

ANATOLICA

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XLIII

Cover illustration:

Ceramic "box" (likely an andiron) with bull's head and incised decoration (from Çadır Höyük, Late Chalcolithic; see article by S. Steadman et al. in this issue, pp. 203-250).

ANATOLICA

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THE 2011 TO 2016 EXCAVATION CAMPAIGNS AT SITE PQ 2, SAGALASSOS. Dissecting a suburban club house (*schola*)

Johan Claeys and Jeroen Poblome

Abstract

Immediately northeast of Sagalassos lies its Eastern Suburbium (formerly known as the Potters' Quarter), which has been the subject of research since 1987. Since 2011, the Sagalassos Archaeological Research Project intensified its efforts within this suburban quarter in the context of several research projects. One of its foci was the site PQ 2, located at the intersection of the Roman imperial era Potters' Quarter and a zone with more monumental buildings. The field work at this site could be finalised during the 2016 summer campaign, after previous campaigns executed in the period 2011-2014.

The excavations revealed a hall-like building, measuring c. 12.5 m by 10.7 m, erected around the middle of the 1st century AD. Its main feature was a water fountain against the centre of the back wall, opposing the main northern entrance and few other indications regarding its original purpose. The building was subsequently extended towards the south and subdivided into rooms around the turn of the century. The second-third century AD dumps of fauna and crockery outside the building bear testimony to regular communal dining practices, consisting of mainly simple meals in the style of a soup-kitchen. The almost complete remains of one final dining event could be documented inside the building, which was abandoned immediately afterwards.

Based on its suburban location, its architectural characteristics and the well-preserved find assemblages, an identification as an association hall or club house is proposed. These scholae and their associated activities are well known from ancient written sources, but there is far less archaeological data available, especially for the eastern part of the empire.

INTRODUCTION

Suburban developments of ancient cities have until recently been noticeably underexposed, especially in the eastern Mediterranean area. The recent study edited by Pascal Darcque, Roland Étienne and Anne-Marie Guimier-Sorbets (Darcque *et al.* 2014) might prove to

* The authors are members of the Sagalassos Archaeological Research Project (University of Leuven, Belgium). This research was supported by the Belgian Programme on Interuniversity Poles of Attraction, the Research Fund of the University of Leuven and the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO). We would like to thank the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, its Kültür Varlıkları ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü and its annual representatives Melek Yıldızturan (Ankara Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi), Tevfik Göktürk (Ankara Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi), Yalçın Yilmazer (Bergama Müzesi), Arif Küçükçoban (Burdur Müzesi) and Süleyman Atalay (Antalya Müzesi) for the excavation permissions, support and most appreciated aid during respectively the 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016 fieldwork campaigns. The authors would like to thank the other archaeologists who have taken part in the excavations of the PQ 2 site, including Günay Kumsal, Sven Van Haelst, Merve Öztürk, Liesbeth Claessens, Peter Talloen, Bas Beaujean, Duygu Karakurt and Dave Geerts. Likewise, we wish to express our gratitude to the teams of architectural conservation and recording, the finds lab, the finds specialists, the illustrators and photographers. Until 2013, the fieldwork was directed by prof. Marc Waelkens, from 2014 onwards by prof. Jeroen Poblome, assisted in each of the seasons by Arch. Ebru Torun.

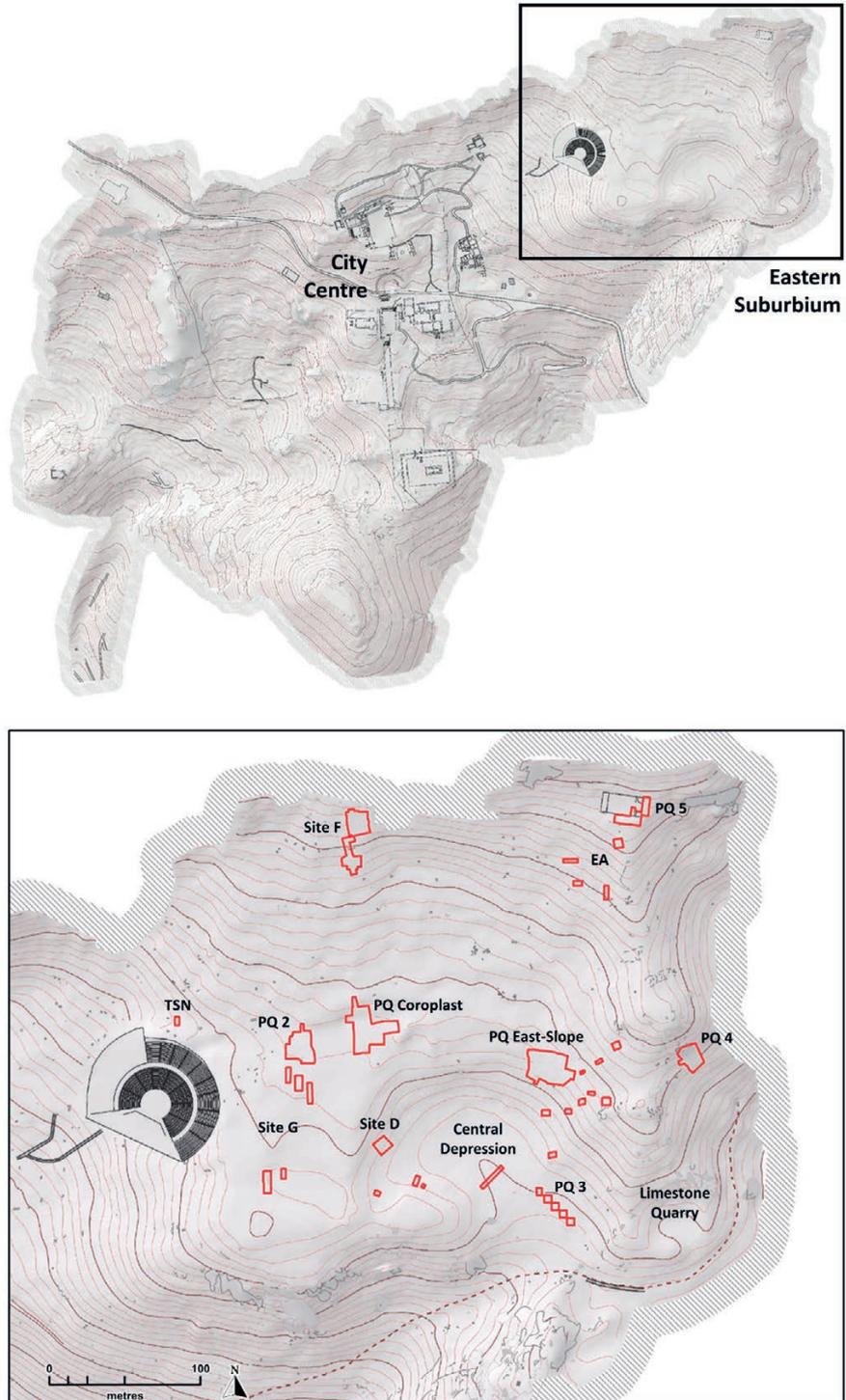


Fig. 1. The Eastern Suburbium of Sagalassos, with indication of excavated trenches.

