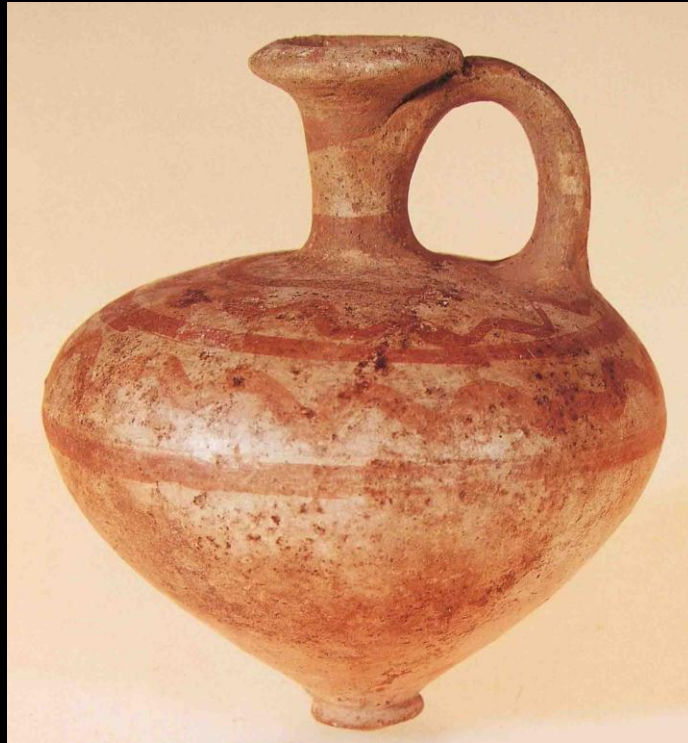


# THE SECOND INTERMEDIATE PERIOD



The Hyksos

# A Note on Chronology

1785

EGYPT

1750

DYNASTY

XIII

(27 RULERS)

NORTHERN AND  
MIDDLE EGYPT

MIDDLE AND  
SOUTHERN EGYPT

1700

REGIONAL PHAROAHS  
OF EGYPTIAN  
ORIGIN  
AND EARLY  
HYKSOS RULERS

DYNASTY

XIII

(ABOUT 40 RULERS)

1650

?

DYNASTY

XV

(4 RULERS)

1600

DYNASTY

XVII

(12 RULERS)

