pottery first appeared in level IX. In level X, we had just begun to unearth an unidentified large skeleton but unfortunately we had to cover it back up to save it from being destroyed by the rain.

We recognize that this summarized account of the sounding pit is too brief to be of much value, except to show that Tell al-Fakhar had been occupied from prehistoric times to the first millennium B.C. We hope that we may be able some time in the future to go back to the site to finish the sounding pit for final publication.

IV. OBJECTS

Since we have at present no direct access to the objects, which are in the Iraq Museum, we can present here only a brief summary of the finds with illustrated samples based on the field notes. The objects which were found during the second season's excavations are much fewer in number than those of the first season. This is due to the fact that our work was mainly excavating the enclosure walls of the Green Palace and the temple platform. However, the materials of the last season are by no means less significant than those of the first. As was the case in the first season, only a few objects besides pottery were found in the buildings of level I. The objects which will be mentioned below all came from level II, unless otherwise indicated.

The objects from Tell al-Fakhar are varied; among them were approximately 1000 inscribed tablets, 42 human skeletons, sixteen cylinder seals, many seal impressions, pottery, glass and glazed vessels, ornaments and various kinds of metal, bone, stone and terra-cotta artifacts. The second season's objects are generally of the same categories as those of the first season (*Sumer* 26, pp. 118-122).

Human skeletons. A skeleton buried in a rectangular grave was found under the floors of Building D; two copper rings and seventeen carnelian beads were the grave goods. Eight more fragmentary skeletons were found in the Green Palace, bringing the total number to 42 skeletons. Seven of these were discovered in the tunnel of the main drain (see above) and one in Room 22. The discovery of those skeletons in the main drain implies that those unfortunate persons had tried to escape the catastrophic assault against the palace, but in vain—there they were discovered and killed. A long bronze dagger with wooden inlaid handle was found lying on the skeleton which was discovered in Room 22. It was not possible to determine whether that person was killed by the dagger or it was his own weapon.

Pottery includes bowls, cups, pots, jars and vessel-stands as well as glazed vessels and a small piece of green glass ware (figs. 43-45).

Metal objects are made in copper (arrow- and spearheads, needles, pins, bracelets and beads), in bronze (two daggers), in silver (bracelets and earrings) and in gold (rings, a necklace and an unmade piece). The golden necklace is delicately made and shows good craftsmanship. Thirty-four beads of this necklace were found in the main drain (part 3) with some other material. The beads are of two forms, barrel and cylindrical, and are filled with fine gypsum in order to keep their very thin outer surface in shape. The barrel-shaped beads are decorated with incised hatches, while the cylindrical beads have zigzags and dots in relief.

Beads. Hundreds of beads of various forms and sizes were found in the palace. They are made of precious stone (carnelian, crystal and turquoise), common stone, glazed frit, ivory, bone, gold and copper.

Bone objects consist mainly of needles and pins of different sizes (fig. 40).

Cylinder seals. Seven seals of stone or glazed frit were found in the main drain (part 3) of the palace, bringing the total number to sixteen seals. We erroneously stated in the first report that sixteen seals were discovered during the first season (*Sumer* 26, p. 121). In fact, only nine cylinder seals were found in that season. The seals are Mitannian in style. A separate study of those seals and some seal impressions on clay will soon be published.

Inscribed tablets are among the most significant discoveries at al-Fakhar. Approximately 1000 texts were found scattered in the rooms and courts of the Green Palace. They include business contracts, documents related to land lease, land purchase, barter, and adoption, family laws, legal and religious texts, lists of names, and letters. All these types are analogous to the tablets from Nuzi and Arrapha.

Texts from Tell al-Fakhar have already been chosen as thesis subjects by two Iraqi colleagues, Mr. Abdulillah Fadhil and Mr. Farouq Ar-Rawi. Fadhil received his Master's degree at the University of Heidelberg in Germany in 1972. Mr. Ar-Rawi is currently working on his Ph.D. degree at the University of Cardiff, Wales, in England.

The ancient name of the site is one of the most significant points, which Fadhil has discussed in his thesis entitled, 'Recthsurkunden und Administrative Texte aus Kurruḫanni.' As the title indicates, he reached the conclusion that the ancient name of Tell al-Fakhar was *Kurruḫanni*. The name *Kurruḫanni* occurs in two forms in the texts: ^{uru}gur-ru-ḫa-an-ni or ^{uru}ku-ur-ru-ḫa-an-ni. All the details of Fadhil's conclusions cannot be discussed here, but two letters (nos. 31-32, pp. 110-111) which are among the thirty-two texts included in his work should at least be mentioned. These letters were sent from a certain *Elhipta-šenni*, one to *Hulukka* and *Muš-tešup*, and the other to *Nikri-tešup* and *Hulukka*. In both letters *Elhipta-šenni* asks those persons to conduct police activities such as arrest and surveillance in *Kurruḫanni*. Fadhil points out the fact that these two letters were included in the archives of the Green Palace: "der Fundart auch der Bestimmungsort dieser Briefe war." We may add that the tablets which bear the seal of *Elhipta-šenni* prove they are the original copies which were deposited in the archive of the addressees. The earlier assumption that ^{uru}ar-wa might have been the ancient name of the site, which was based on the initial field study of a few tablets (*Sumer* 23, p. f.; 26, p. 109) should, therefore, be abandoned.

V. THE HISTORICAL SETTING OF THE SITE AND GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The region where Tell al-Fakhar is situated could be compared to a peninsula, surrounded as it is by the Lower Zab River to the north-northeast, Al-Adhaim River to the east and Tigris to the west (fig. 1). This area has been since ancient times a prosperous agricultural land depending on rainfall and irrigation. Its prosperity appears to have been enhanced by an ancient body of water called 'Wadi al-Naft,' which in winter is full of rainwater which runs down from the foothills of the Kurdish mountains. During our work at al-Fakhar farmers used the water of the wadi for irrigation. The wadi seems to have been an important factor in determining the topographic distribution of the ancient settlements in the area. Almost all the tells that we have visited are situated on or close to the wadi. Furthermore, the importance of the region must have been increased by the fact that it has close access to the passage through the mountain range of the Jebel Hamrin. The Tigris River cuts this range of mountains at a place called al-Fatha (the Gap) about 5 km. north of the town of Baiji, providing easy communication—necessary for trade—between the towns and villages on the west and east sides of the Tigris. We should not forget, of course, the oil richness in the area (Kirkuk, the oil city of Iraq, is located in the same region), and bitumen especially was an important constructional material in ancient Iraq.

The excavations at the site of Nuzi (during the 1930s) have shown without question the historical and political significance of the Hurrians, who inhabited this large plain since the 3rd millennium B.C. On the other hand, the region was neglected by archaeological investigations for about forty years, until our excavations at Tell al-Fakhar in 1967. It should be noted, however, that our excavations were originally motivated by reports of illicit digging and the desire to salvage the mound from further damage. If our investigations had been preceded by prior long-range plans, we would not have selected Tell al-Fakhar over the many more imposing sites that dot the plain. Nevertheless, our limited investigations at al-Fakhar have greatly increased our information about the socio-economic organizations during the 2nd half of the second millennium B.C., and provided us with probably the first example of the *dimtu*-type settlement (see below).

It is our conviction that there is an urgent need for a survey or surveys in this area, similar to those of Adams and Mallowan in southern and northern Mesopotamia, respectively. That is, a topographical study concerning the character and distribution of the ancient settlements, as well as a systematic analysis of the surface pottery. Such surveys would be significant to the historical and geographical information which has already been obtained from the written records of Arrapha, Nuzi and most recently *Kurruhani*. The surveys will also be important factors in selecting a site for future excavation.

Our surveys of some of the tells in the region have produced prehistoric and historic pottery, mostly of the second and first millennia B.C., and also Parthian, Sassanian and Islamic wares. Thus it became evident from our preliminary survey and the excavations at Nuzi and *Kurruhani* that the region has been occupied by a large population since prehistoric times.

Now the question arises of the archaeological significance of Tell al-Fakhar in regard to the history, socio-economic organizations and architecture in Mesopotamia. No doubt the large number of tablets will shed more light on the history and culture, especially the linguistic and ethnic elements in the area during the 2nd millennium B.C.

The archaeological and textual evidence from *Kurruhani* show a strong affiliation with Hurrian cultural elements, especially those known from the site of Nuzi. There are substantial archaeological indications that level II and its Green Palace at *Kurruhani* should be considered contemporaneous with level II and its palace at Nuzi. The two palaces appear to have shared a similar end by fire and violent destruction, perhaps at the same time and by the same enemy. Textual evidence from *Kurruhani* confirms this connection and gives more definite documentation as to the number of generations that might have lived in the palace and, consequently, an approximate duration of the building's existence. Fadhil (1972, p. 60) has been able to recognize five generations of scribes in the texts of *Kurruhani* and suggests an estimate of 120-150 years as a duration for the five generations. The same number of scribal generations has also been suggested for the tablets which were written for *Tehip-tilla* and his family at Nuzi.

The Nuzi tablets have been dated, on the basis of *Sauššattar's* tablet (ca. 1450-1415 B.C.) to the second half of the 15th century B.C. (Gelb, *OIP*, 57, p. 1). Therefore, it is justifiable to assign the *Kurruḫanni* tablets, and consequently level II, the same date. The external destruction of the palaces of Nuzi and *Kurruḫanni*, presumably by the Assyrians, put an end to the political power of the Hurrian-Mitannian domain in this region. The upper and lower dates of *Kurruḫanni*-level II are difficult to determine at present. However, the destruction of *Kurruḫanni* might have occurred during the reign of the Assyrian king Ashur-uballit (1365-1330 B.C.). It should be stressed that this lower date is only hypothetical, based mainly on the historical activities of that king.

After the destruction of the Green Palace the site was abandoned for some time—as evidenced by the thick water-laid silt deposit separating levels I and II—and the palace was never occupied again. The site was reoccupied (level I) about three and one half centuries later by people who seem to have been pottery makers. On the basis of the pottery only, level I has been dated to the 1st millennium B.C. It is probably not a mere coincidence that similar circumstances were present at Nuzi. The palace of Nuzi was never reoccupied after its destruction and the following level I was an Assyrian settlement (Starr, *Nuzi*, pp. 178, 253 ff. and 290).

The status of *Kurruḫanni*, and especially the Green Palace, in the socio-economic structure of Mesopotamia during the 15th century B.C. is of particular interest. Tell al-Fakhar is a small mound measuring 200 x 135 m. (27,000 sq. m.). The Green Palace measures 30 x 60 m. (1,800 sq. m.) and the temple platform measures 22 x 37 m. (800 sq. m.). Thus, the palace and the platform cover an area of 2,614 sq. m. The dimensions of the Green Palace (1,800 sq. m.) are comparatively small compared with the contemporary palace of Nuzi (117 x 68 m., of 7,956 sq. m.; it is important to remember that these are the dimensions of the preserved remains only). Nuzi was most likely a large "frontier city of the state of Arrapha" (Jankowska, *JESHO* 12, 1969, p. 245). But what was *Kurruḫanni*-level II and what was its relationship with Nuzi?

The ground plans of the Green Palace and the temple platform have been completely recovered, and the areas surrounding them were investigated out to a distance of two meters or more. Furthermore, a trench was opened near the eastern corner of the palace and extended to a distance of 16 m. away from the building (see above) with no trace of architecture. Although these investigations indicate that there was no structure adjacent to the palace and the temple, they do not exclude the probability of small private houses and huts of the farmers and laborers associated with the palace. If we are to accept the theory that there were such clusters of houses, then we must assume they were separated from the palace and the temple.

There is no question that the Green Palace belonged to an important landlord who enjoyed a special socio-economic, political and possibly religious status. This is clearly indicated by the magnitude of the building and the amount of luxury items found in it. The texts bear similar evidence in regard to the owner of the building and his responsibilities (see above).

Of special architectural and political significance are the seven large towers (5 x 5 m.) surrounding the palace at intervals. In our recent study of the 2nd millennium palaces, we came to the conclusion that the Green Palace is the only palatial building of the 2nd millennium to yield outer walls reinforced by such large towers. In a few examples such as the *É-hursag* palace at Ur and the palaces of Sinkashid, Zimrilim and Adad-niari I at Warka, Mari and Assur, respectively, the outer walls have tower-like pilasters at the corners of the building or at either side of the entrance. These are large buttresses, but too small to be defensive towers, and there is no sign of their having any military function. The Green Palace is unique, indeed, in its defensive architecture. We believe that the towered walls of the Green Palace were most probably constructed against local assault that characterized the feudal period after the fall of the Old Babylonian dynasty.

The number of persons who were killed and whose skeletons were found scattered in several rooms of the palace (*Sumer* 26, pls. 15-16) also pertains to this discussion. There is no way to know whether the 42 persons were the original inhabitants of the building or whether some of them had taken refuge in the building during the siege of the site. The first alternative would serve as an indication for the number of people living in the palace. Whatever the

case may be, since we believe the building had a second storey, the number of persons would not have been too great for a building of about 45 chambers.

To conclude the above discussion: 1) *Kurruḥanni* of level II was a village of moderate size; 2) the Green Palace was a dwelling of an important landlord who enjoyed special socio-economic influence; 3) the palace was comparatively small in size and was a fortified building; 4) the inhabitants of the palace could have been about 42 in number; 5) the laborers and farmers who were associated with the palace appear to have lived in nearby houses or huts (separate village).

So far, we have dealt with the archaeological remains and the social material from *Kurruḥanni*. It is now time to examine the historical records to find supplementary explanations for our archaeological evidence and to determine the socio-economic identity of *Kurruḥanni*-level II. The Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (vol. D, pp. 146-147, s.v. *dimtu*) tells us that "In the O(ld) B(abylonian) period, *dimtu* denoted fortified areas outside of cities and villages which, as a rule, contained threshing floors and were sometimes quite extensive. They could develop into walled settlements (called *dimat*-PN or the like) and must have originally been fortified in some way (perhaps with earth-works) to be called *dimtu* (or *dimātu*)...outside of Babylonia, the word denoted, in Nuzi, forts (or fortified manors) in which the official (*bēl dimtu*) administrating the region (called *dimtu*) lived, while further to the west, *dimtu* seems to have denoted castle-like houses in and outside of the settlements..."

In her intriguing article, N.B. Jankowska (*JESHO*, 12, 1969, pp. 233-282) has furnished more information on the "*dimtu*-organization" and its socio-economic structure in the "state of Arrapha" during the 15th century B.C. She defines *dimtu* as "a) fortified dwelling of an extended family commune; b) the extended family commune itself; c) the territory of its possessions, including its buildings and fields of their totality." She believes that *dimātu* and *ālānu* reveal the "base of the social and economic organization of the state of Arrapha," and recognizes about "one hundred such villages and small towns in the circuit of the city of Nuzi." The *dimtu* of Nuzi texts "was usually called after the name of an ancestor of the extended family which made up its population or, more often, after the name of its living *pater familias*...among those there are names of big landowners belonging to the royal family...to trade organizations, weavers, potters and scribes..." At one point she states that "...*dimtu* (is) an organization in a society where agriculture was the base of economic life, would necessarily have its dwellings, its fields and its store-houses..." There seems to be "a difference between the *dimtu* (fortified dwelling) and the village surrounding it...in all cases the *dimtu* was regarded as the main part of every family commune/village..."