URBANISM BEYOND THE ACROPOLIS The Tayinat Lower Town Project Surface Survey, 2014-2015

James F. Osborne and Steven Karacic*

Abstract

Although the capital cities of the Syro-Anatolian city-states (also known as Syro-Hittite, Neo-Hittite, Luwian, and Aramaean) have been excavated for generations, archaeologists have only rarely investigated their large lower settlements beyond the monumental buildings in the acropolis. The Tayinat Lower Town Project began in 2014 with the explicit goal of conducting systematic fieldwork in the lower settlement of Tell Tayinat, ancient Kunulua, the Iron Age capital of the kingdom of Patina. The first two seasons were dedicated to an intensive surface survey of the entire lower town, roughly 16 ha in size, in order to obtain as holistic a picture of the ancient city as possible before planned excavation takes place. This article presents the findings of this research, which complement and expand our understanding of urbanism in Iron Age Anatolia.

INTRODUCTION AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The Tayinat Lower Town Project (TLTP) began in the summer of 2014 as part of a long-term effort to understand the archaeological remains of the large lower settlement of Tell Tayinat, located in the Amuq Valley of southeastern Turkey (Fig. 1). Tayinat consists of two major morphological units: a low-lying tell roughly 20 hectares in size, and an additional 16 hectare lower town that extends around the eastern half of the site. Today the lower town lies under the floor of the valley due to the accumulation of alluvium from the Orontes River, located 700 m south of the site. This morphological feature has rendered systematic exploration of this quarter of the site a major logistical challenge, and as a result we know little about the nature of settlement in this area. This article presents the results of two seasons of systematic surface survey of Tayinat's lower town, aimed explicitly at providing an understanding of the socioeconomic processes of the ancient city as a holistic entity instead of the piecemeal picture provided by limited, opportunistic excavations.

Tell Tayinat was the focus of large-scale excavations in the 1930s by the Syrian-Hittite Expedition of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute, who focused primarily on the acropolis and its monumental remains of the early first millennium BCE, or Iron Age II and III (ca. 925-600 BCE); only the architectural remains from these levels have so far been published. (Haines 1971). A number of small soundings also revealed Early Bronze Age levels contemporary with excavations conducted at other sites in the valley, and this material contributed to Braid-

* Osborne: Oriental Institute, University of Chicago; Karacic: Florida State University. TLTP is grateful to Timothy Harrison, Director of the Tayinat Archaeological Project, for encouragement and assistance with the project. Funding was generously provided by the National Geographic Society and the Wenner-Gren Foundation.

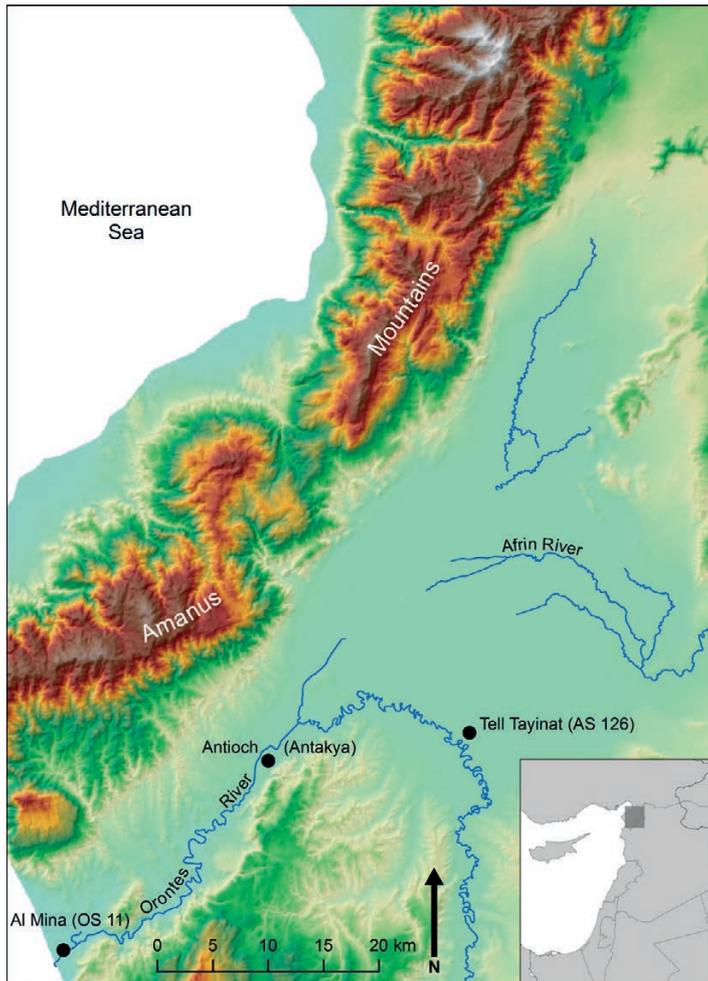


Fig. 1. Map of the Amuq Valley in southeastern Anatolia with the location of Tell Tayinat.

Middle and Late Bronze Ages, during which Tayinat was uninhabited, the site was reoccupied during the Iron Age I period, roughly 1200-925 BCE, at which time its material culture is partially characterized by locally made Mycenaean IIIC pottery and other aspects of Aegean-style material culture such as unbaked clay loom weights (Harrison 2009; Janeway 2017). At this time Tayinat was likely the capital of the kingdom of Walistin/Palistin as indicated by Luwian inscriptions found at the site and in a number of monuments from other sites including Aleppo, Arsuz, Meharde, and Sheizar (Weeden 2013). The subsequent Iron Age II is the best attested period archaeologically and historically. Large-scale horizontal excavations made in the acropolis discovered a series of monumental buildings including temples (Harrison & Osborne 2012) and *bit-hilani* palaces, the diagnostic architectural form of the Syro-Anatolian city-states (Haines 1971; Osborne 2012). Scholars have long assumed that Tell Tayinat was the ancient

wood's prehistoric ceramic sequence of the Amuq, especially Phases H-K (Braidwood & Braidwood 1960). Excavations at Tell Tayinat resumed in 2004 under the auspices of the University of Toronto's Tayinat Archaeological Project, directed by Timothy Harrison. In addition to the discovery of an additional monumental building dating to the Iron Age II and III period, these excavations have documented several earlier phases of occupation undetected by the previous expedition.

Cumulatively, the Syrian-Hittite Expedition and Tayinat Archaeological Project have created a robust archaeological and historical sequence. The tell was occupied during the Early Bronze Age, ending with a large structure dated late in the third millennium BCE, or Phase J in Braidwood's Amuq ceramic sequence (Welton *et al.* 2011). Following the

A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE EARLIEST NEOLITHIC LEVELS AT UĞURLU ON THE ISLAND OF GÖKÇEADA

Burçin Erdoğan*

Abstract

The earliest occupation at Uğurlu is characterised by the absence of pottery and the presence of flint and obsidian tools with pressure flaking technique. The site dates as far back as 6800 cal. BC and has yielded evidence of a fully Neolithic economy. There are only a few sites (Ulucak, Girmeler, Knossos, Çukuriçi) along the Western shores of Anatolia, as well as on the Aegean Islands, that are securely dated before 6600/6500 cal BC. This paper presents some preliminary results of the earliest occupation layers at Uğurlu.