'Aweserre  
Apopi

Kamose

1550

Khamudy

Ahmose

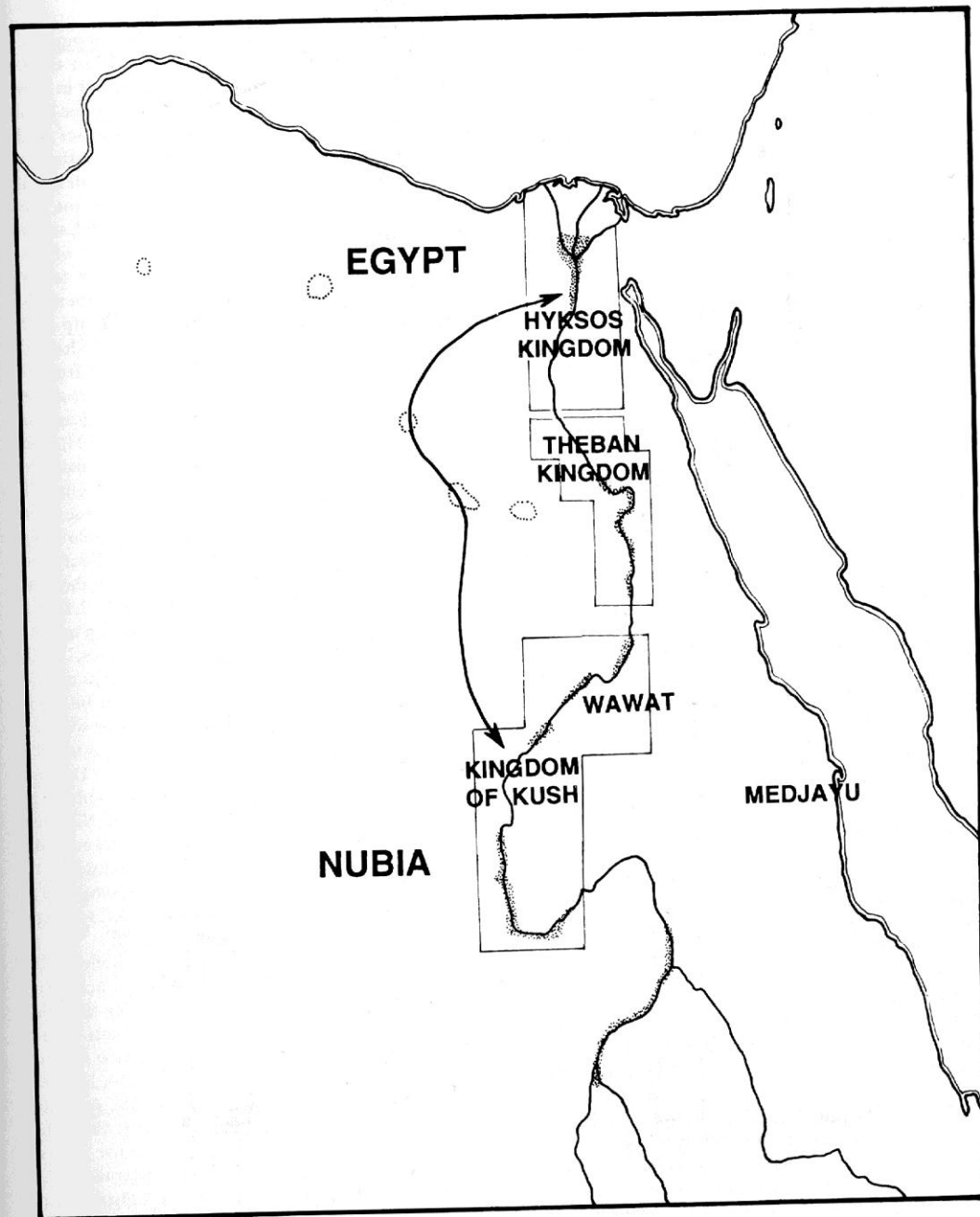


Figure 2.2 The geopolitical situation along the Egyptian and Nubian Nile in the Hyksos Period. Drawing: William Pabst.

# Sources for Second Intermediate Period History

## Written:

### Contemporary

- royal building inscriptions
- private tomb inscriptions
- literary and other papyri
- scarabs
- personal names

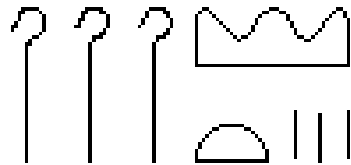
### Later

- early 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty accounts of wars of reunification
- king lists, especially Turin Canon

## Archaeological:

- ceramics from throughout Egypt
- Avaris and other Delta sites
- Theban tombs of kings

Hyksos = Hekau-khasut, 'rulers of foreign lands'



. . . unexpectedly, from the regions of the East, invaders of obscure race marched in confidence of victory against our land. By main force they easily seized it without striking a blow; and having overpowered the rulers of the land, they then burned our cities ruthlessly, razed to the ground the temples of the gods, and treated all the natives with a cruel hostility, massacring some and leading into slavery the wives and children of others. Finally, they appointed as king one of their number whose name was Salitis. He had his seat at

Manetho's account  
of the beginning of  
the Hyksos rule- as  
quoted by Josephus

Memphis, levying tribute from Upper and Lower Egypt, and always leaving garrisons behind in the most advantageous positions. . . . In the Saite (Sethroite) nome he founded a city very favorably situated on the east of the Bubastite branch of the Nile, and called Auaris after an ancient religious tradition.<sup>47</sup>

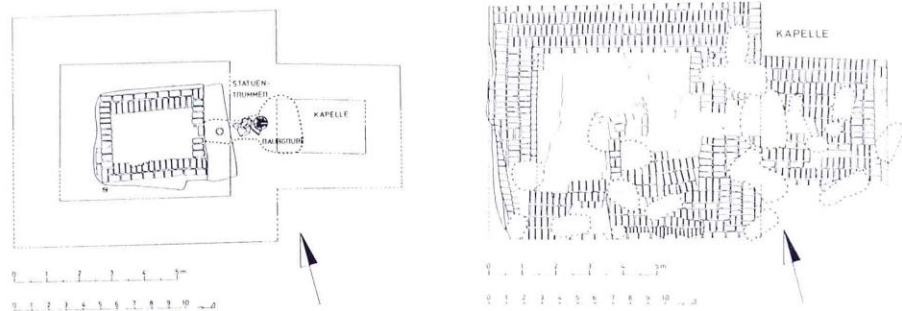


Fig. 16 Tomb F/I-p/19-no. 1, with a chapel in front of a nearly square superstructure.