In one example, Jankowska gives us the size of a *dimtu*, about 729 sq. m. at the ground level for the fortified dwelling, ca. 1250 sq. m. for storehouses and 100 to 200 cubits for the circumference of the storehouse, in total about 2300 sq. m. She admits, however, that the dimensions of this *dimtu* are of an "impoverished one." Records of "sacred land (*Kaška*)" were not unknown, and the head of the family commune "was a priest of the family gods and of the ghost of its ancestors." Conflict between *dimtu*-villages seems to have been a way of life and "a district could be seized by force..." A socio-economic structure similar to the *dimtu*-organization is also evident outside Mesopotamia (H. Reviv, *JESHO* 12, 1969, pp. 283-297).

The foregoing excerpts demonstrate striking aspects of parallelism between the archaeological evidence obtained from *Kurruḥanni*-level II and the written documents of the same period, and throw an interesting light on the identity of *Kurruḥanni*. The Green Palace and its temple seem to have been the *dimtu*-fortified manor of an important head of a family commune/village, which characterized—as Jankowska indicates—the socio-economic organization of 2nd millennium Mesopotamia. The identification of *Kurruḥanni* as a *dimtu*-village is of great importance to Mesopotamian culture, and should remain open to further investigation.

If our identification is to be accepted, then *Kurruḥanni*-level II would probably be the first archaeologically attested example of such *dimtu*-settlements. It would be, indeed, a good example of textual and archaeological correlation. Consequently, the *Kurruḥanni* texts would be of great significance in verifying the socio-economic and political interrelation between the state (Arrapha), the city (Nuzi) and the village or small town (*Kurruḥanni*).

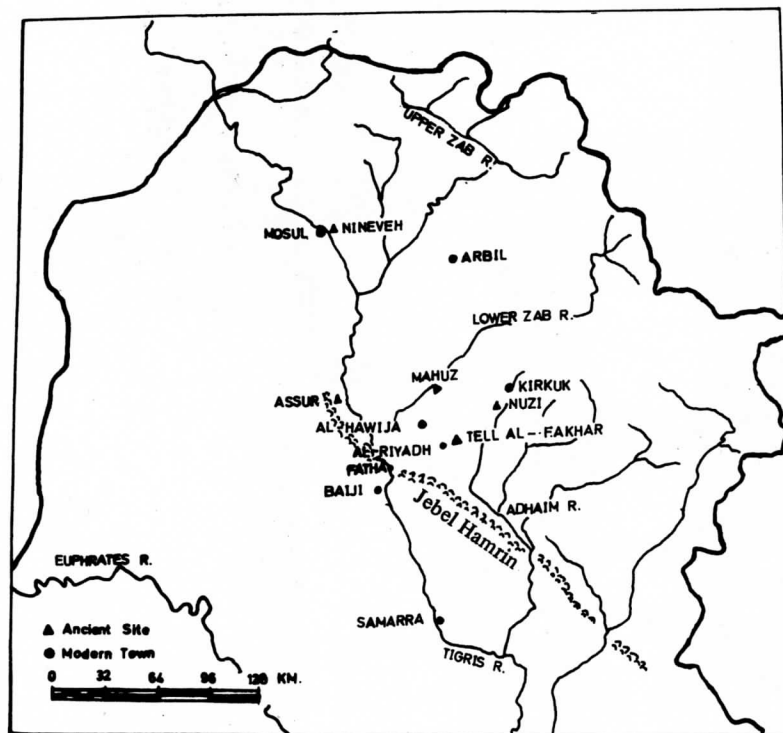


Fig. 1 Map of northern Iraq showing the location of Tell al-Fakhar

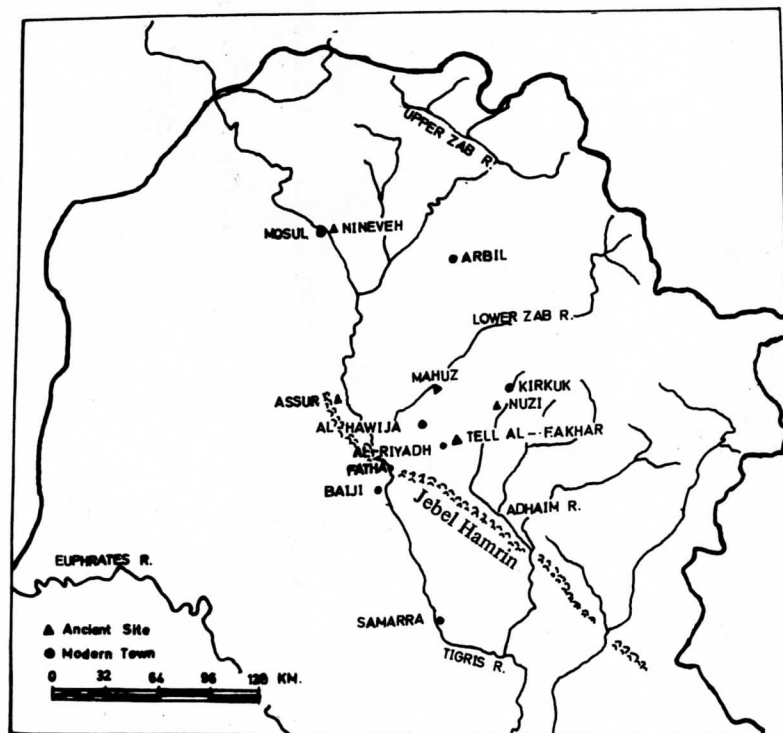
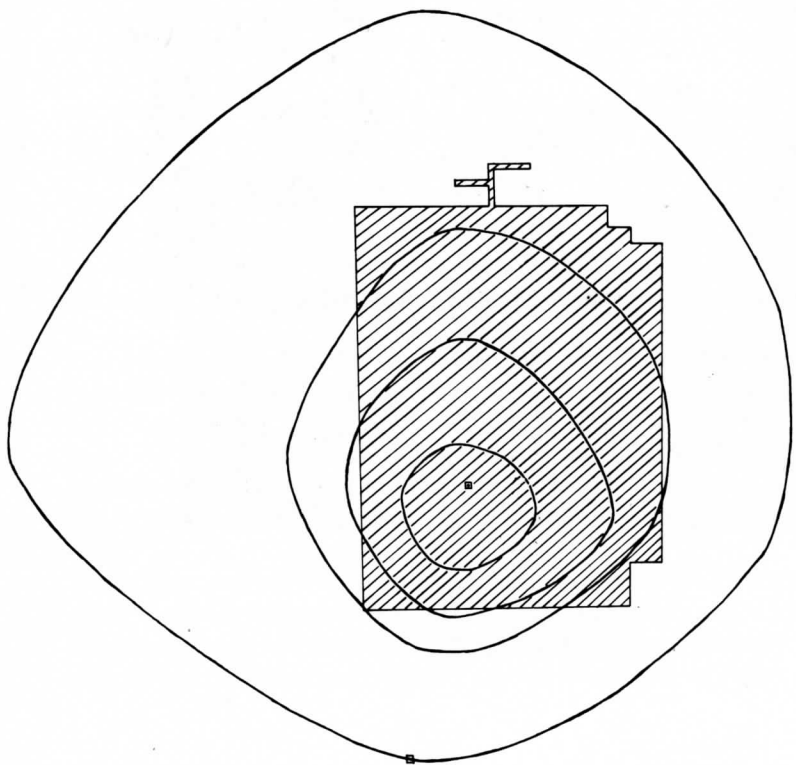