INTRODUCTION

The beginning of the Neolithic way of life along the Western shores of Anatolia, as well as on the Aegean Islands, is currently a hotly debated topic. Some scholars argue that colonists migrated wholesale directly from the Near East to the Western Anatolian shores, using sea routes (Horejs *et al.* 2015) or land routes (Özdoğan 2011; Çilingiroğlu and Çakırlar 2013). Some scholars argue also that Neolithic colonists migrated directly to the Aegean islands from the Anatolian coasts (Broodbank and Strasser 1991; King *et al.* 2008) or those of the Levant (Perlès 2001; Horej *et al.* 2015). On the other hand, the Neolithization process of the Western shores of Anatolia, as well as the Aegean Islands, is surely a far more complex phenomenon than previously considered, and it is still far from being well understood. It is possible that different regions followed different rates in adopting Neolithic elements. Likewise, many different scenarios might be involved in different regions. In addition, as J. Thomas pointed out, 'farming' and 'the Neolithic' are not quite the same thing: *Farming is an economic system that involves control over the reproduction of animals and plants, while the Neolithic is a form of sociality that is often (but not always) associated with it*' (Thomas, 2013: 678). Thus current views on the Neolithization process in the Aegean are open to reconsideration (Erdoğan *in press*).

In order to illuminate the Neolithization process that occurred on the Western shores of Anatolia, as well as on the Aegean Islands, information about the first half of the seventh millennium BC needs to be collected and analysed. Knossos in the island of Crete, Ulucak, Girmeler Cave, and Çukuriçi on the Western shore of Anatolia are the only sites that securely date to before 6600/6500 Cal BC. (Reingruber 2015; Horej *et al.* 2015; Takaoğlu *et al.* 2014; Perlès *et al.* 2013; Çevik and Abay 2016). In the earliest levels at Knossos, ca. 7000-6700 cal. BC, there is no pottery, but two baked clay figurines have been found. The site yielded evidence of a fully Neolithic economy: domesticated sheep, goat, pig and cattle, and cultivated cereals

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and legumes (Perlès *et al.* 2013; Efstratiou *et al.* 2013). In the earliest level at Ulucak VI, ca. 6800 cal. BC, there is likewise no pottery but no other clay objects either. The buildings have lime plastered floors which are painted red and they contained evidence of domesticated animals, including sheep, goat, cattle and pig, and cultivated cereals and legumes (Çevik and Abay 2016). A building with a similar red lime plastered floor but with a few pottery sherds also was found in Çukuriçi XIII, ca. 6800 cal BC, along with a full range of domesticated animals, including sheep, goat, cattle and pig, and cultivated cereals (Horejs *et al.* 2015). At the entrance of the Girmeler Cave near Fethiye, early seventh millennium BC layers (ca. 7000 cal. BC) were discovered exposing buildings with lime plastered floors, a few pottery sherds and cultivated cereals (Takaoğlu *et al.* 2014).

The recent excavations at the site of Uğurlu on the island of Gökçeada supplement the evidence reported above in revealing that the earliest occupation at the site is dated back to the same general time-frame, the first half of the seventh millennium BC. The site of Uğurlu is located on the western part of the island of Gökçeada (Imbroz), in the Northeastern Aegean (Fig. 1). It is a low mound covering an area of approximately 250 × 200 m on a gentle slope at the eastern foot of Mount Isa (Doğanlı). The Pilon stream runs along the eastern part of the site, and there is also a nearby spring. Six main cultural phases, designated as I-VI (counting from top to bottom), and at least 15 layers of occupation have been revealed so far (Erdoğu 2014; 2016). For the purpose of this paper we present a brief overview only of the earliest phase at Uğurlu, Phase VI, which dates from 6800 to 6500 cal. BC, and the transition layers to Phase VI.

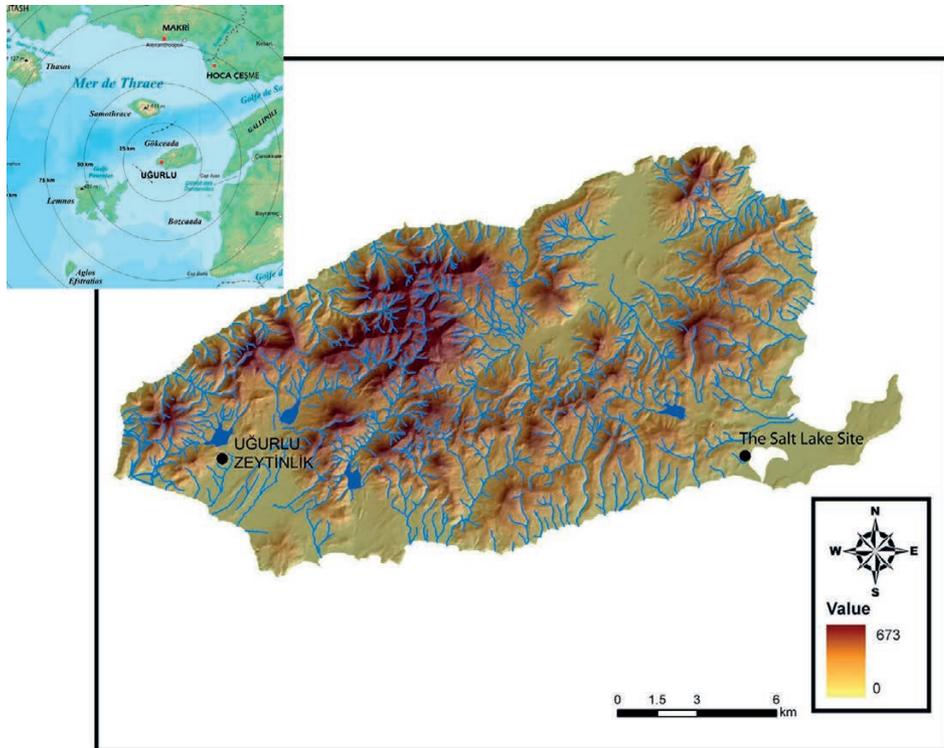


Fig. 1. Map of the island of Gökçeada showing location of Uğurlu.

INTERPRETING A PROBABLE POTTERY KILN OF THE MIDDLE BRONZE AGE FROM HIRBEMERDON TEPE, SE TURKEY*

Lorenzo Crescioli and Sergio G. Russo**

Abstract

The excavations at the site of Hirbemerdon Tepe, in Southeastern Turkey, yielded a very well preserved architectural complex dated to the Middle Bronze Age period (1975-1782 cal. BC) in the northern side of the High Mound. The complex was a multi-functional structure in which both ceremonial and craft specialized sectors were recognized by the archaeologists. Within one of the latter, a room, most probably used as a downdraft pottery kiln, was uncovered.

The studies on this type of firing installation in the region at this date are still fragmentary, due to either the lack of archaeological data or scholars' tendency to focus on ceremonial architecture or residential structures. Therefore, a complete regional framework of the development of MBA pottery kilns has not been established yet.

The aim of this paper is thus to provide a thorough analysis of the kiln found at Hirbemerdon Tepe by investigating topics related to the pottery production at the site and the firing processes involved. Furthermore, in order to clarify kiln features and their typology during the second millennium BC, a comparison will be provided with other pyro-technological structures discovered at sites in neighbouring regions.

INTRODUCTION

The site of Hirbemerdon Tepe is located in the upper Tigris river valley about 100 km southeast of the modern city of Diyarbakır, Turkey. Research performed between 2003 and 2011, i.e. reconnaissance survey, geophysical survey and archaeological excavation¹, demonstrated that Hirbemerdon Tepe experienced its most relevant occupational phase through the early second millennium BC, the Middle Bronze Age period. During this archaeological phase (Phase III B in Hirbemerdon Tepe's internal chronology; Laneri 2014) an architectural complex with ritual and working sectors was built in the northern side of the mound (Laneri 2016: 42-48, and references, figs. 7.8-7.9). The identification of the ritual function of the architectural complex is principally due to the discovery there of ceremonial objects, in particular clay votive plaques that are rarely found in other contemporaneous contexts of the region (Laneri *et al.* 2015). The working sectors, located in the northern and southern sections of the complex, are recognizable by the presence of grinding stones, storage vessels and other tools found still in situ, as well as a likely pottery kiln.