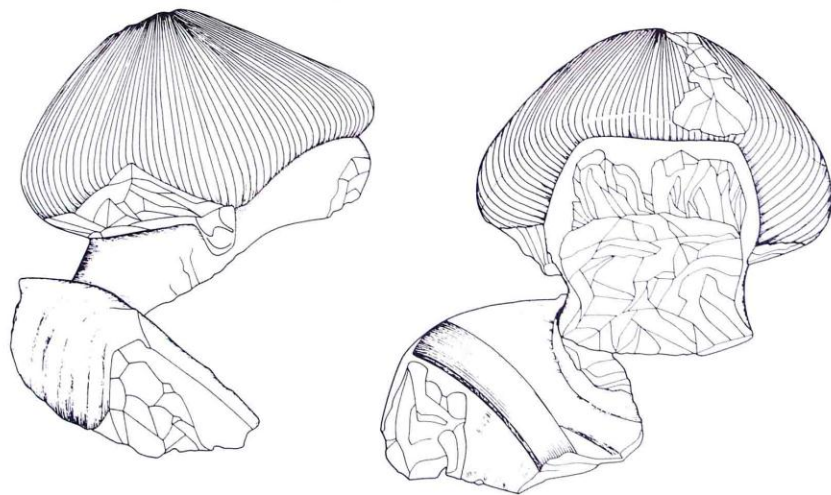


Fig. 17 Fragmentary remains of a colossal seated statue of an Asiatic dignitary.