Fig. 1 Map of northern Iraq showing the location of Tell al-Fakhar



TELL AL-FAKHAR

SITE PLAN SHOWING THE EXCAVATED AREA

1967-1968



THE MODERN VILLAGE AL-FAKHAR

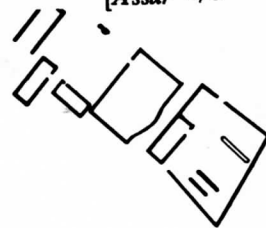


Fig. 2 Tell al-Fakhar, site plan showing the excavated area, 1967-69

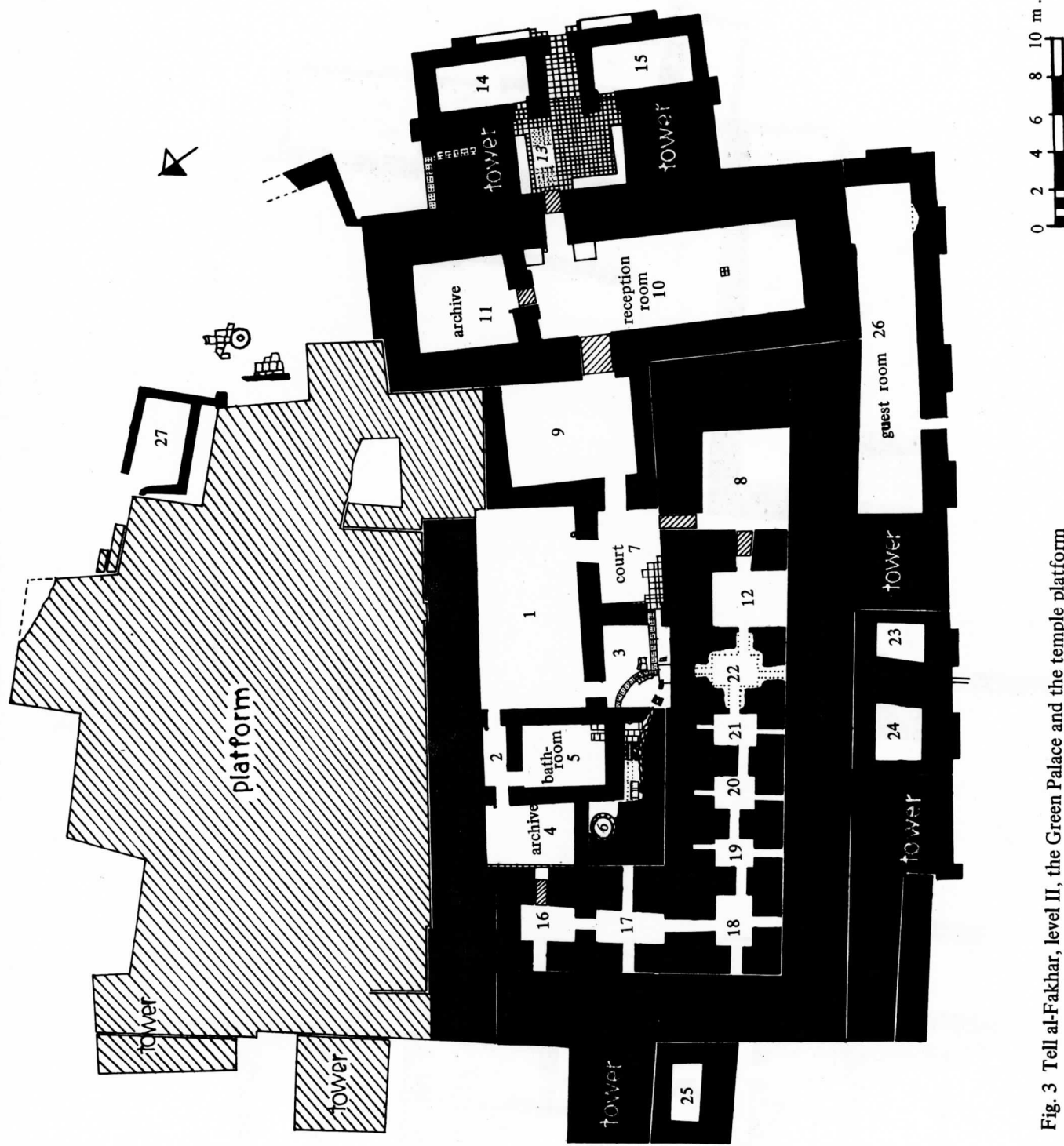


Fig. 3 Tell al-Fakhar, level II, the Green Palace and the temple platform

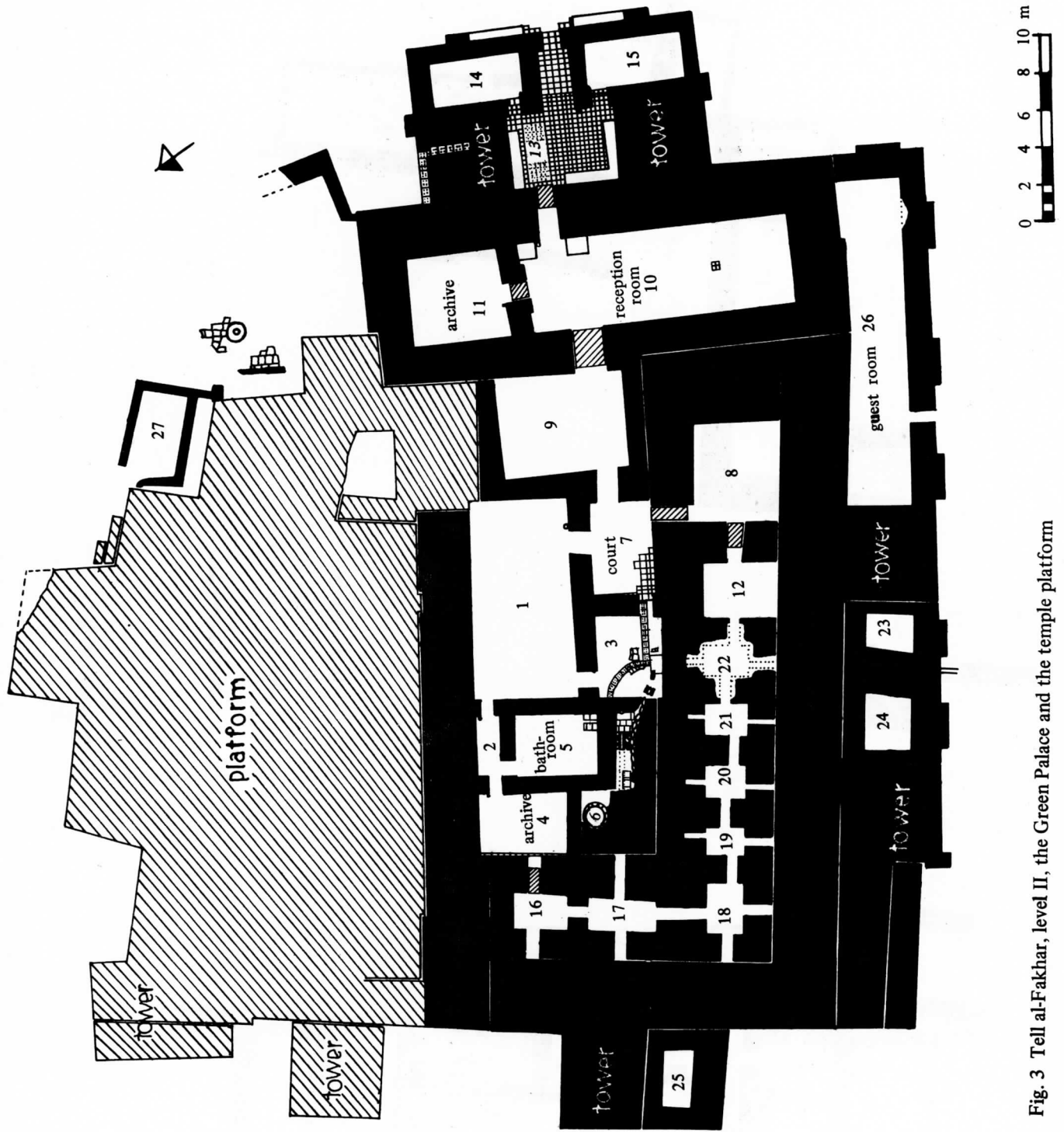


Fig. 3 Tell al-Fakhar, level II, the Green Palace and the temple platform

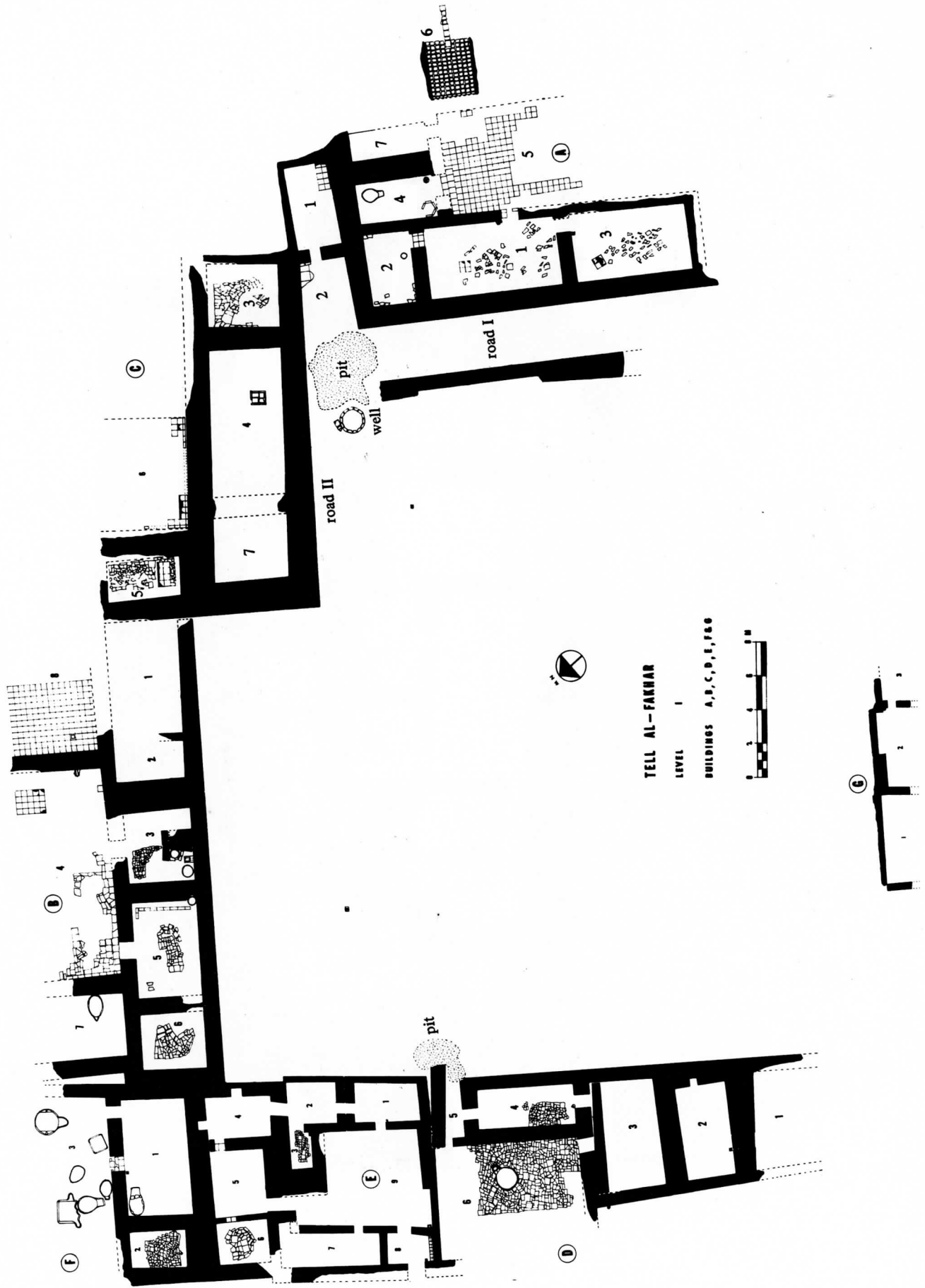


Fig. 4 Tell al-Fakhar, level I, Buildings A, B, C, D, E, F and G

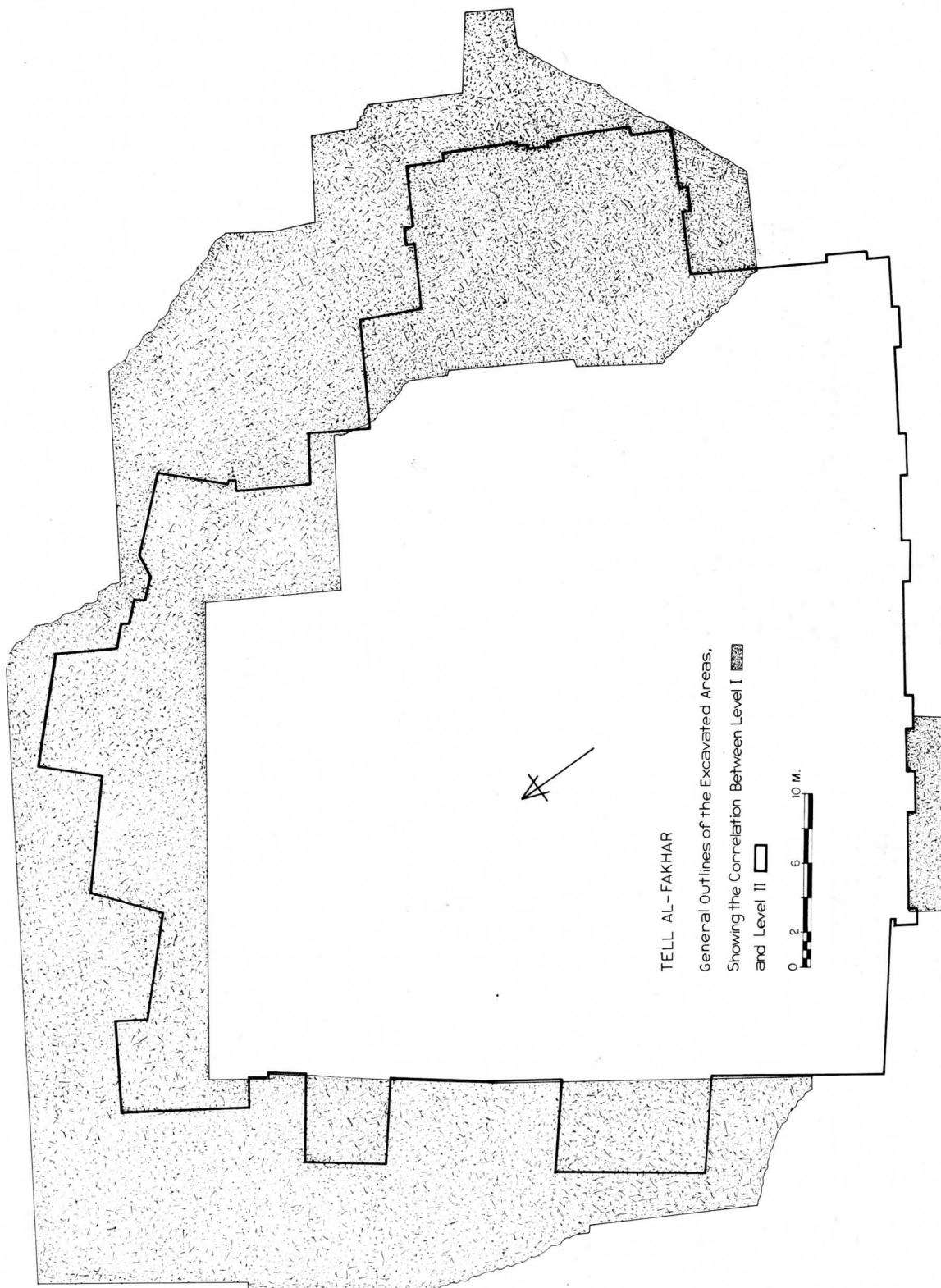


Fig. 5 Tell al-Fakhar, general outlines of the excavated areas, showing the correlation between levels I and II structures

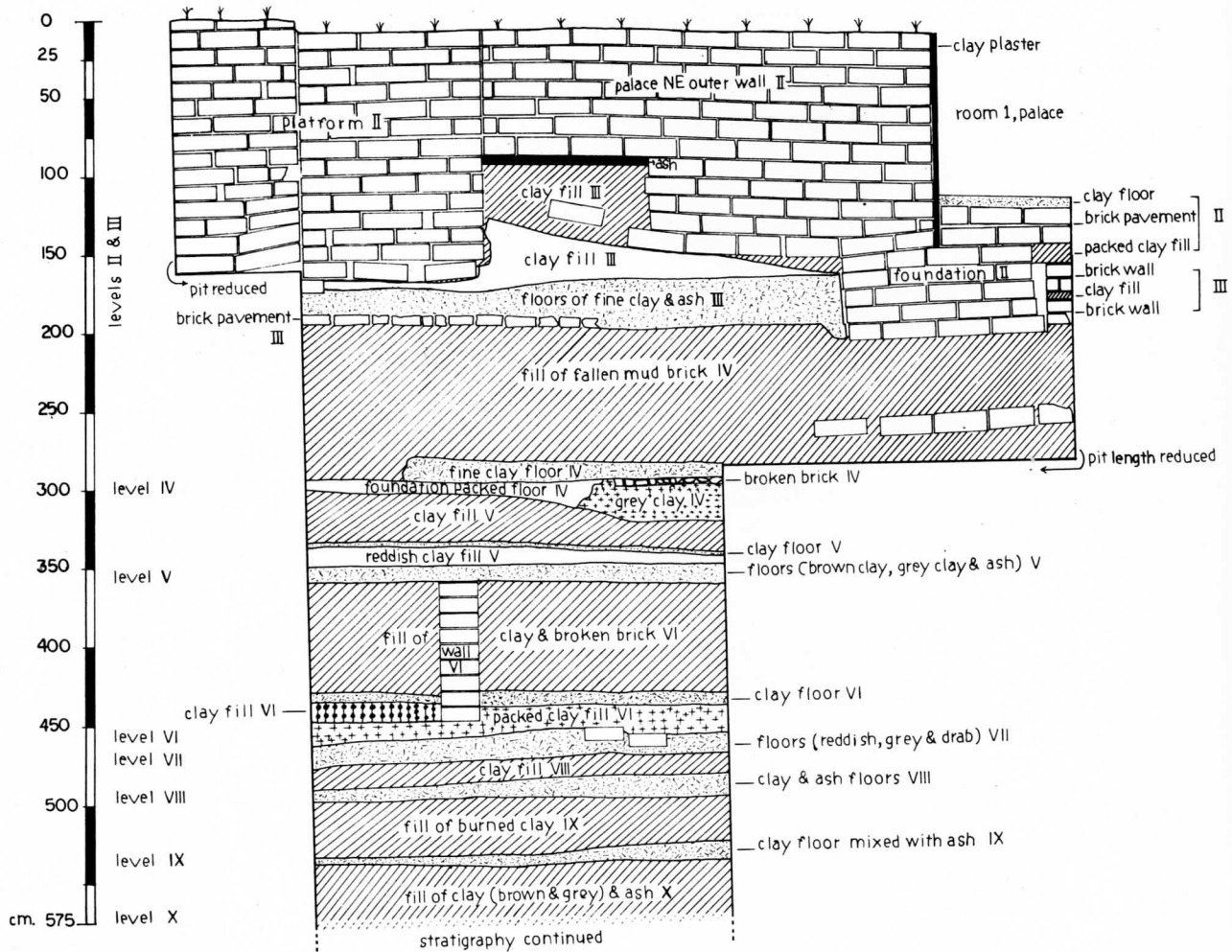


Fig. 6 Tell al-Fakhar, section of the southeast side of the sounding pit; ten levels are recognized but virgin soil was not reached

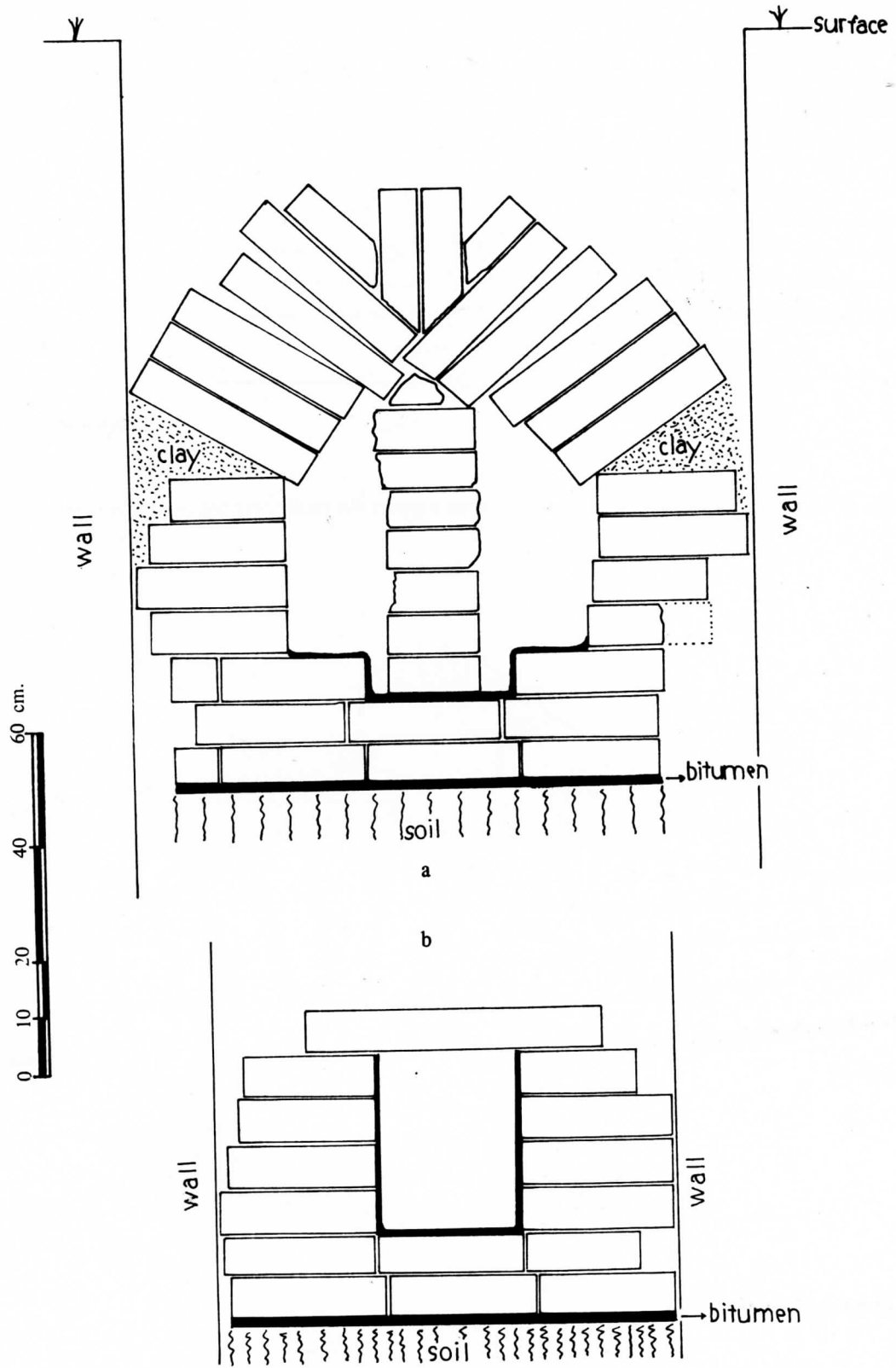


Fig. 7 Section of the main drain, part 1 (a) and part 2 (b)