* We would like to thank Nicola Laneri for his useful comments on an earlier draft.

** Crescioli: Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Russo: University of Catania.

¹ See Ur and Hammer 2009, Ur 2011, Hammer 2014 (reconnaissance survey), Laneri 2006 (geophysical survey) Laneri 2005, 2006, 2012, 2013 and Laneri *et al.* 2006, 2008 (archaeological excavations). For a complete reference list, see Laneri 2016: 129-131.

The ceramic assemblage of Hirbemerdon Tepe in Phase IIIB is marked by the presence of the Red Brown Wash Ware (hereafter RBWW) and the Band Painted Ware (hereafter BPW), typical of the contemporary ceramic repertoire of the upper Tigris valley. These wares are probably locally produced (Parker and Dodd 2003; D'Agostino 2012; Laneri *et al.* 2015) and perhaps belong to the same pottery horizon, representing respectively the unpainted and painted typologies (Laneri *et al.* 2015). Their firing process and the related installations are still unknown in detail, because almost no pottery kilns belonging to this period have been found in the region. The kiln found at Hirbemerdon Tepe was probably used for firing the pottery vessels in these assemblages as well as the votive clay plaques and the other clay objects. The technological and architectural features of this facility include a bench where the clay objects would have been placed, the large firing chamber suitable for a number of vessels, and clay objects related to pottery production.² Moreover, the pottery kiln is located on top of the mound where the southern sector of the architectural complex is found. This area is characterized by the presence of a large paved street, oriented NE-SW, which divides a series of small rooms to the north and a row of four rooms to the south (Fig. 1), the function of which, except for the kiln, is rather unclear. Unfortunately, the Middle Bronze Age layers were not completely reached in the entire sector, so the overall plan of the area has not been exposed. The presence of the kiln should probably indicate a peripheral area of the complex, even if kilns embedded in the urban pattern are also known in Mesopotamia (Postgate and Moon 1982; Delcroix and Huot 1972).

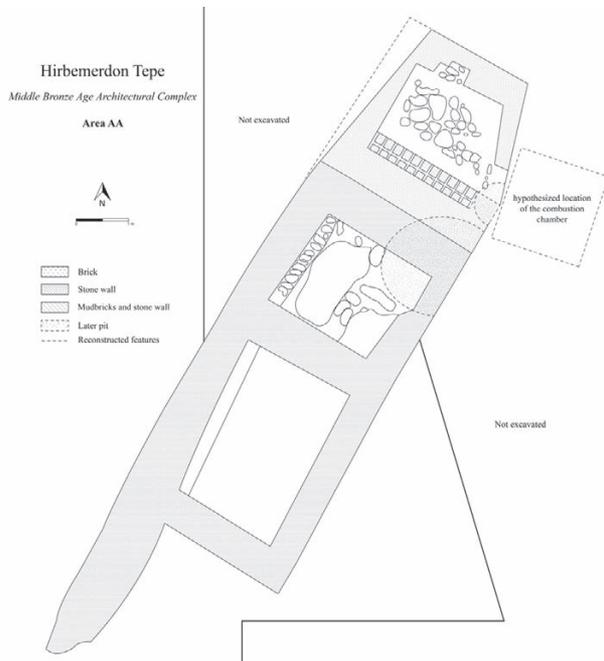


Fig. 1. Plan of the MBA architecture in Area AA.

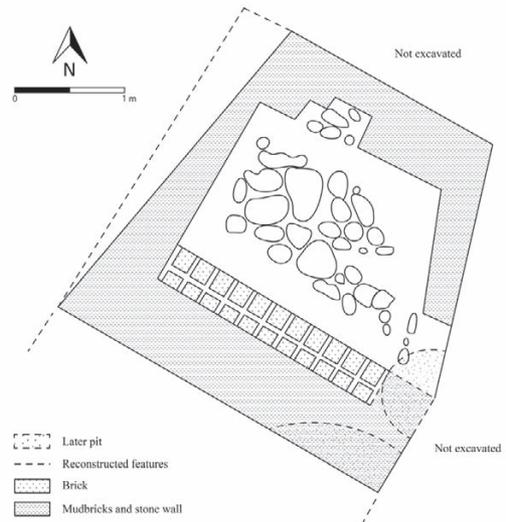


Fig. 2. Plan of the supposed pottery kiln.

² Within the MBA levels, wedges, stands, portable hearths and andirons have been found and might be related to the kiln here discussed. See the catalogue listing the objects of this period in Laneri 2016: 481-551.

LOWER GÖKSU ARCHAEOLOGICAL SALVAGE SURVEY PROJECT, THE FOURTH SEASON

*Tevfik Emre Şerifoğlu, Naoise Mac Sweeney and Carlo Colantoni**

Abstract

The Lower Göksu Archaeological Salvage Survey Project (LGASSP) continued with a short season in 2016; aiming to document more archaeological sites and monuments in the valley before the construction of the Kayratepe Dam (Mersin Province, Southern Turkey). The 2016 season focused mainly on the Kurtsuyu River Basin and the area surrounding the village of Evkaçıftlığı, resulting in the discovery of several sites that had not been previously documented. Further investigations were conducted around the multi-period mound of Damtepe, and the Keben Çolaklız rock relief; in order to better understand the relationship of these archaeological sites with their immediate vicinity. This article presents a summary of the results of the field season, followed by discussion of settlement patterns in the valley in the light of these new data. LGASSP is jointly conducted by Bitlis Eren University and the University of Leicester, and is currently funded by the British Academy through a Newton Advanced Fellowship.

INTRODUCTION

The Lower Göksu Archaeological Salvage Survey Project (LGASSP) was initiated in 2013, in response to plans for the construction of a hydroelectric dam at Kayratepe that will result in the flooding of large parts of the Göksu Valley (Mersin Province, southern Turkey). Fieldwork continued in 2016 with a season aimed at documenting further archaeological sites and remains before they are submerged beneath the flood lake (Fig. 1). Over the last three years, our team has surveyed much of the valley, recording over thirty sites ranging in date from the Chalcolithic to the Medieval Period. In addition to this extensive surveying, we have also conducted intensive survey at several especially complex sites, in order to understand them better (Şerifoğlu *et al.* 2014; 2015; 2016). This work has allowed us to uncover more about the changing settlements patterns, and to better understand the archaeological landscapes of this part of Turkey. The 2016 season was aimed at furthering our knowledge about the landscape, settlement types, and settlement patterns. The primary focus was on the Kurtsuyu River Basin, adjacent to the escarpment on which the site of Kilise Tepe is located; and the Evkaçıftlığı area, where our team discovered the multi-period mound of Damtepe in 2013.

For practical reasons, the 2016 field season was a short one, taking place between 8th and 19th August 2016 with a smaller team than in previous years. The team included Tevfik Emre Şerifoğlu (director), Carlo Colantoni (field director), Nazlı Evrim Şerifoğlu (fieldwork assistant, illustrator and photographer) and graduate students: Nevra Arslan, Songül Yetişir,

* Bitlis Eren University and the University of Leicester.