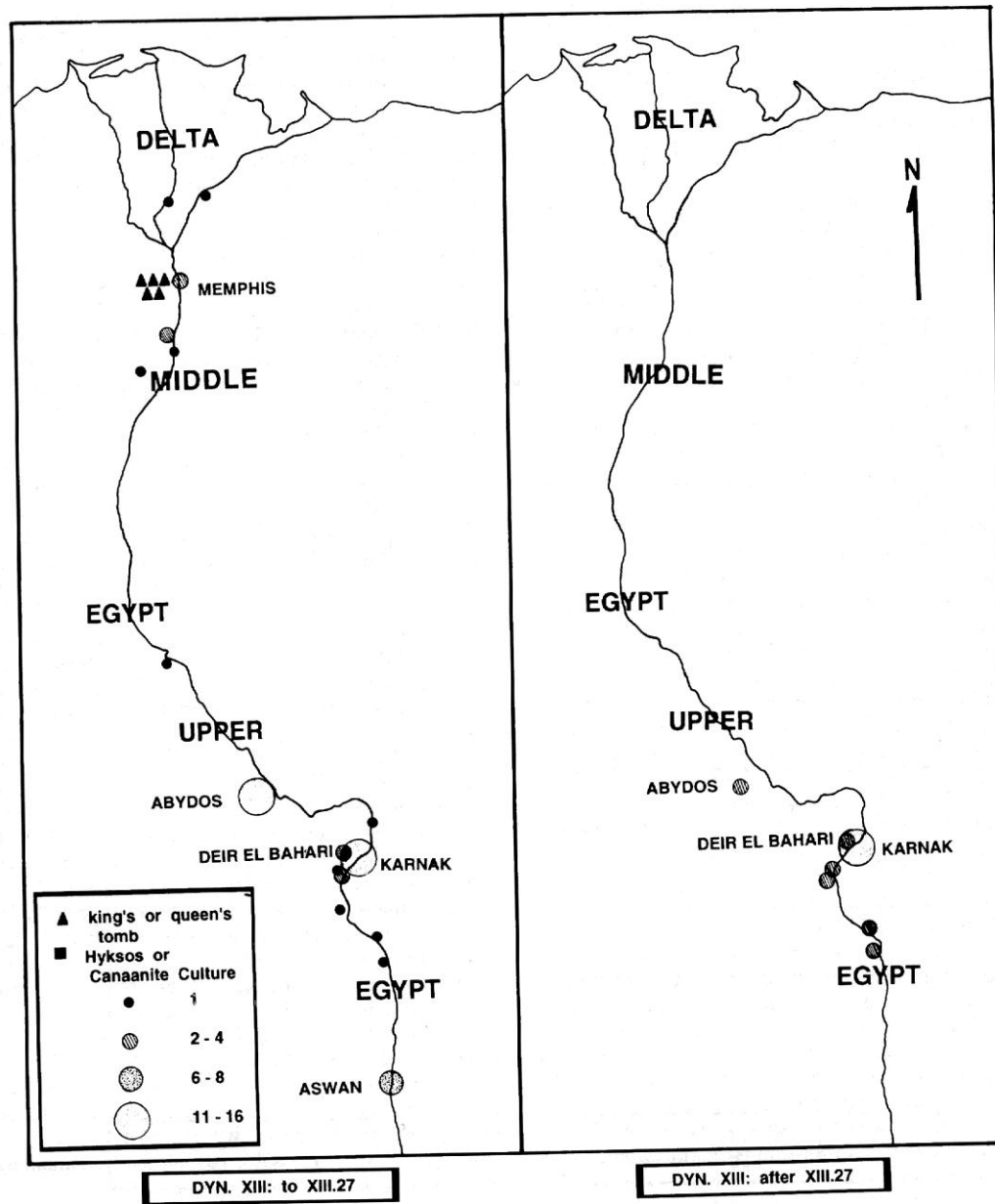


Figure 2.3 Distribution of datable royal monuments, inscriptions, and significant artifacts of the Thirteenth Dynasty. The circles correlate to the number of such items actually recorded at each site. Drawing: William Pabst.



# Dynasty 14:

Yaqub-Har

Aperanat

Nehesy

Merdjefare

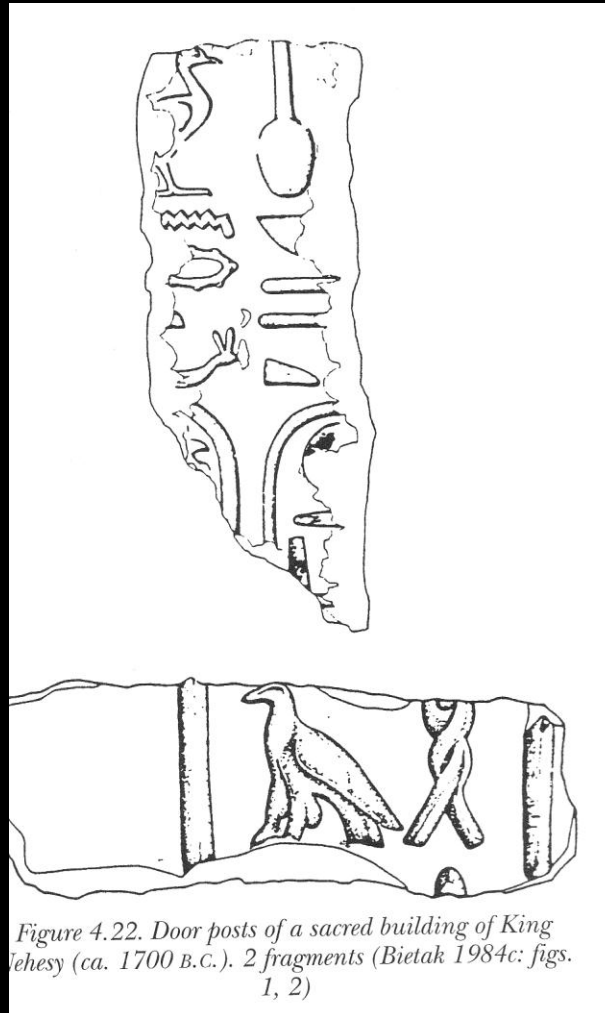


Figure 4.22. Door posts of a sacred building of King Nehesy (ca. 1700 B.C.). 2 fragments (Bietak 1984c: figs. 1, 2)



Scarabs in the 13<sup>th</sup> Dynasty and Second Intermediate Period sometimes have titles.

Royal name scarabs are particularly problematic but have been given great weight for reconstructing the history of the period



# Dynasty 15:

Salitis

Names unclear: represented only by scarabs

Beon

Sakir-Har : attested on one door jamb

Khayan

Very well attested (comparatively)

Apepi

Khamudi

Perhaps a year date on Rhind Papyrus?