Assur 1, 105

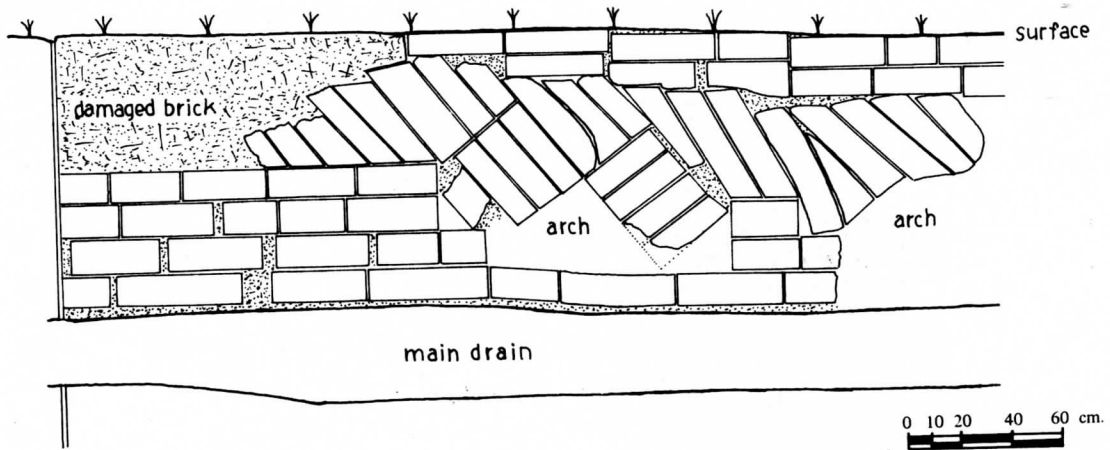


Fig. 8 Section of the southeast side arches, which support the vaults over the main drain (part 3)

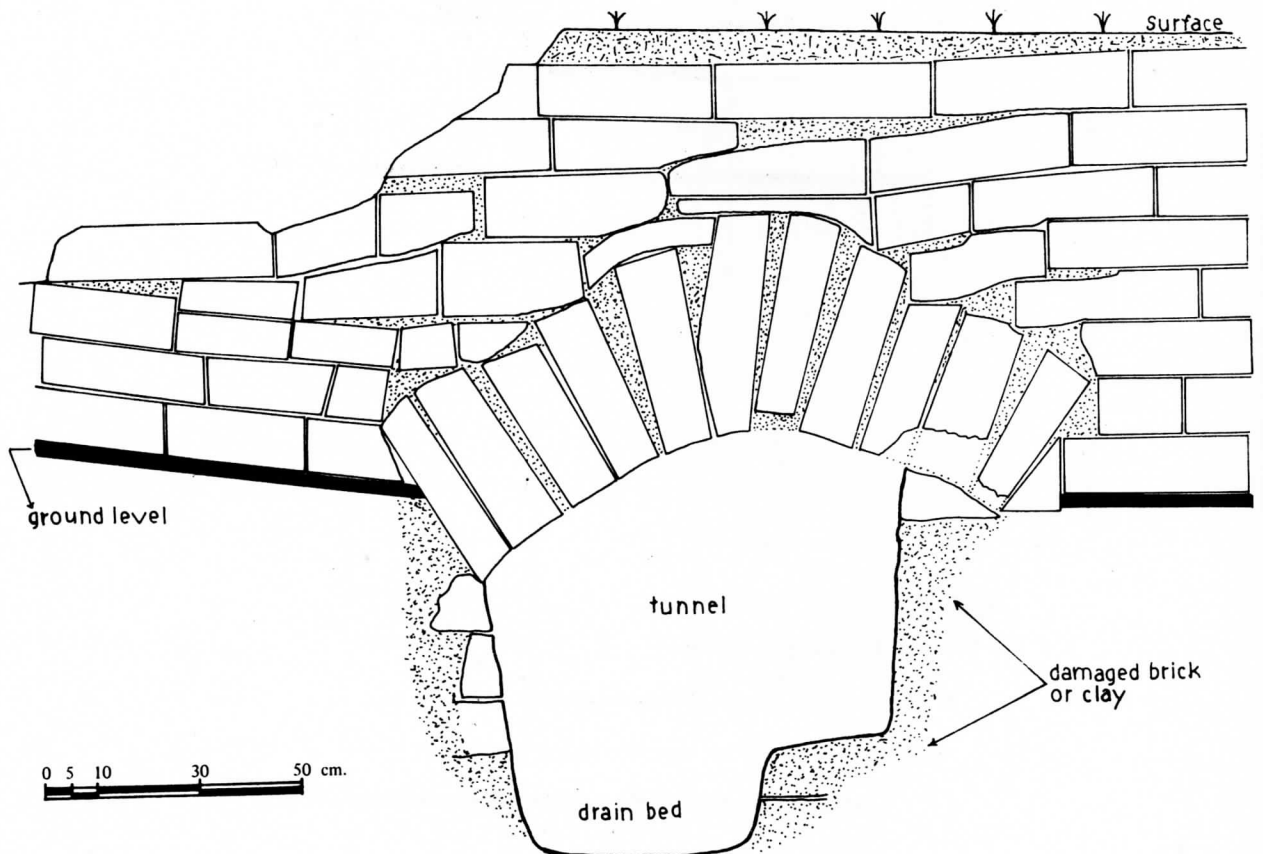


Fig. 9 Section of the southwest outer wall of the Green Palace, showing the outlet of the main drain and its vault.

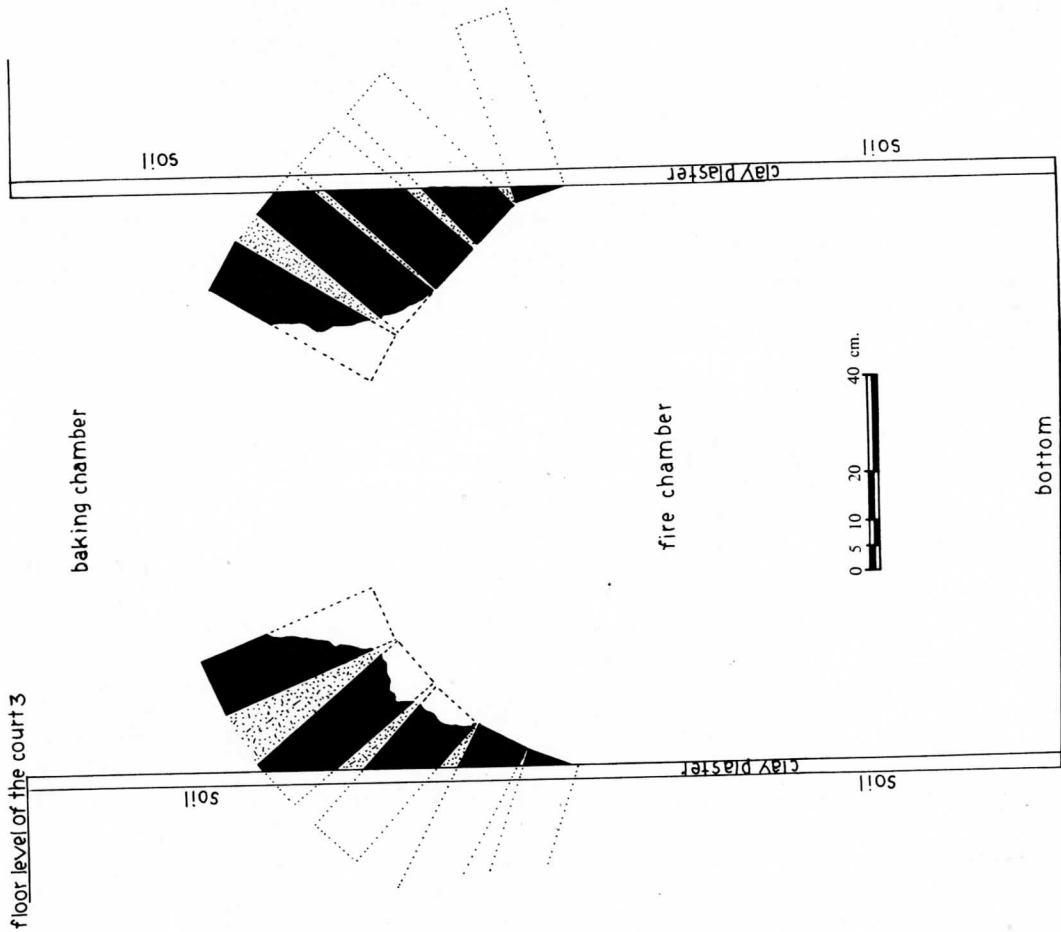


Fig. 10 Section of the large pottery kiln (no. 9) in Building F of level I

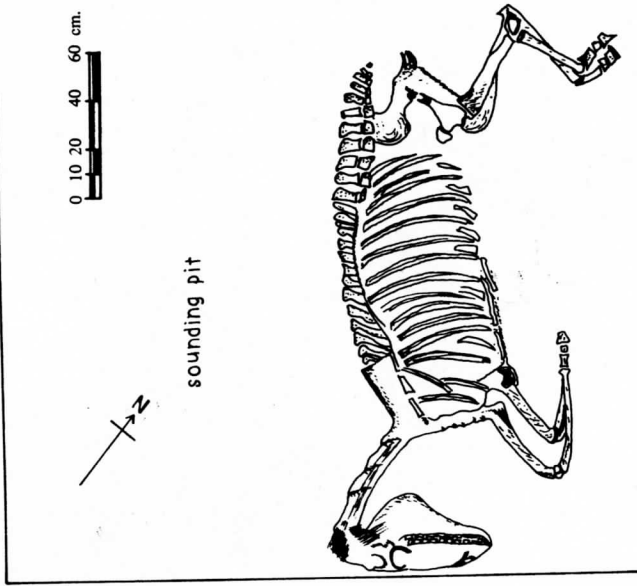


Fig. 11 Skeleton of an onager from level IV of the sounding pit

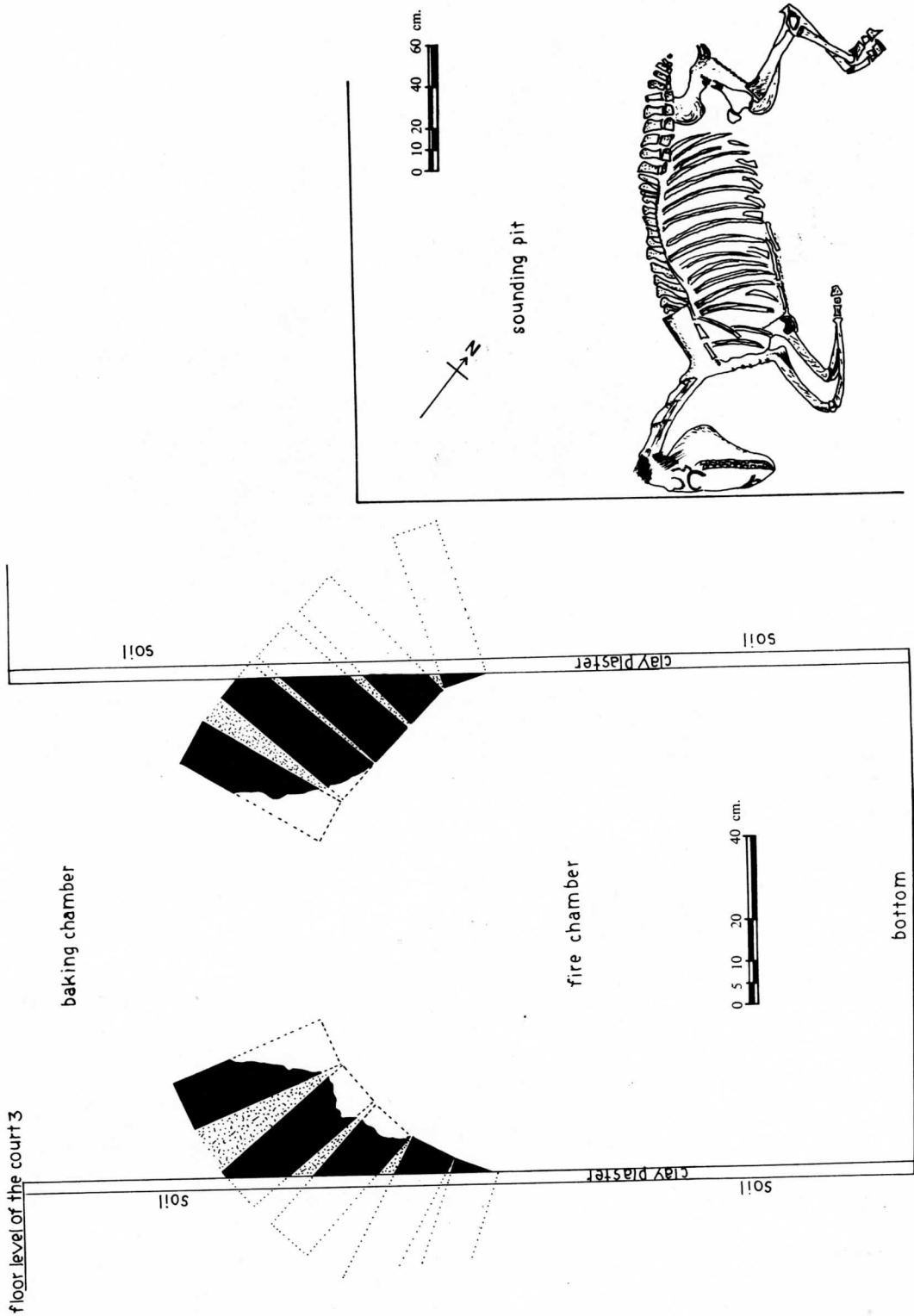


Fig. 11 Skeleton of an onager from level IV of the sounding pit

Fig. 10 Section of the large pottery kiln (no. 9) in Building F of level I



Fig. 12 The southeast façade of the Green Palace, showing the two benches and the entrance in the middle



Fig. 13 The southwest side of the palace façade, showing a pilaster and the sloping ground