A small hillock, lying just below and to the northwest of the Kilise Tepe Necropolis hill, was the next stop for our team before we proceeded into the Kurtsuyu Valley. This hillock, which we named Kurtsuyutepe (LG33), contained a small number of non-diagnostic sherds and had robber trenches dug into it (Fig. 3). Although few in number, we could provisionally date the sherds to the Byzantine period, when a small farmstead may have existed here, similar to the ones recorded in the same region during the 2014 season (i.e. Köselikli I, Köselikli II, Hisartepe and Göcekler-tepe I).

Two site-candidates in the Kurtsuyu River Valley were confirmed during the 2016 season as possessing archaeological material. One of these site candidates was Göcekler-tepe II (LG34; Fig. 4). It is

located on the western side of the Kurtsuyu River just across from Göcekler-tepe I; a site we visited and documented in 2014. Göcekler-tepe II contained a large rock outcrop – an exposure of the valley bedrock – that had a number of natural circular ‘pits’ created by water erosion that had been modified into what seem to be olive or wine presses¹. The settlement itself was located immediately to the south of the rock outcrop. The sherds collected by our team suggest that the site was most probably first settled during a later phase of the Iron Age, with continuous inhabitation until the Late Roman period when it appears to have been primarily an olive oil or wine production site. In the central part of the site, the remains of stone walls were partially visible. The site itself is under imminent threat of being completely destroyed, due to a modern irrigation project with the construction of a large buried concrete water pipe that passes nearby.



Fig. 2. Dressed stones piled along a track at the Kilise Tepe necropolis (photo by T.E. Şerifoğlu).



Fig. 3. Kurtsuyutepe (photo by T.E. Şerifoğlu).

¹ Also evident on this large expanse of exposed bedrock were rectilinearly arranged holes drilled presumably for the erection of wooden posts to support temporary structures.

REFORGING CONNECTIONS: THE BLACK SEA COAST OF ANATOLIA IN THE 4TH-3RD MILLENNIA BC

Lynn Welton*

Abstract

The Black Sea coastal region remains one of the most poorly understood areas of Anatolia. Chronological controversies surrounding the best-excavated site of İkiztepe have resulted in difficulties in interpreting the site's cultural sequence with regard to its place within the larger Anatolian world. While the earlier part of the sequence at this site, located on Mound II (spanning primarily the late 6th-5th millennia BC), has been widely discussed in terms of its chronology, the Mound I sequence has not received the same attention. This article thus aims to create a chronological framework for the Late Chalcolithic-Early Bronze Age periods in this area of northern Anatolia, by examining the 4th-3rd millennium sequence excavated on Mound I at the site of İkiztepe.

INTRODUCTION: THE ISSUE OF CHRONOLOGY IN CHALCOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE ANATOLIA

The study of the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age in Anatolia has been impacted by a number of long-standing chronological issues that have only recently been recognized and acknowledged. These problems originate from the chronological frameworks that have been employed for interpreting Anatolian sites for more than half a century. Due to the fact that in the Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age I periods, parallels with the Southeast Anatolian, Levantine and Mesopotamian assemblages were difficult to identify (particularly Uruk-related material, until the excavation of Tepecik), the archaeological material cultures of Anatolia during these periods were difficult to pin down chronologically. Özdoğan, who has published a number of commentaries on this subject (1991, 1996, 1997; Özdoğan *et al.* 1991), suggests that archaeologists working in Anatolia were skeptical about the existence of early archaeological material there, and “it was almost taken for granted that the region was uninhabited during the Neolithic period” (Özdoğan 1991: 218). Alişar Höyük, for example, provided a 20m-deep sequence of pre-Middle Bronze Age material, but it was assumed that the earliest material in this sequence was Late Chalcolithic (von der Osten 1937: 30; Özdoğan 1991: 218; Özdoğan *et al.* 1991: 63). This was pushed even later by Orthmann (1963a), who produced a key comprehensive study of early Central Anatolia, and who considered the earliest levels at Alişar Höyük to be EBAI (Orthmann 1963a: 16, 98). Özdoğan notes: “a vague comparison with Kültepe was made and also basal Alişar black burnished pottery was considered to be analogous to East Anatolian Karaz-Khirbet Kerak wares” (1991: 218). These parallels are now recognized to have been erroneous (Özdoğan 1991: 220).

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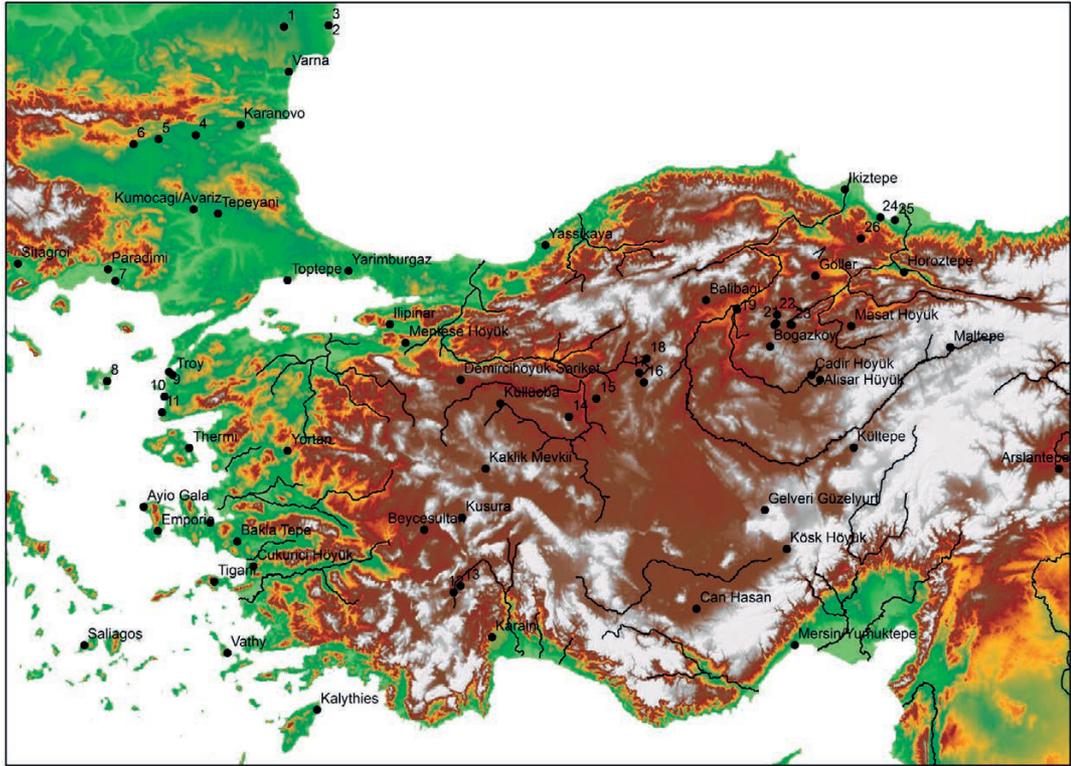


Fig. 1. Map of sites mentioned in the text.

1. Ovcharovo; 2. Durankulak; 3. Cernovoda; 4. Veselinovo; 5. Nova Zagora; 6. Stara Zagora;
7. Kokkinochoma/Proskinites; 8. Poliochni; 9. Kumtepe; 10. Beşiktepe; 11. Gülpınar; 12. Hacilar;
13. Kuruçay; 14. Yazır Höyük; 15. Polatlı; 16. Karaoğlan; 17. Ahlatlıbel; 18. Etiyokuşu; 19. Resuloğlu;
20. Alaca Höyük; 21. Kalinkaya; 22. Büyük Güllücek; 23. Pazarlı; 24. Dündartepe; 25. Tekeköy; 26. Kavak.