## Offering table inscription, Avaris

“Horus: pacifier-of-the-two-lands, the perfect god, ‘Akenenre, may he live! This is what he made as his monument for his father [Seth], lord of Avaris, affixing his flag-staves, that he might make ‘given-life’ like Re forever.”



# Kamose Stelae

“I put in at Per-djedken, my heart happy, so that I might let Apepi experience a bad time, that Syrian prince with weak arms, who conceives brave things which never come about for him!”

“I captured his [Apepi’s] messenger in the oasis upland, as he was going south to Kush with a written dispatch, and I found on it the following, in writing by the hand of the Ruler of Avaris:

Aa-user-re, son of Re, Apepi greets my son the ruler of Kush. Why have you arisen as ruler without letting me know? Do you see what Egypt has done to me? The Ruler which is in her midst- Kamose-the-mighty, given life!- is pushing me off my own land! I have not attacked him in any way ... come north! Do not hold back! ... Then we shall divide the towns of Egypt.”

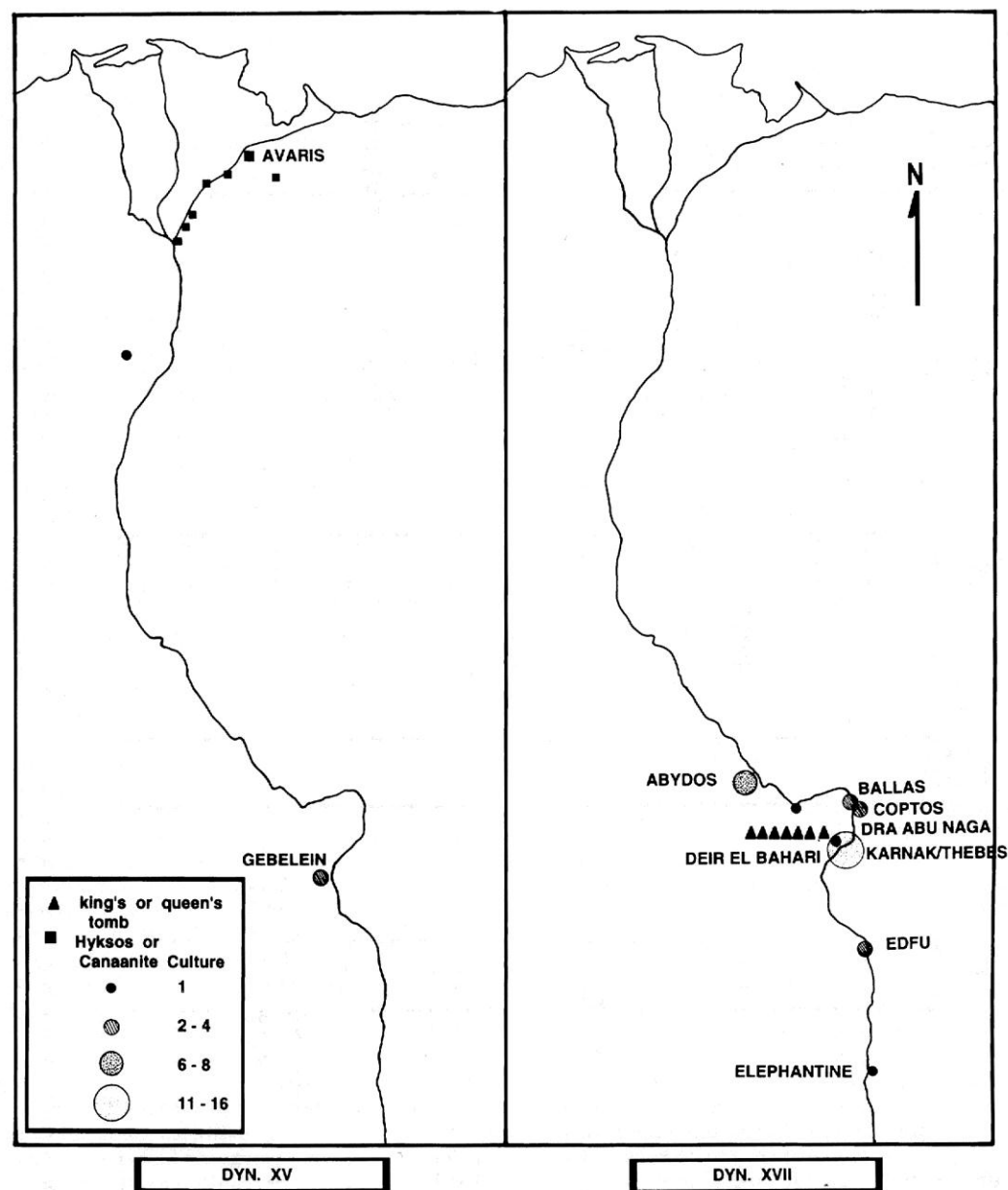


Figure 2.5 Distribution of datable royal monuments, inscriptions, and significant artifacts: Fifteenth and Seventeenth Dynasties. The circles correlate to the number of such items actually recorded at each site. For the Fifteenth Dynasty, in the Delta, sites with a distinctly Canaanite flavor in their material culture, rather than specific items, are given. Drawing: William Pabst.



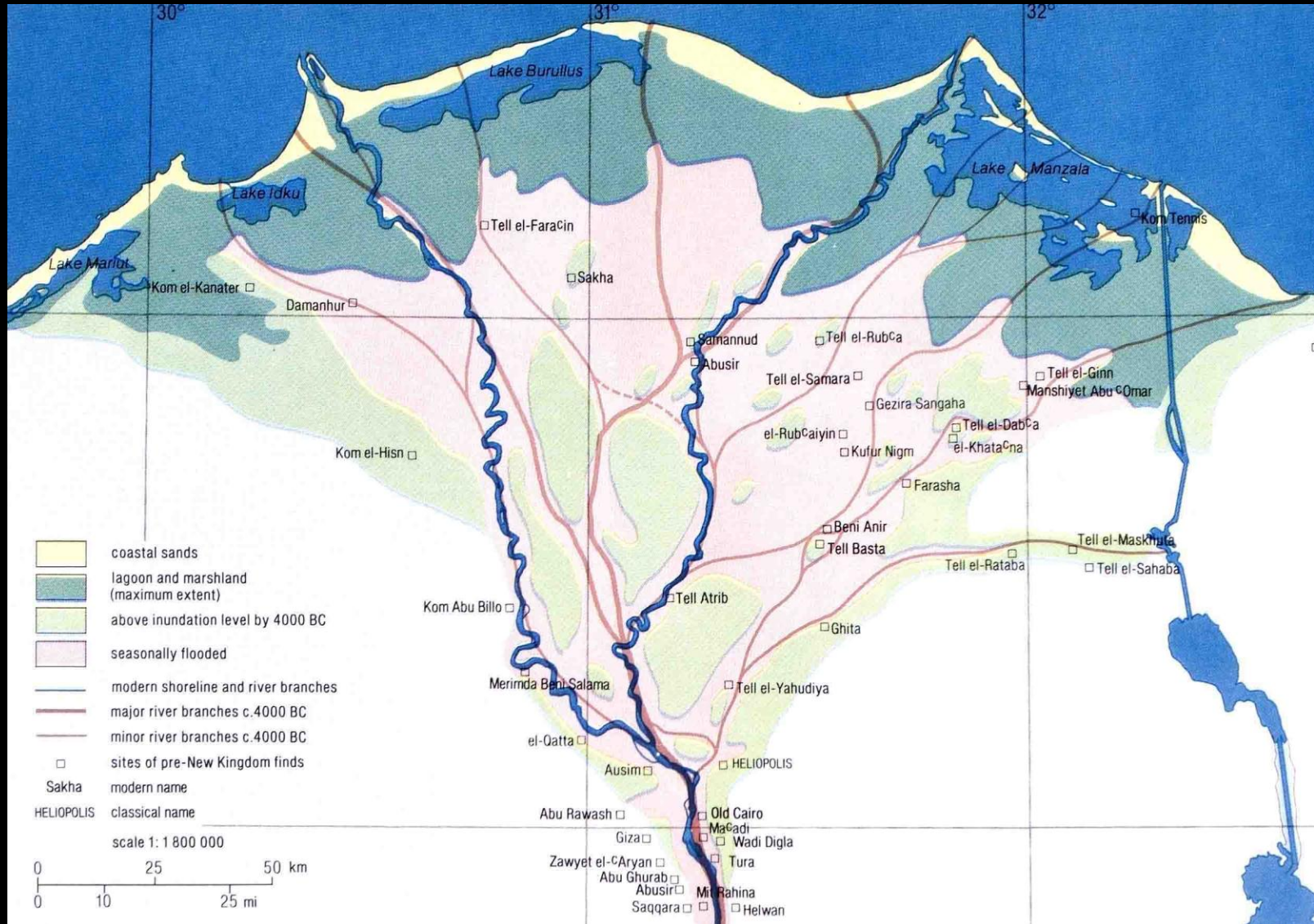


“See, [Apepi] has  
Hermopolis! No one can be  
at ease when they are milked  
by the taxes of the Asiatics!