Fig. 14 The outer entrance, passage and part of Court 13 of the Green Palace



Fig. 15 Benches in the waiting room, Court 13

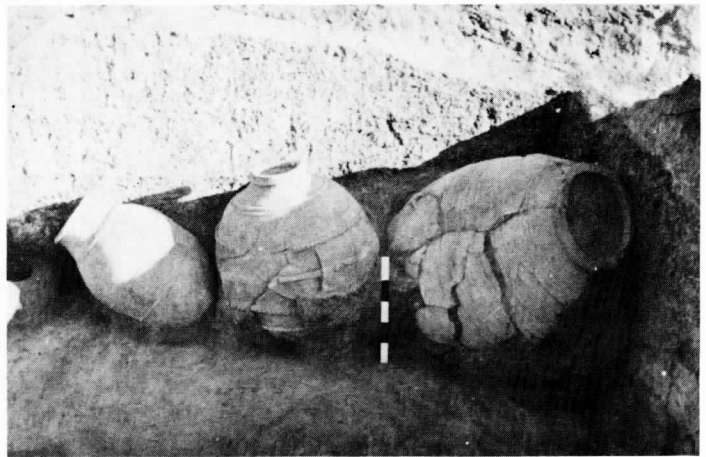
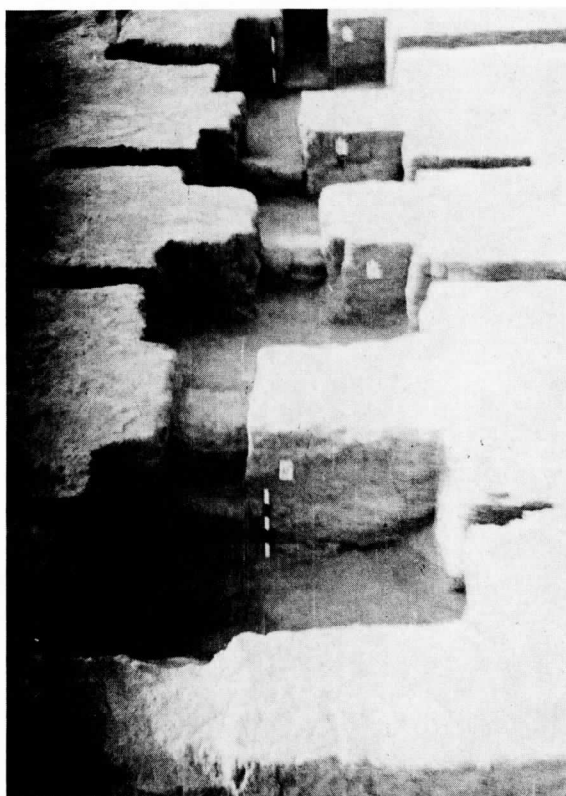
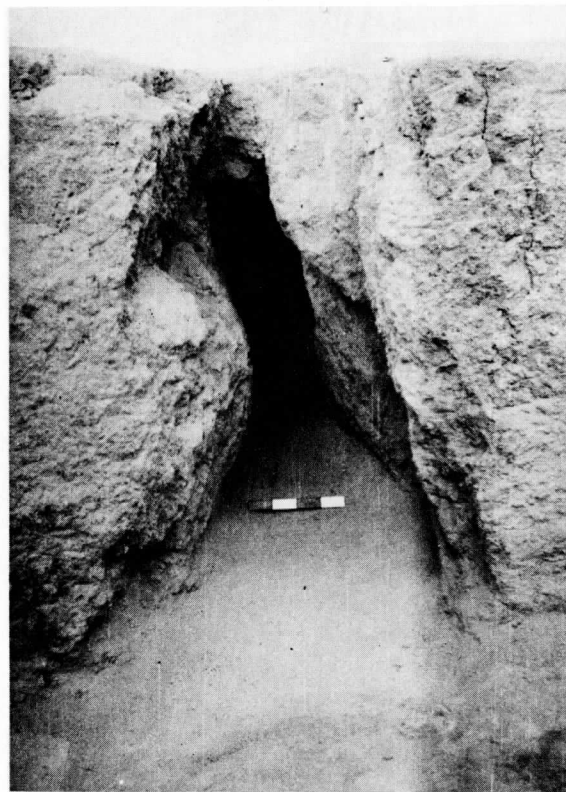


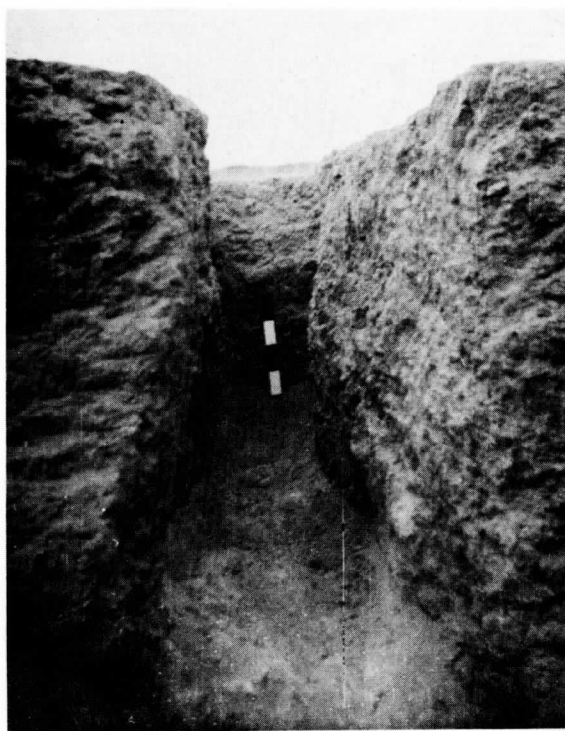
Fig. 16 Storage jars in Room 15



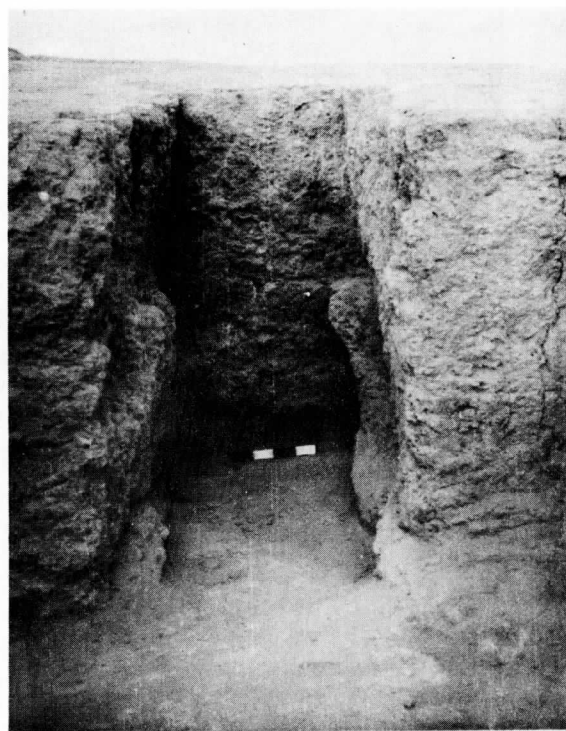
a



b



c



d

Fig. 17 Part of the series of small rooms (a), and some of the tomb-niches (b, c and d)



Fig. 18 The southwest side of the Green Palace, showing the elongated guest-room (26) and the buttresses and recesses



Fig. 19 L-shaped Room 6 with two lines of drains and packing brick



Fig. 21 Jar in the main drain (part 3)

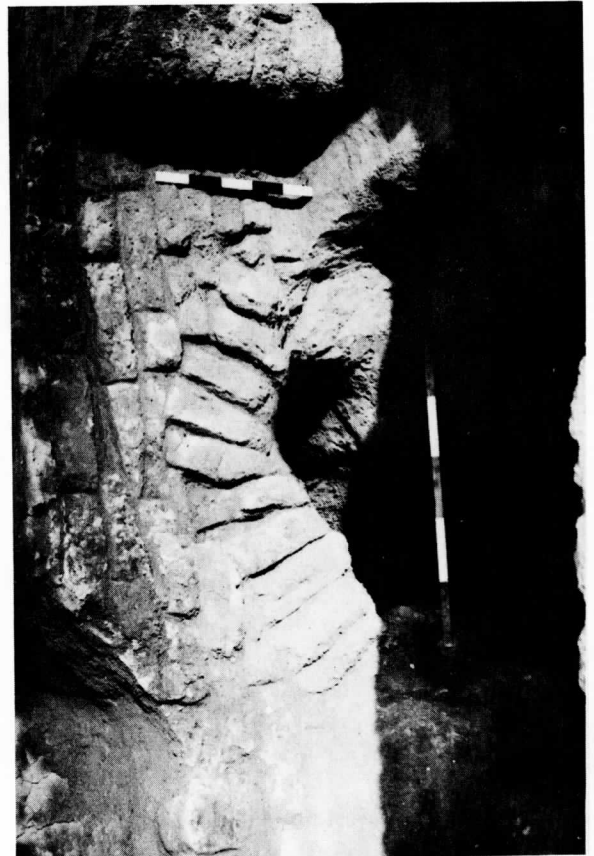


Fig. 23 The outlet of the main drain and its vault



Fig. 20 Three drains connected to the main drain in Room 3

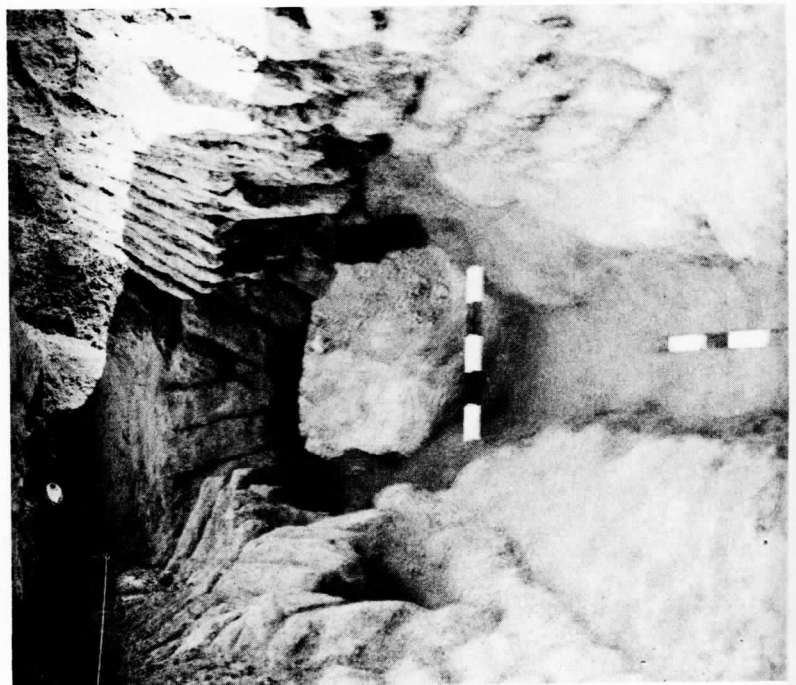


Fig. 22 Inside the main drain (part 3), facing the outlet



Fig. 24 View of the two southeastern towers behind Storerooms 14-15

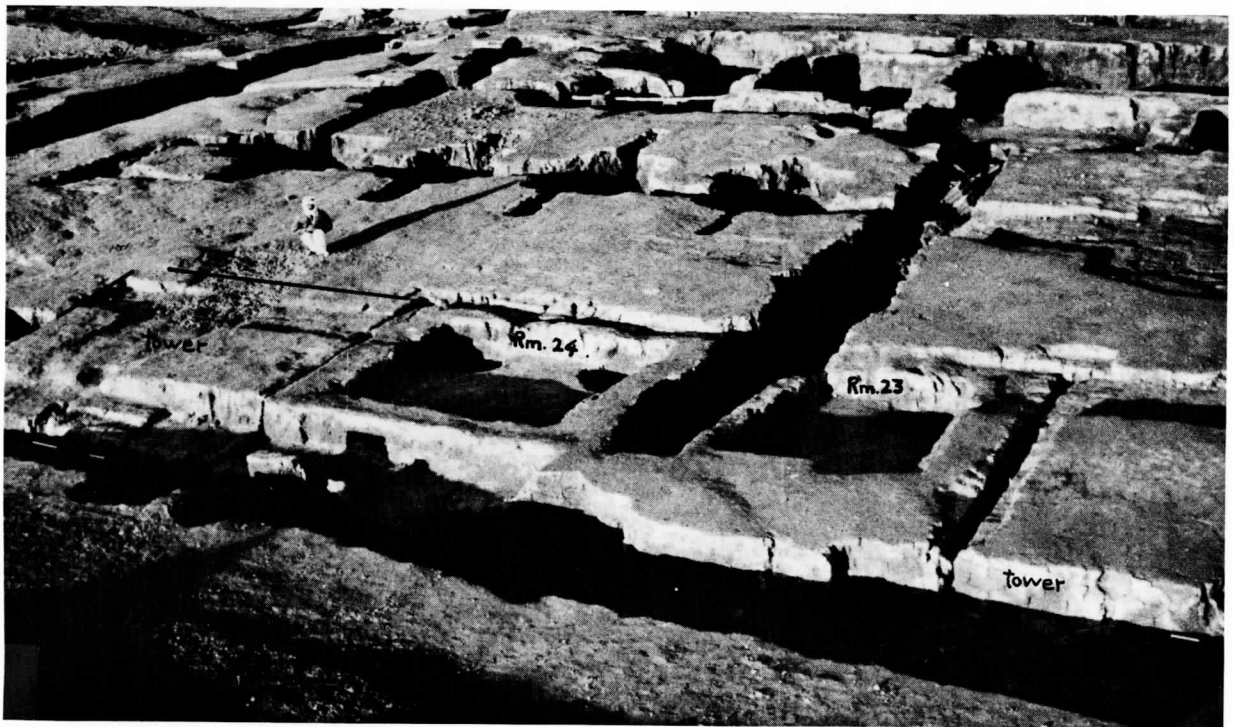


Fig. 25 View of the two southwestern towers with Storerooms 23-24 between them

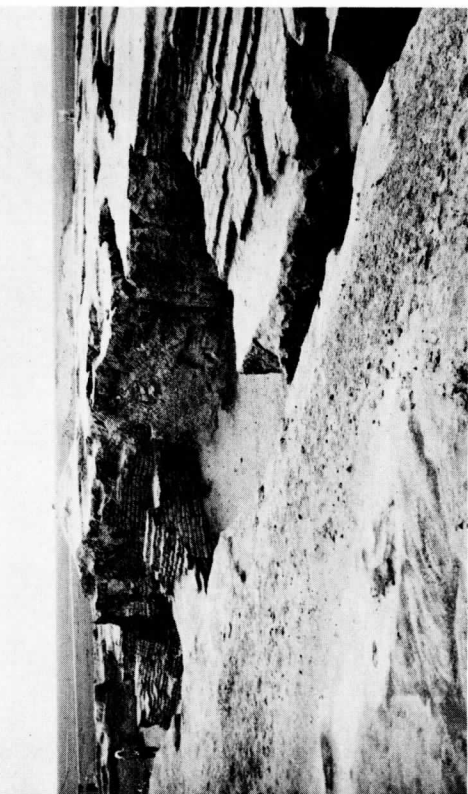


Fig. 26 View of the three towers at the northwest side of the palace and temple platform