The oldest material was found in the area of destruction caused by the railway construction (Area A), in a 5 × 10m trench, as well as in Area G. These levels were dated to the Eneolithic or Chalcolithic period by the excavators (Özgüç 1948a: 398). The pottery from this level is poorly known, and was not found by Thissen during his reanalysis of the pottery; it is described as being black or brown and burnished, occasionally with white-filled decoration (Thissen 1993: n. 16; Kökten *et al.* 1945: 367-369, Pl. LXIII: 1-6).

The remains dated by the excavators to the Copper Age were excavated in two locations: in the trench on the summit of the mound, as well as in the trench on the slope of the mound. On the summit of the mound, a large excavation area was opened (13 × 15m), which was excavated to a depth of 3.8m (Kökten *et al.* 1945: 369; Özgüç 1948a: 399). The ceramic material illustrated in the preliminary report was minimal (Kökten *et al.* 1945: Pl. LXIII: 7-8; LXIV: 1-3; LXV: 1-5), and the pottery illustrations have since been supplemented by Orthmann (1963: Pl. 65 and 66) and Thissen (1993: Fig. 2-6). Thissen describes the pottery from the summit area in detail (1993: 213-215). The pottery is generally mineral-tempered, which occurs along with shell and/or chaff temper. Forms include sharply carinated bowls

THE URBAN STRUCTURE OF KARKEMISH IN THE LATE BRONZE AGE AND THE SETTLEMENTS OF THE MIDDLE EUPHRATES VALLEY

*Sara Pizzimenti and Giulia Scazzosi**

Abstract

The Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition at Karkemish has provided new evidence for the Late Bronze Age period at the site. An extensive Late Bronze I occupation has been brought to light in many excavation areas, such as the Water Gate (Area H), the South Gate (Area D), and areas A, B and G. This variety of contexts provides the basis for future studies dealing with functional interpretations of spaces and material culture. This paper analyses the Late Bronze I and II archaeological data from Karkemish, with the aim of better understanding the role of the city within the Middle Euphrates valley during the age of the first empires and internationalism.

I. INTRODUCTION

Karkemish is located in the region of Gaziantep, on the border between Turkey and Syria (coordinates 36°49'46.36 N, 38°0'59.26 E), with the Turkish side of the site extending over an area of 55 ha (Fig. 1). The importance of Karkemish, as shown by its long and almost uninterrupted history, from the early Prehistory until the Islamic Age, is also due to its strategic position on the Euphrates river at the crossroad of an international trade network (Marchetti 2012: 132-133; Lawrence and Ricci 2016: 62-63). The Late Bronze (henceforth LB) II represented one of the most flourishing periods of the city (De Martino 2014: 86; Mora 2014: 94; Marchetti 2015a: 21).

After the British Museum Excavations between 1911 and 1914 and then again in 1920, with a break due to World War I, the site remained unexplored for almost a century. Investigations at the site and within its neighbouring region have been recently started again.¹ Since 2011 a joint Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition directed by Nicolò Marchetti renewed the excavations at the Turkish side of the site.² One of the main aims of this new project

* S. Pizzimenti (Sapienza University of Rome) wrote sections 3.1, 3.4, 4. G. Scazzosi (University of Pavia) wrote sections 2, 3 (introduction), 3.2, 3.3. Sections 1 and 5 have been written together.

¹ Thanks are due to the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, to the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums in Ankara and to Gaziantep Museum. The joint Turco-Italian Expedition at Karkemish of the Universities of Bologna, Gaziantep and Istanbul – funded by the University of Bologna and the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs – gratefully acknowledges also the support of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, Şahinbey Municipality and the Sanko Holding. We wish to thank the director of the Expedition, Nicolò Marchetti (University of Bologna) and all the members of the team for their active support and collaboration.

² For summary and references on the Turco-Italian excavations, see Marchetti 2014; 2015a; 2015b.

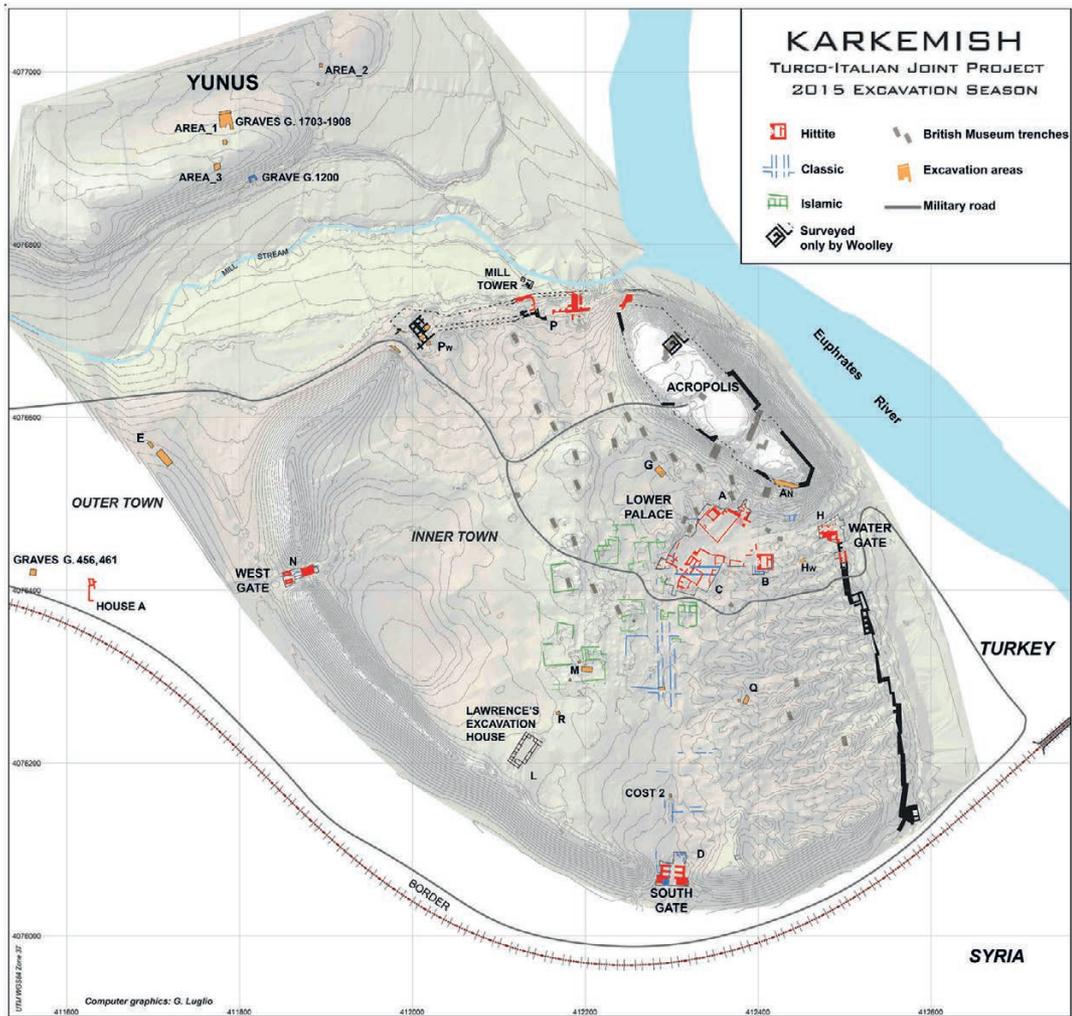


Fig. 1. Topographic map of Karkemish.

is that of exposing the Late Bronze Age town, in order to understand the urban history of Karkemish during this period, since a detailed understanding of the development of the urban structure and the history of the city during the Late Bronze Age was missing.³

³ The investigation of the site in its entirety has faced several problems. Firstly, the construction of the Aleppo-Baghdad railway destroyed a significant part of the Outer Town archaeological remains. Furthermore, part of the ancient site lies today in Syrian territory and is partly covered by the modern city of Jerablus. Finally, around 1956, after several problems with the smugglers, the border between Turkey and Syria was mined, including the site of Karkemish for most of its parts. After 1998, thanks to the sign of the Ottawa treaty, it was decided that the archaeological site must be demined. However, this operation took several years to be launched and the site became completely free of mines only in 2011 (Marchetti 2014, 36; 2015a, 18-19).

THE GADACHRILI GORA REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT: 2016 PRELIMINARY REPORT

Stephen D. Batiuk, Mindia Jalabadze, Andrew Graham, Irakli Koridze, Khaled Abu Jayyab, with contributions by Cristina Savulov

Abstract

The Caucasus has long been seen by western scholars as marginal to developments in the Near East. However, recent discoveries in the region have rapidly and significantly begun to show that the Caucasus was much more deeply integrated into the Near Eastern world in ways that are yet to be explored. In regard to the Neolithic period, studies in Georgia have the potential to contribute significantly to our overall understanding of the Neolithic process of the Near East, examining the development of different horticultural and agricultural products that will eventually comprise of the 'Neolithic package' and the evolution between human groups and their environment during the Holocene period of the greater Near East. Because of this geographical situation, the excavations of Gadachrili Gora and Shulaveris Gora (Kvemo Kartli Region) offer new opportunities to contribute to the debate on the neolithisation of the Caucasus, focusing on the of understanding of the development of the Shulaveri-Shomu Culture, its settlement organization and economy, and its relationship to other late Neolithic cultures in the greater Near East. Since 2006, a team of researchers from the Georgian National Museum, working in close collaboration with international colleagues, has been engaged in archaeological investigations at the site of Gadachrili Gora, which revealed the exceptionally well-preserved remains of a succession of settlements spanning the terminal parts of the Neolithic Period (ca. 6000-5000 BC).

This preliminary report provides an introductory background to the Neolithic Shomu-Shulaveris Culture of eastern Transcaucasia and describes the result of the initial season of the joint Canadian-Georgian initiative: The Gadachrili Gora Regional Archaeological Project (GRAPE).

INTRODUCTION

The Gadachrili Gora Regional Archaeological Project Expedition (GRAPE) is a joint venture between the University of Toronto, the Georgian National Museum (GNM) and the National Wine Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture (of the Republic of Georgia) to investigate the emergence and evolution of Neolithic Cultures in southern Caucasia and the development of Georgian viticulture and viniculture (Maghradze *et al.* 2017). GRAPE's role is to investigate the development of agricultural and horticultural practices across a series of rural settlements, and examine their role in the developing Neolithic economies, as well as the influence of the Shulaveri-Shomu Tepe Culture of the Republic of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan on the Near East. In the spring of 2016, GRAPE undertook its inaugural season at the site of Gadachrili Gora, where we excavated six 5 × 5m trenches, one 6 × 7m trench (some previously opened, others newly opened), and a small 2 × 3m step trench. At the same time an operation

was initiated at Shulaveris Gora, excavated originally by Javakhishvili during the 1960's, clearing the old excavation area, and undertaking a $2 \times 2\text{m}$ probe at the base of the old excavations to determine the depth of occupation at the site, along with a small $2 \times 10\text{m}$ step trench on the west side of the mound. This work represents the preliminary results of our 2016 season.

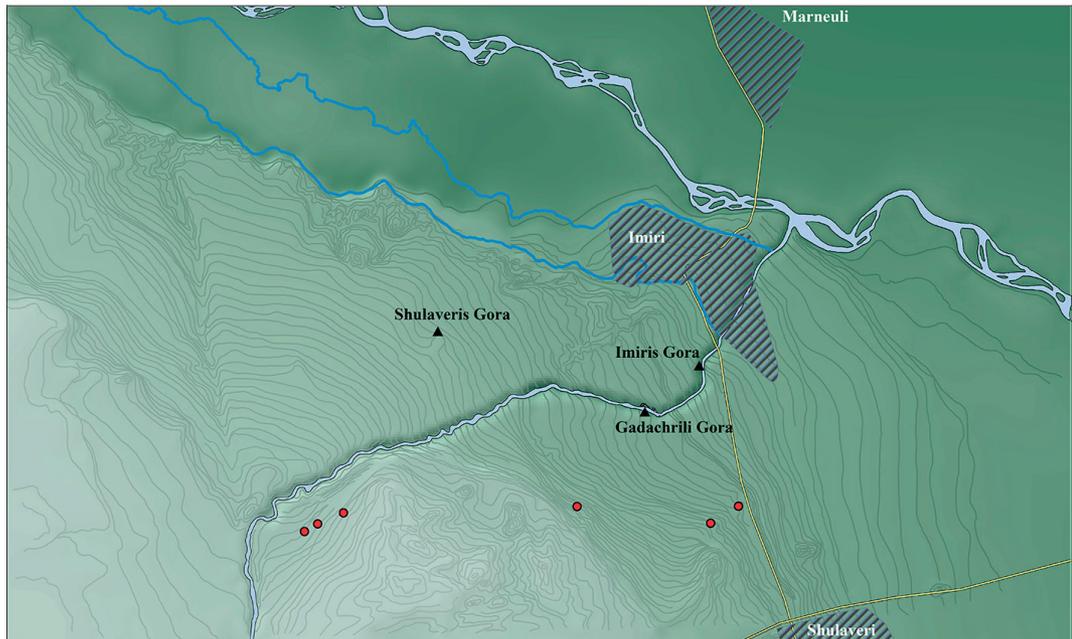


Fig. 1. Map of the Shulaveris Ghele and Khrami River region with the locations of Gadachrili Gora and Shulaveris Gora.

The Neolithic sites of Gadachrili and Shulaveris Gora are located on the Shulaveris Ghele – a seasonal tributary of the Khrami River (Fig. 1). The site of Gadachrili Gora is located to the SW of the village of Imiri, with the mound of Shulaveris located 1.7km further to the west. Together the sites form part of a constellation of Neolithic settlements that provide the Neolithic sequence for the region. Investigations into the Neolithic of the Caucasus began in the 1950's with the excavations at Kültepe in Azerbaijan (Abibullayev 1959). Subsequent investigations identified a series of settlements on the middle Kura River region, including the site of Shomutepe, excavated by Narimanov from 1961-4. At the same time, investigations in east Georgia began in the Marneuli region, focusing on the site of Shulaveris Gora (Javakhishvili 1973, Javakhishvili *et al.* 1975 – see below). Further investigations throughout the south Caucasus began to uncover a shared archaeological signature that came to be known as the “Shulaveri-Shomu Tepe Culture” (or SSC) and it was dated to between 6,000 and 5,200 BCE (Japaridze and Javakishvili 1971; Narimanov 1987; Kiguradze 1986; Lyonnet *et al.* 2016; Hamon *et al.* 2016). The SSC has been identified at locations across south Caucasia (Fig. 2). In Western Azerbaijan (Shomu Tepe, Tojre Tepe, Babdervish, Goytepe, Hacı Elamxanlı Tepe, Mantesh Tepe, Changan, Kamil Tepe, and Kültepe I in Nakhxivan), southeastern Georgia (Arukhlo, Shulaveris Gora, Gadachrili Gora, Dangreuli Gora, Imeris Gora, and Khramis Didi