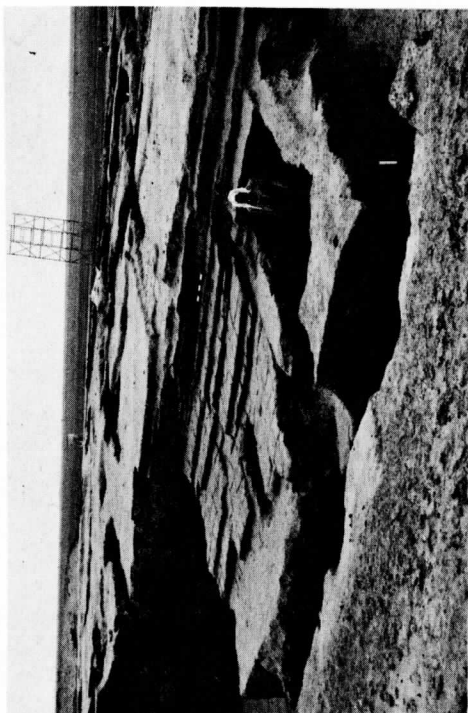


Fig. 27 Tower and its doorless storeroom (25) at the northwest side of the palace



Fig. 28 Tower at the northern corner of the temple platform



Fig. 29 The southern zigzag outline of the platform



Fig. 30 General view of the temple platform; the lower surface was razed by the inhabitants of level I



Fig. 31 A closer view of the platform

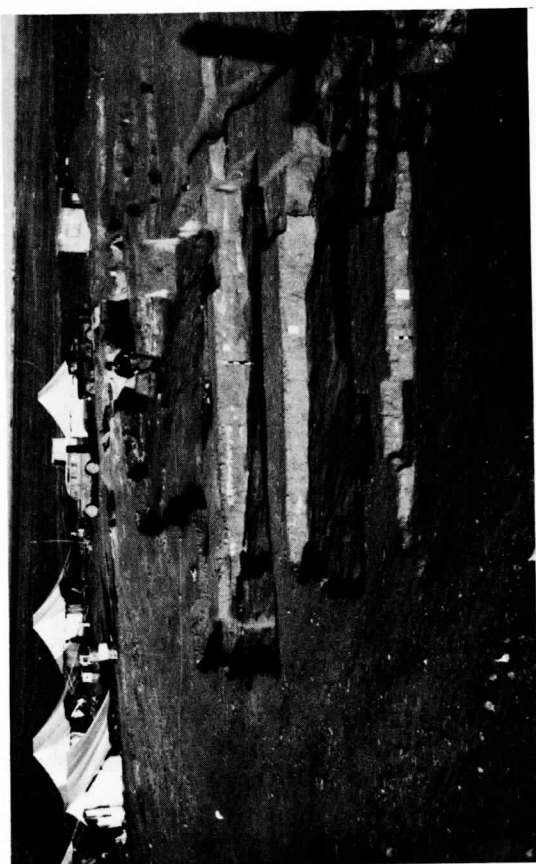


Fig. 33 Building D of level I

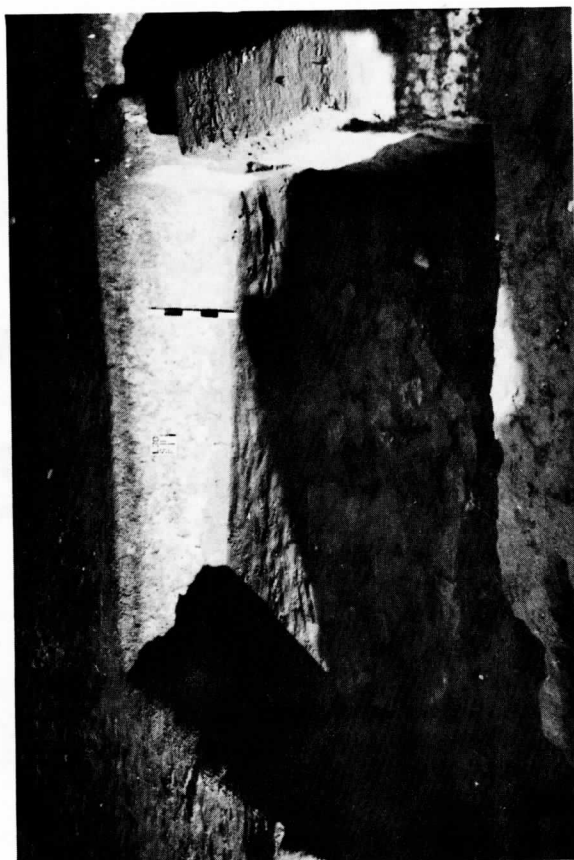


Fig. 34 Room 6 in Building E showing the poor brick pavement



Fig. 32 Building E of level I

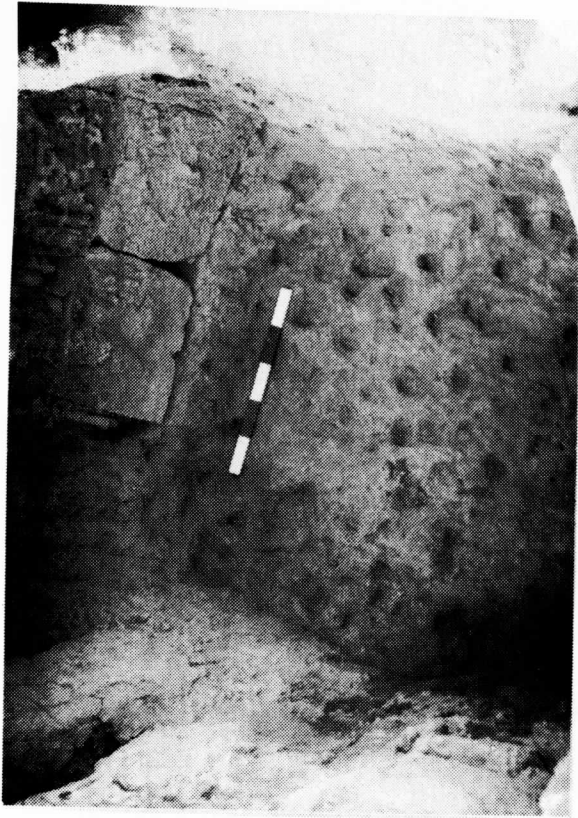


Fig. 36 Kiln no. 7 shows the brick wall and traces of the tool with which the fire chamber was dug



Fig. 37 Kiln no. 9 shows the lower courses of the brick arch



Fig. 35 Cluster of five kilns in Court 3 of Building F



Fig. 38 Sewer installation in Building B

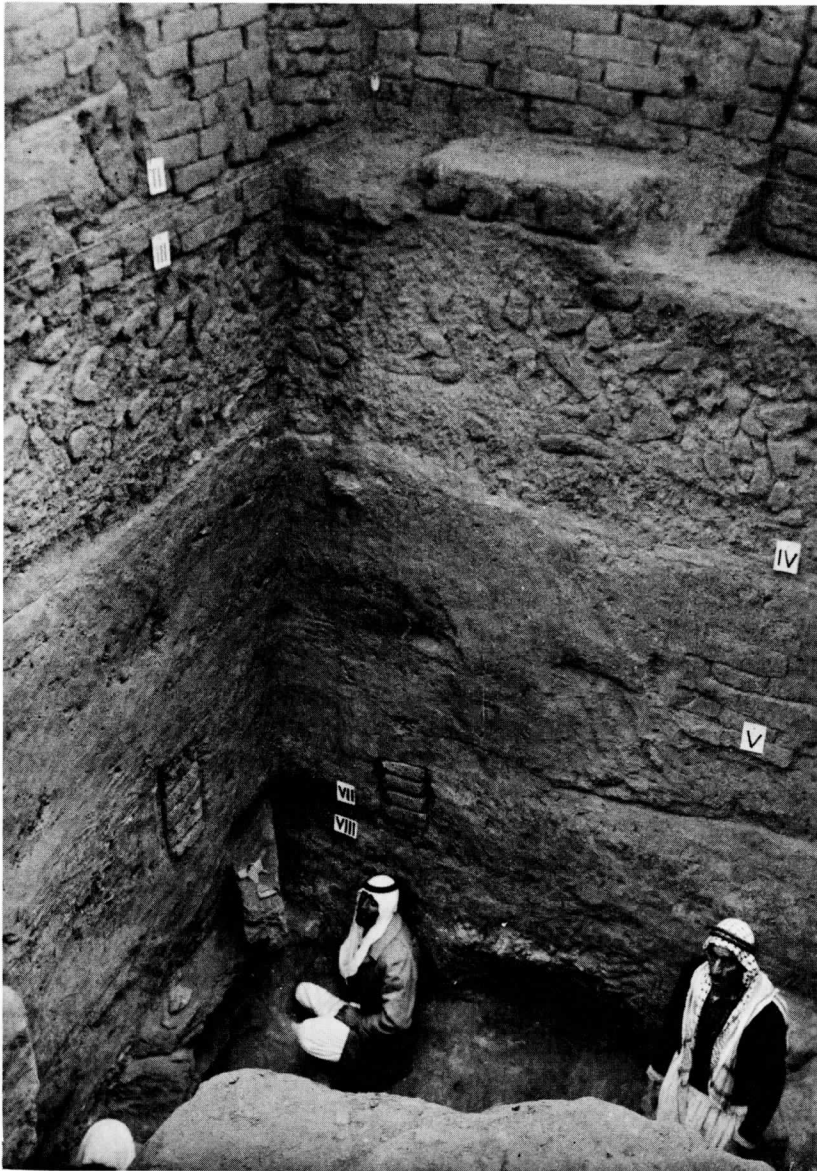


Fig. 39 The sounding pit

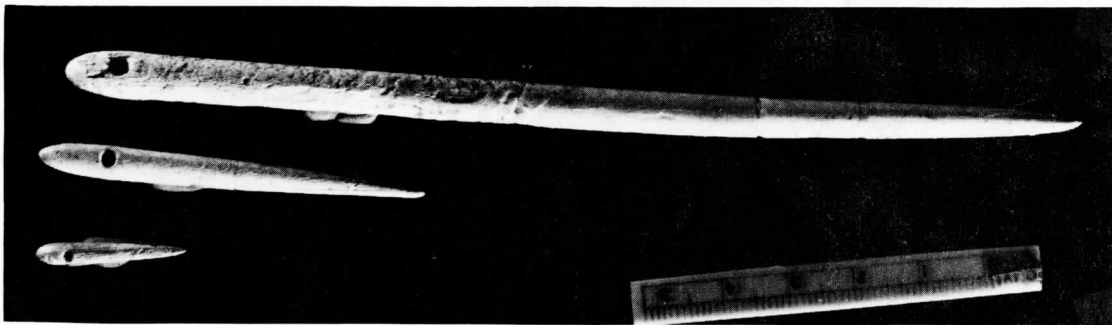


Fig. 40 Bone needles



Fig. 41 Clay hearth in the open area of the temple

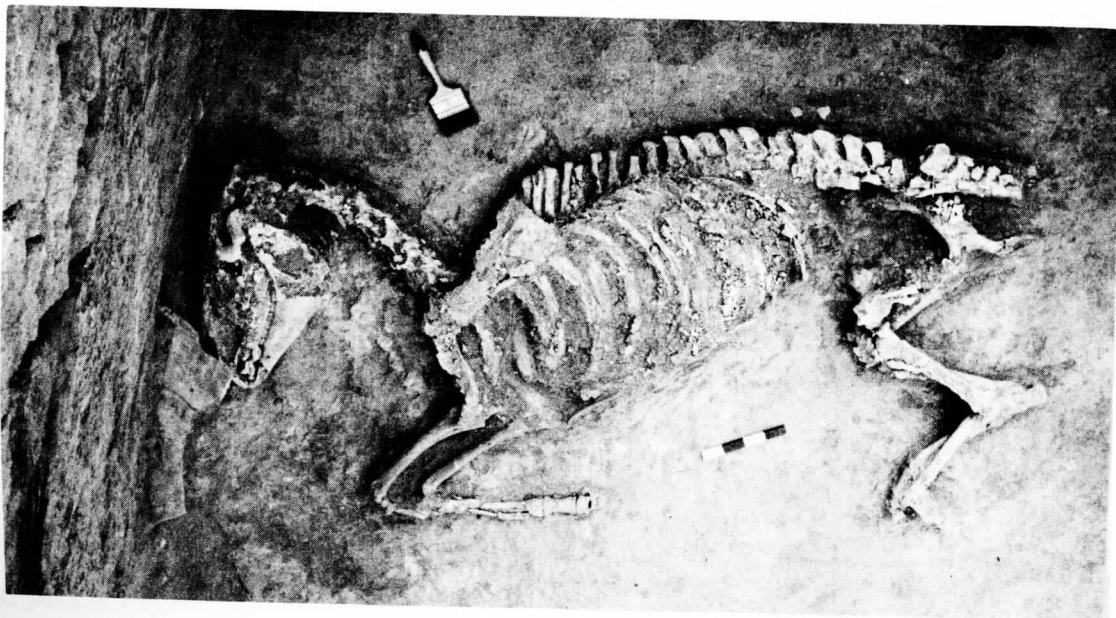
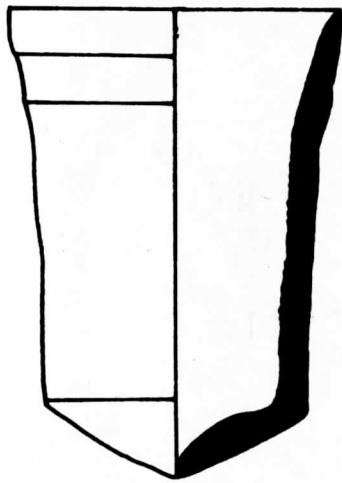
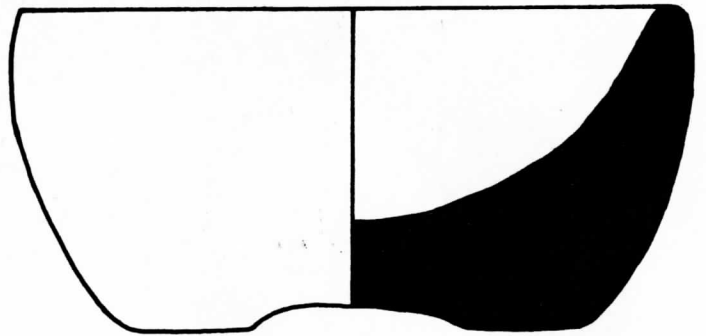