RECENT DISCOVERIES (2015-2016) AT ÇADIR HÖYÜK ON THE NORTH CENTRAL PLATEAU

Sharon R. Steadman, T. Emre Şerifoğlu, Gregory McMahon, Stephanie Selover, Laurel D. Hackley, Burcu Yıldırım, Anthony J. Lauricella, Benjamin S. Arbuckle, Sarah E. Adcock, Katie Tardio, Emrah Dinç, and Marica Cassis

Abstract

The Çadır Höyük mound is located in the Yozgat Province, approximately 16 km from the modern town of Sorgun. The site has been under excavation by members of the present team since 1994, following an intensive surface survey in 1993. The earliest documented occupation of the mound dates to 5200 cal. BC; the site was abandoned at some point in the 12th-13th centuries CE. Since 2012 the Çadır team has investigated virtually every period represented on the site, from the Late Chalcolithic through the Byzantine periods. The 2015 and 2016 seasons of work, the focus of the present article, continued this trend of complete coverage, with particular focus on the prehistoric (Late Chalcolithic) and Byzantine occupation. The second and first millennia BCE were also investigated, and an overview of some of these results are offered here. The last two seasons have been particularly helpful in allowing us to carefully phase the Late Chalcolithic town, which has manifested into an “upper” and “lower” component. The settlement phases demonstrate a changing strategy of town planning over the course of the fourth millennium. These two seasons have also yielded substantial results in our Byzantine occupation, allowing a better understanding of the architecture associated with the defensive wall that rings the mound summit, and insight into the occupation of the site in the centuries spanning the early second millennium CE.

INTRODUCTION

The 2015 and 2016 seasons at Çadır Höyük,¹ in the Yozgat Province (Fig. 1), were the largest and most robust carried out thus far. Each season featured over 35 researchers and up

¹ Sharon Steadman (SUNY Cortland) and Gregory McMahon (University of New Hampshire) serve as co-directors of the project; Emre Şerifoğlu (Bitlis Eren University), Marica Cassis (Memorial University, Newfoundland) and Benjamin Arbuckle (University of North Carolina) serve as Assistant Directors; Anthony Lauricella (University of Chicago), Stephanie Selover (University of Washington), Laurel Hackley (Brown University), Burcu Yıldırım (METU), and Emrah Dinç (Bilkent University) are valued area supervisors; Sarah Adcock (University of Chicago) and Katie Tardio (University of North Carolina) serve as project archaeozoologists. We thank the Turkish Kültür Varlıkları ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü, and Mahmut Aygat and Adem Bedir, our representatives in the 2015 and 2016 seasons, for their invaluable aid during these seasons of work. We also thank Hasan Şenyurt, Director of the Yozgat Museum, for his constant support of our project. In addition to the authors, our excellent core team includes Jennifer Ross (Hood College) Associate Director; Jeffrey Geyer (Hood College) lithics; Madelynn von Baeyer (University of Connecticut) archaeoethnobotany; Yağmur Heffron, West Slope operations; and Soran Avcil, Conservation. In the 2015-2016 seasons additional Çadır core team members included Johanna Vroom (Leiden University), Byzantine ceramics, and Stefano Spagni, metals analysis. Other valuable team members during

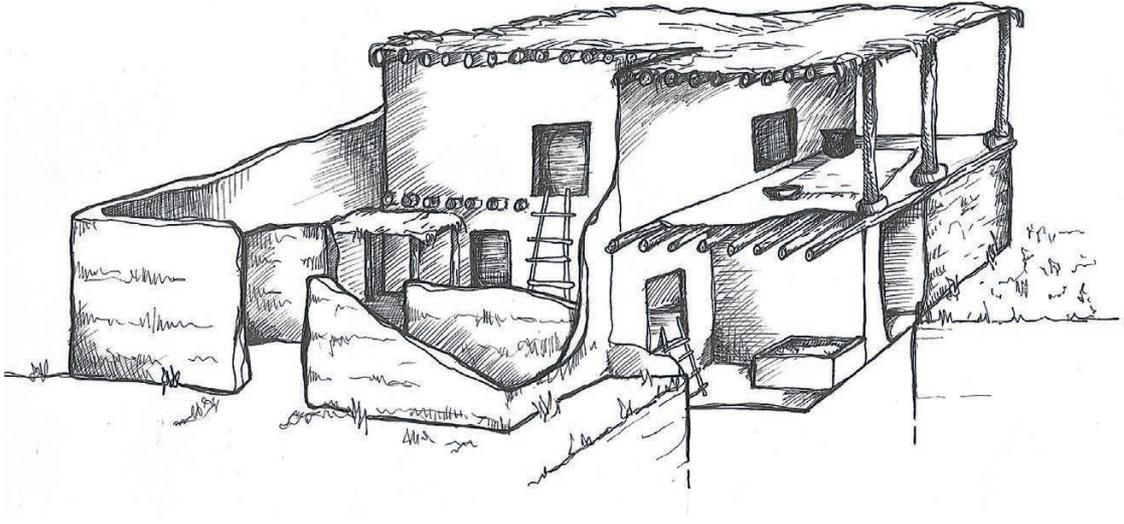


Fig. 3. Artistic rendering of what the Agglutinated architecture may have looked like (Laurel D. Hackley).

walls are maintained throughout the life of the Agglutinated structure, they are interrupted and overbuilt on the south by the stone enclosure wall LSS 5, F94, indicating a stratigraphic end-date for the use of the complex.

To the west of this courtyard is a narrow corridor or forecourt (L113 in LSS 5) running the length of the structure (ca. 2×6 m). The original function of this space is not entirely understood as it has not been excavated to its lowest levels; however, in later iterations, it serves as an intermediary zone between the Agglutinated structure and a north-south street to the west. Very little pottery has been recovered from this forecourt area. Evidence from later phases suggests that the entrance to the complex (F106, LSS 5) was located in the wall between this forecourt/anteroom and the western street, and no other entrance has been identified for any period.

The Exterior Courtyard itself (ca. 4.20×6 m), which has also not been excavated to its lowest levels, has nevertheless provided evidence for at least two, if not more, episodes of destructive fires, probably starting from the large hearth or oven, described more fully in the Subphase 2 section below. Fires emanating from this feature may have been the impetus for at least some of the remodeling of the Agglutinated complex.

The large courtyard abuts a smaller space on its southeastern corner (labeled “Courtyard” on Fig. 2), which appears to have been an inner courtyard (ca. 2×3 m) allowing entrance to the other rooms of the structure. Three small (ca. 2×3 m) rooms (Rooms 1, 2, and 3) run along the south side of the complex, and are well preserved despite being eroded away on the south, at the edge of the mound. Room 4, near the northern extent of trench SES 1, is largely overbuilt by a later stone wall (SES 1, F168, F177) that has been left in place in order to preserve the stability of the northern baulk. Room 4, therefore, has not been fully excavated. The eastern side of the complex has been disturbed by later construction (SES 1, F123 and F109), which interrupts rooms 5 and 6, spaces that belong to the Agglutinated complex but are otherwise not securely phased.