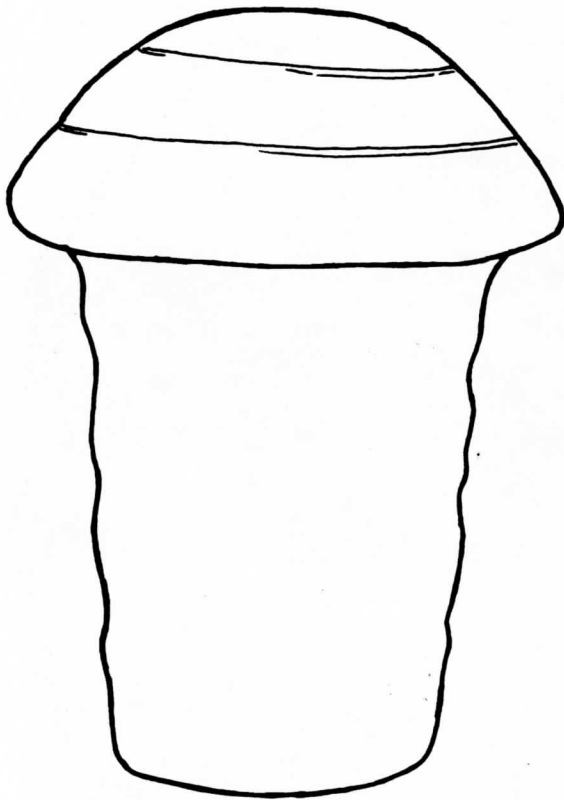
Fig. 42 Skeleton of an onager in level IV of the sounding pit



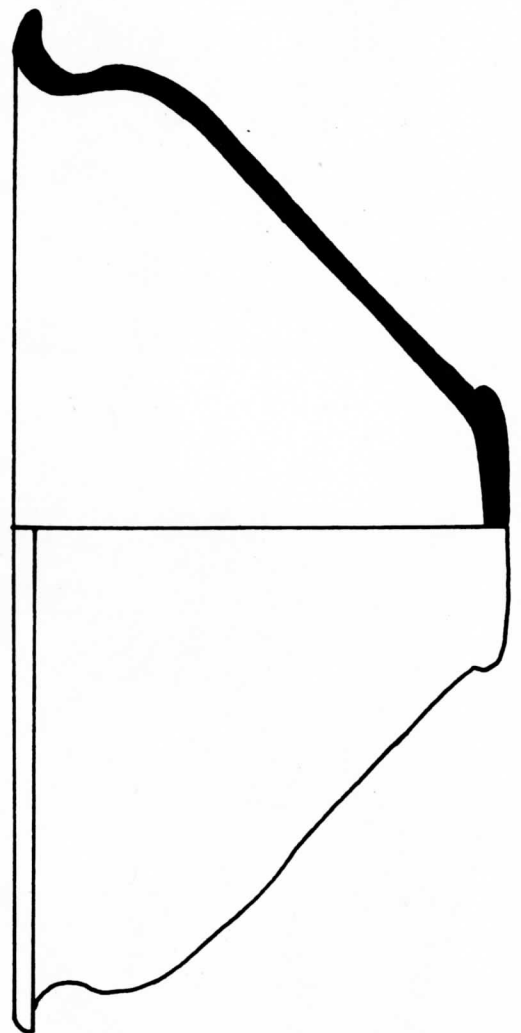
a. A beaker (no. 722), Room 2,
Building D, level I



b. A stone bowl (no. 717), temple area, level II

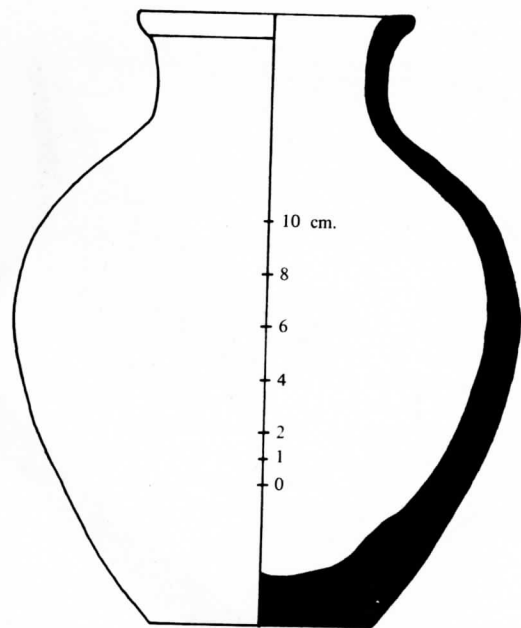


c. A clay nail, level II

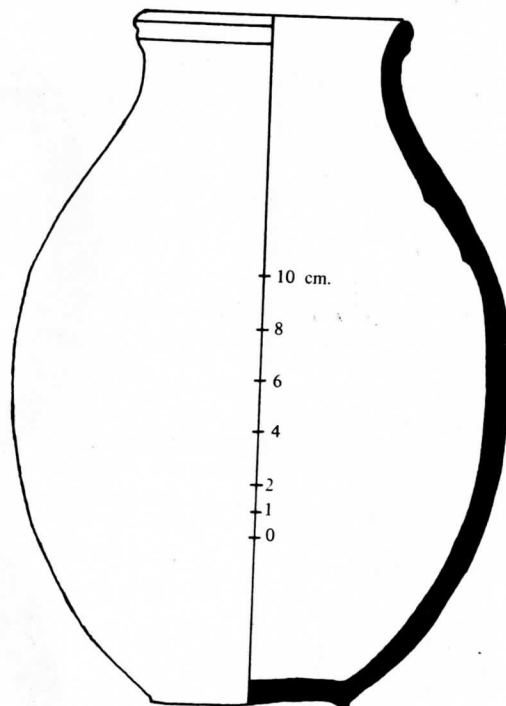


d. A bowl (no. 720), Room 4, Building D, level I

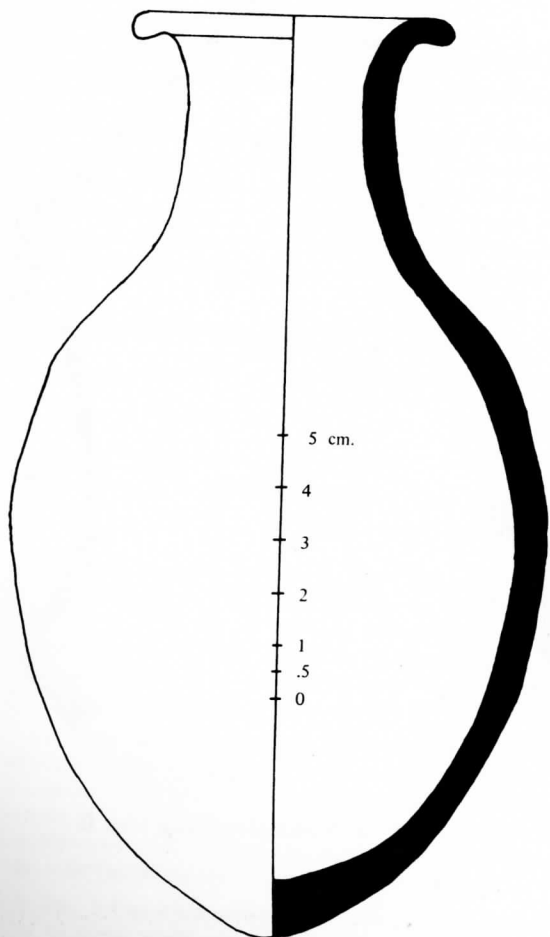
Fig. 43



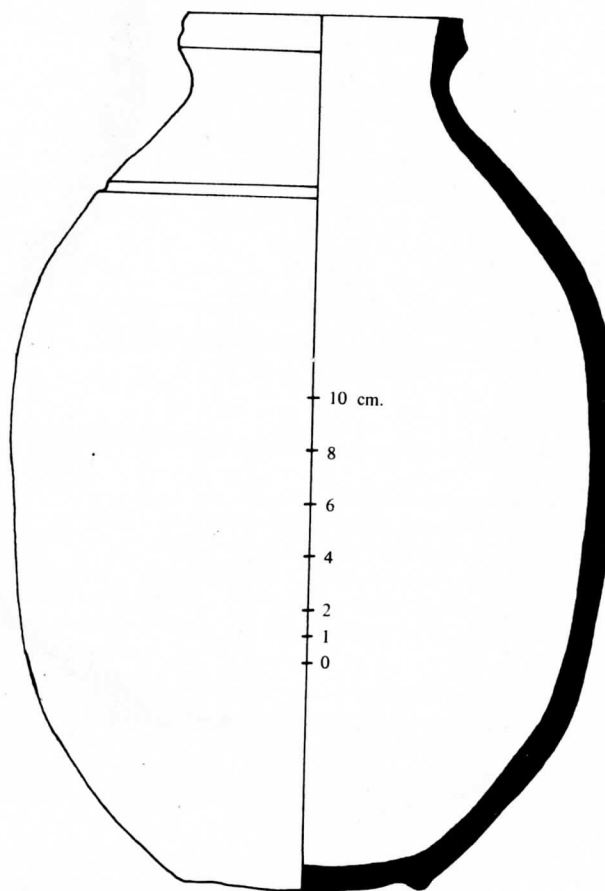
a. A bluish green glazed jar (no. 738)



c. A jar (no. 747), main drain

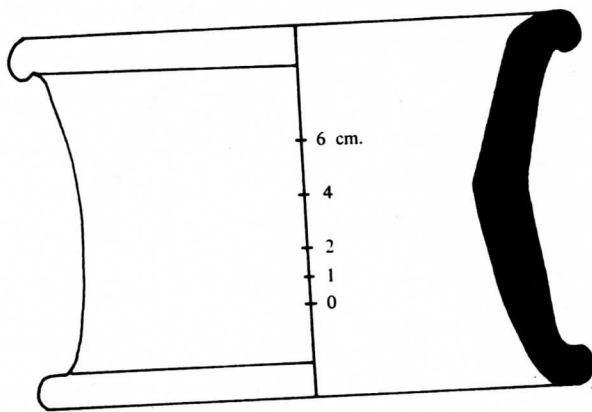


b. A bluish green glazed jar (no. 837)

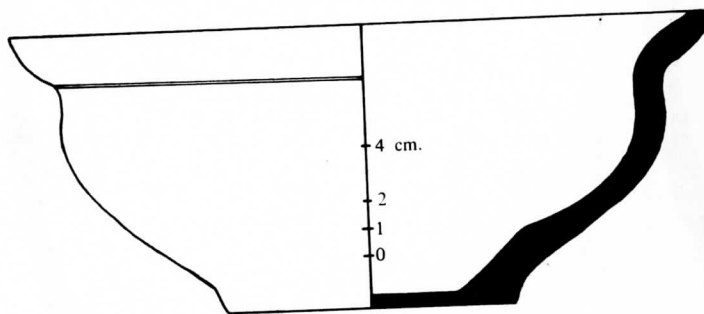


d. A jar (no. 737), main drain

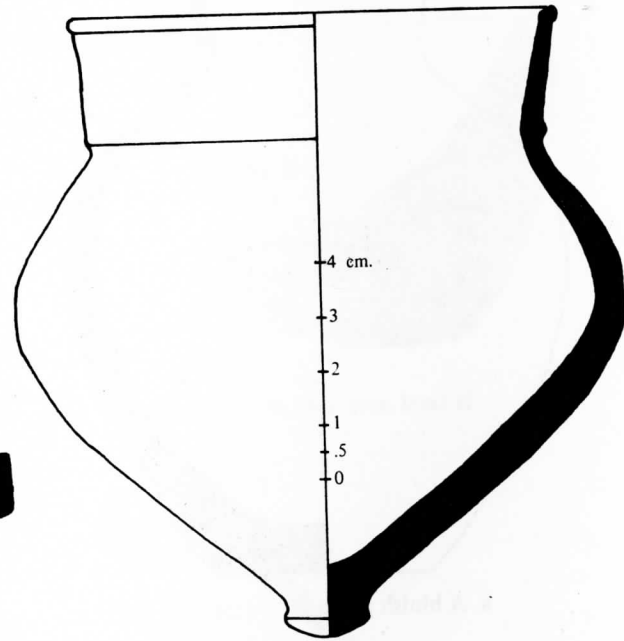
Fig. 44 Jars from level II



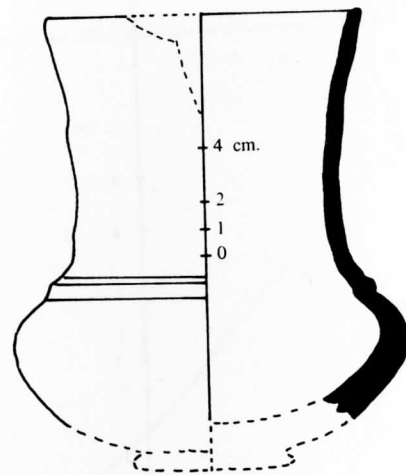
a. Vessel stands (nos. 749 & 748), level II



c. A bowl from kiln no. 7, Building F, level I

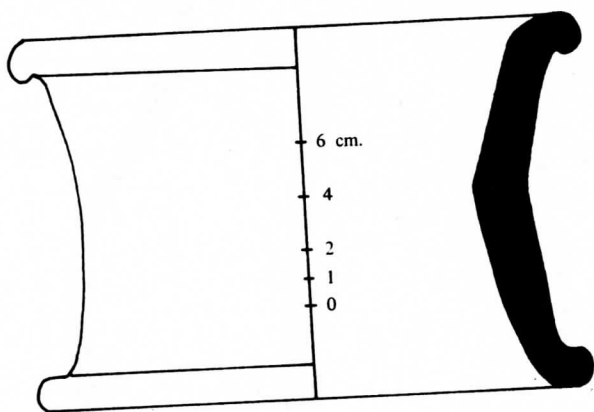


b. A vase (no. 836), level II

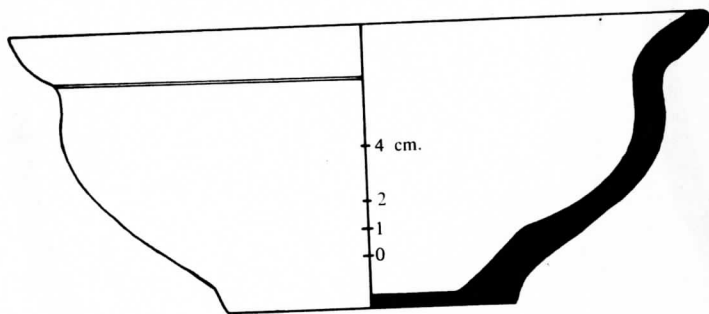


d. A shouldered cup, level II

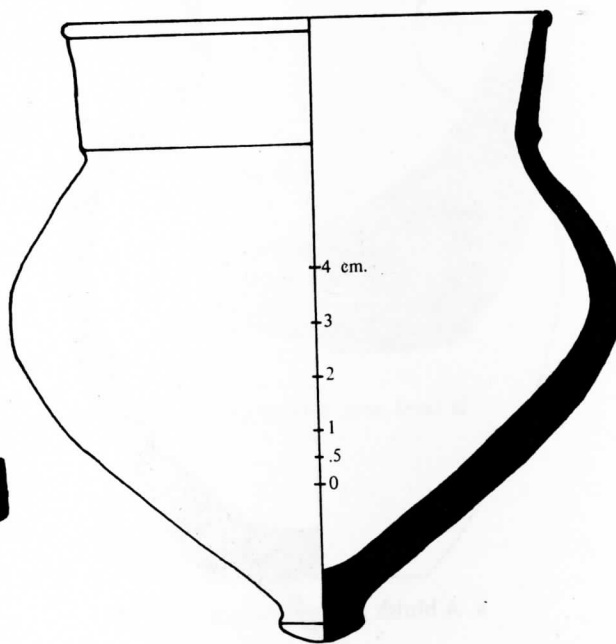
Fig. 45



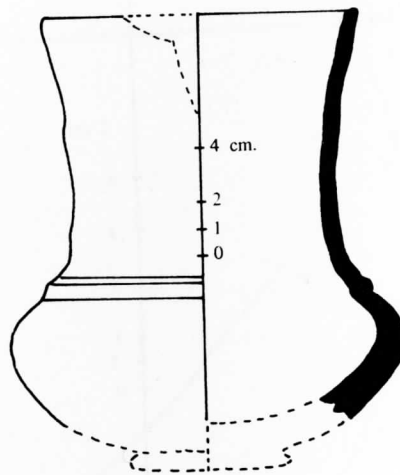
a. Vessel stands (nos. 749 & 748), level II



c. A bowl from kiln no. 7, Building F, level I



b. A vase (no. 836), level II



d. A shouldered cup, level II

Fig. 45

BIBLIOTHECA MESOPOTAMICA

Primary sources and interpretive analyses for the study of Mesopotamian civilization and its influences from late prehistory to the end of the cuneiform tradition.

Bibliotheca Mesopotamica, Vol. 3

Inscriptions from Al-Hiba-Lagash: The First and Second Seasons

By Robert D. Biggs

Malibu: Undena Publications, 1976.

LC 76-47770; ISBN 0-89003-018-9 (hardbound), -017-0 (paperbound).

4to. Pp. vi-45, 2 plates. \$11.00 (hardbound), \$6.50 (paperbound).

This volume presents 41 cuneiform texts from Al-Hiba-Lagash in autographed copy, accompanied by brief descriptions of their content, plus 21 texts which are duplicates of other texts and for which only a brief description is given here without an autograph copy. In addition, two texts from Surghul are given in transliteration. Thus all of the epigraphic finds of the first two seasons are included. The main group of texts (Nos. 1-41) contains the following categories: (1) Dated inscriptions from the rule of Eannatum, Enannatum I, Entemena, Gudea, Amar-Sin and the Larsa Dynasty. In general one has the impression of a great deal of activity at the site of Al-Hiba during the reign of Enannatum I and probably during Entemena's reign as well. (2) Pre-Sargonic administrative texts which date probably from the same two reigns of Enannatum I or Entemena. (3) Two tablets which can be dated palaeographically to the Sargonic era. (4) Six Old Babylonian tablets, three of which constitute the small archive of a man named Bur-Sin who was apparently in the livestock business, while two others are letters and one is a school exercise tablet.

Bibliotheca Mesopotamica, Vol. 4

The Legacy of Sumer

Edited by Denise Schmandt-Besserat

Malibu: Undena Publications, 1976.

LC 76-18604; ISBN 0-89003-044-8 (hardbound), -043-X (paperbound).

4 to. Pp. ii-136, 68 plates. \$18.50 (hardbound), \$12.00 (paperbound).

This volume consists of the papers presented in a lecture series at the University of Texas at Austin and is intended to make available to a wider circle of the scholarly community the main ideas exchanged during the meetings. One of the merits of the lecture program was the involvement of scholars from a wide range of disciplines, including Archaeology, Anthropology, Art, Epigraphy, Biblical Studies and Architecture (Town Planning). The eleven essays illustrate the present trend of current research in Sumerology and from their combined efforts emerges an impressive new image of Sumer, the culture which in the Fourth Millennium B.C. brought mankind to the level of civilization.

Bibliotheca Mesopotamica, Vol. 5

The Economic Role of the Crown in the Old Babylonian Period

By Norman Yoffee

Malibu: Undena Publications, 1977.

LC 76-18605; ISBN 0-89003-021-9 (hardbound), 020-0 (paperbound).

4to. Pp. vii-168. \$18.00 (hardbound), \$13.50 (paperbound).

In the various periods of Mesopotamian history the economic role of the palace has usually been measured according to the military and political power wielded by the king or dynasty in the period being studied. Economic history, the particular study of the dynamics of exchange, allocation, and distribution of resources and labor throughout a social system, has received surprisingly little attention from students of Mesopotamian civilization. For the Old Babylonian period researchers in economic matters have generally been overshadowed by legal commentators who prefer to order socio-economic data into categories of modern or classical systems of jurisprudence.

In this book economic and administrative documents are studied under the assumption that economic relationships and their changing nature through time merit study on their own terms. In Ch. 1 traditional criteria for designating documents as "economic" or "administrative" are reassessed and hypotheses constructed that permit the identification of the palace's economic affairs in texts that do not specifically mention the *ekallum* ("crown"). In Ch. 2 the activities of an unusually well-attested crown official are investigated. His responsibilities in storing and negotiating commodities are explored as are his activities in the management of royal estates.

In Chs. 3-4 an examination of the titles *abi šābim* and *mu'errum* provides the sample from which the crown's manipulation of its stored wealth and the interactions between crown and community can be documented. Finally, in Ch. 5, the apparently contradictory phenomenon of the increasing numbers of crown officials and the articulation of their ranks during the decline of the "First Dynasty of Babylon" is studied and an explanatory model for the internal collapse of the Old Babylonian state is presented.

ASSUR

ASSUR is meant to serve the needs of the specialized field which is closely identified with the study of Assyrian as a dialect of Akkadian and with the history of Assyria as a special aspect of Mesopotamian civilization, from early times down to the end of the Assyrian empire. Given the intensity of linguistic and historical exchanges with neighboring regions, it is clear that the study of Assyrian dialect and history cannot be carried on in isolation, without due consideration to influences deriving from contacts with other people. Hence, *ASSUR* will also accept articles which are not exclusively Assyrian in scope, as long as they are related to Assyria and useful for the study of its language and history.

Editors: K.-H. Deller, P. Garelli, C. Saporetti

(Address correspondence to Dr. C. Saporetti, Via Vasanello 20, Cassia, 00189 Roma, Italy)

Volume 1

Issue 1: S. Parpola, *The Alleged Middle/Neo-Assyrian Irregular Verb *našš and the Assyrian Sound Change /š/ > /s/*.

M. Liverani, *The kumānu Measure as ¼ of 1 ikū*.

Issue 2: C. Saporetti, *Some Considerations on the Stelae of Assur*.

Issue 3: G. Buccellati, *A. Leo Oppenheim, 1904-1974*.

F. M. Fales, *Notes on Some Nineveh Horse Lists*.

Issue 4: W. W. Hallo, *Jacob J. Finkelstein, 1922-1974*.

A. K. Grayson, *Akkadian ksr and kšr*.

D. A. Foxvog, *Assyrian Texts-1*.

Issue 5: E. Guralnick, *Composition of Some Narrative Reliefs from Khorsabad*.

Issue 6: Y. M. Al-Khalesi, *Tell al-Fakhar (Kurruḥanni) a dimtu-Settlement: Excavation Report*.

Tell al-Fakhar is a small site situated 35 kms. southwest of the site of Nuzi. It was excavated from 1967 to 1969 by a team of the Iraqi Department of Antiquities. The two upper occupational levels, I and II, have been almost completely uncovered, and the sounding pit which was opened in the second season shows that the site had been occupied since prehistoric times. – The architectural remains are impressive. A large administrative and residential complex, called the Green Palace, is one of the better examples of monumental architecture in the Middle Assyrian period. The layout of the palace represents a significant link between 2nd and 1st millennium architecture. A relatively large temple platform was uncovered along the northeastern side of the palace. A number of private houses and potters' shops were also uncovered and dated to the beginning of the 1st millennium B.C. – The historical significance of the site is highlighted by the discovery of approximately 1,000 clay tablets with cuneiform documents of the Nuzi and Arrapha type. The cultural materials which were found in the site are abundant—among them many human skeletons, cylinder seals, many seal impressions, pottery, glass and glazed wares, ornaments and various kinds of metal, stone, bone and terra-cotta artifacts. – *Kurruḥanni* was the ancient name of the site. It shows strong Hurrian influence, and levels I and II appear to have been contemporaneous with levels I and II at Nuzi. *Kurruḥanni*-level II seems to have been a *dimtu*-type settlement, which is often mentioned in the texts and which characterizes the socio-economic organization of Mesopotamia in the 2nd half of the second millennium B.C. It is probably the first archaeologically attested example of such *dimtu*-settlements.

Issue 7: W. de Filippi, *The Royal Inscriptions of Aššur-Nāšir-Apli II (883-859 B.C.): A Study of the Chronology of the Calah Inscriptions Together with an Edition of Two of These Texts*.

The basic intent of the present study is to understand the historical realities lying behind Asn.'s inscriptions from his famous residence city Calah. At first sight the impression created by these texts is that all that was important in Asn.'s twenty-five year reign happened in the first five or six years, and that the majority of the king's inscriptions must have been edited at that time or shortly thereafter. Primarily responsible for this impression is the fact that two texts of quite a different nature, namely the so-called Great Monolith and the so-called Banquet Stela, both refer to the completion of a royal palace. Close textual analysis, however, reveals that, in spite of the lack of suitable archaeological evidence, the palace memorialized in the Mon. inscription and that described in the B. St. cannot be one and the same structure. Rather it is contended that the palace celebrated in the latter monument was not completed until about the twentieth year of Asn.'s kingship, and that the composition of most of the Calah texts was well spaced out over the whole period of the king's reign.

PUBLICATIONS DU G.R.E.S.A.

Groupe de Recherches et d'Études Sémitiques Anciennes

[Indexation automatique de corpus de textes]

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INDEX DOCUMENTAIRE DES TEXTES DE MARI, Tome 1: *Liste/Codage des textes et Index des ouvrages de référence*, par J. G. HEINTZ, avec la collaboration de A. MARX et L. MILLOT (Programmation CROZIER-FRANÇON), in collection: "Archives Royales de Mari" [= A.R.M.T., vol. XVII/i], (Paris, 1975), 52*+343 pages, avec une Préface de Mr. A. PARROT, de l'Institut. [Ed. Librairie Orientaliste P. GEUTHNER, Paris].

Outre la liste/codage (= pp. 19*-52*) de tous les textes de Mari actuellement publiés (entièrement ou en partie), ce volume fournit un Index général de tous les ouvrages de référence assyriologiques dans la mesure où ils concernent ces mêmes textes: il s'agit des dictionnaires [AHW, CAD] et syllabaire [v. Soden], des grammaires [ALM de Finet, v. Soden], ainsi que des notes philologiques publiées en fin des volumes [ARMT 1 à 13] et des recensions critiques relatives à ces mêmes volumes d'édition des textes. Chaque référence est suivie des caractéristiques de la citation fournie, précisant s'il s'agit d'une autographie/transcription/traduction/commentaire du passage en question (éventuellement avec une indication de restitution), de l'un ou l'autre cas—ou d'une simple mention du texte.

Dans le champ documentaire ainsi délimité, le présent Index vise à une précision et une exhaustivité aussi grandes que possible.

Le volume contient environ 20.000 références dans son état actuel. Grâce à l'élaboration d'une méthodologie informatique appropriée [indexation d'un corpus de textes anciens selon deux zones principales: textes cités/ouvrages citants], l'Index pourra être régulièrement mis à jour, au fur et à mesure des publications nouvelles en ce domaine, ainsi que des erreurs ou omissions que ses utilisateurs voudront bien nous signaler (cf. la feuille volante jointe au volume à cet effet).

INDEX DOCUMENTAIRE D'EL-AMARNA [= IDEA], Tome 1: *Liste/Codage des textes et Index des ouvrages de référence*, par J. G. HEINTZ, avec la collaboration de A. MARX et L. MILLOT (Programmation J. FRANÇON), 20*-325 pages environ. [Sous presse aux Ed. O. HARRASSOWITZ, Wiesbaden].

Établi selon les mêmes principes que l'ouvrage précédent, cet Index concerne un corpus plus restreint (environ 400 textes), ce qui a permis d'élargir le champ documentaire des ouvrages de référence qui le concernent. En effet, à partir de l'édition de Knudtzon [= VAB 2 (1915)] et de son supplément par Rainey [= AOAT 8 (1970)], l'indexation générale porte sur ces mêmes éditions des textes (les notes philologiques uniquement) et les recensions critiques qui s'y rapportent, sur les dictionnaires [AHW, CAD, DISO], syllabaire [v. Soden], grammaires [Böhl, Ebeling, v. Soden], mais également sur des études systématiques relevant de la philologie [Dhorme], de la syntaxe [Moran], de la phonétique [Jucquois], de l'onomastique [Burchardt, Ranke], etc.. L'ouvrage inclut en outre l'indexation des principaux ouvrages traitant de la chronologie [Campbell, Kühne, v. d. Meer] et de l'histoire [Albright, Helck, Kitchen, Klengel, Redford] de cette importante période amarnienne.

Cet Index comprend également les textes "amarniens" en provenance des sites archéologiques de Syrie-Palestine, ainsi qu'une liste des textes bibliques [AT et NT] dans la mesure où ils sont mis en relation avec un texte d'El-Amarna.

Sous cette forme, le volume inclut près de 20.000 références dotées de leurs caractéristiques, y compris la mention des gloses cananéennes s'il y a lieu. Il peut également être soumis, grâce à un programme d'édition automatique, à des corrections et des mises à jour régulières.

CONCORDANCE GENERALE DES SIGLES D'EL-AMARNA, par D. BAUER et J. G. HEINTZ (Programmation J. FRANÇON), un fascicule de 65 pages environ. [Sous presse aux Ed. "Undena Publications," P. O. Box 97, Malibu, Calif. 90265, U. S. A.].

Établie à partir des concordances partielles déjà publiées et après vérification sur chaque édition des textes, cette Concordance fournit toutes les références pertinentes, quelle que soit l'"entrée" choisie... ou imposée par les circonstances.

A partir de la numérotation de base [EA n° 1-379, selon les éditions de Knudtzon et Rainey] sont établies toutes les équivalences avec les éditions antérieures, qui publient certains textes en autographie ou en transcription et en traduction. Il s'agit des ouvrages de: Winckler (1896), Winckler-Abel (1889-90), Bezold-Budge (1892), Schroeder (1915). De même, les équivalences avec les numéros d'inventaire des Musées [Berlin, Le Caire, Londres, etc.] sont indiquées, ainsi que les références bibliographiques de base pour les textes publiés hors-collections.

Notons que la méthodologie élaborée à cet effet peut s'appliquer, à l'avenir, à tel ou tel corpus de textes plus vaste, par exemple les inscriptions palmyréniennes (voir *infra*).

En préparation:

- *Bibliographie de MARI (Archéologie et Textes, de 1933 à 1975)*, à paraître in coll. A.R.M.T., vol. XVII/2, [Ed. P. GEUTHNER, Paris], 60 pages environ.
- *Bibliographie indexée d'EL-AMARNA (1915-1975)*, = IDEA, Tome 2, [Ed. O. HARRASSOWITZ, Wiesbaden], 250 pages environ.

Travaux en cours:

- Catalogue raisonné des lettres (publiées) de MARI.
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