... Then spoke the  
magistrates of his council:  
‘See, as far as Cusae it is  
Asiatic water ... the interior  
is with us [the Thebans] as  
far as Cusae’”

-Kamose Stela II

# Avaris – Tell el-Dab'a



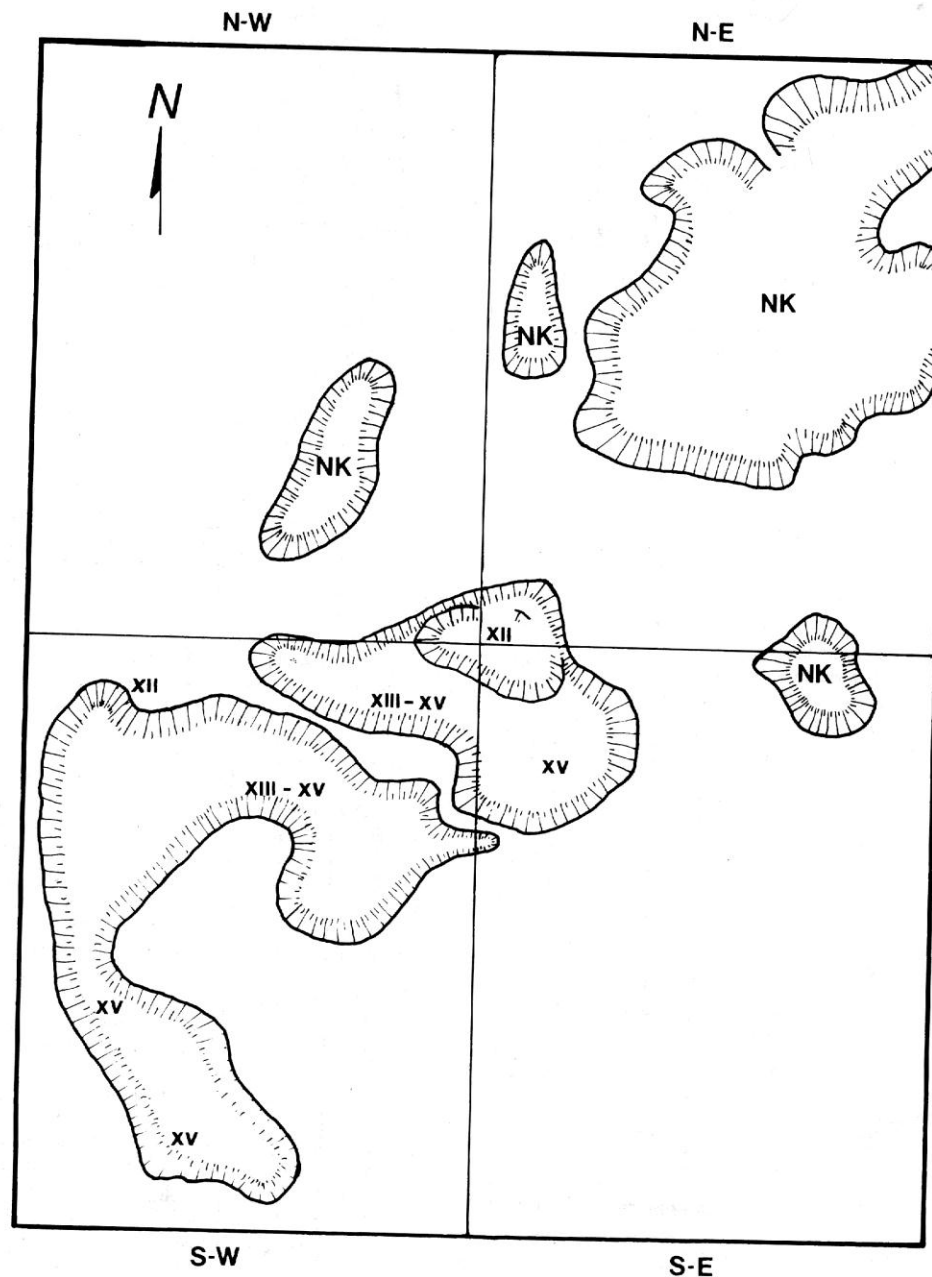
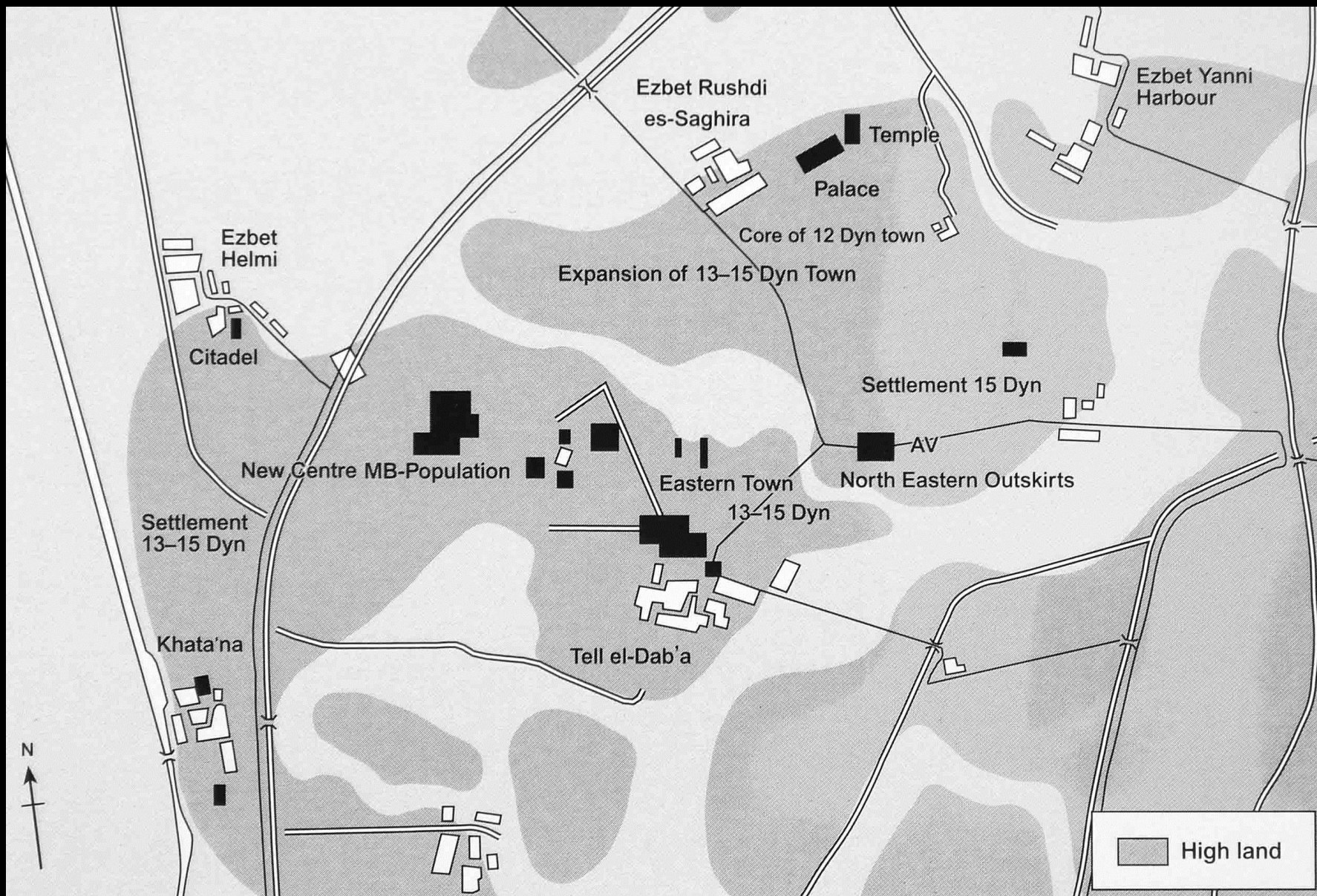
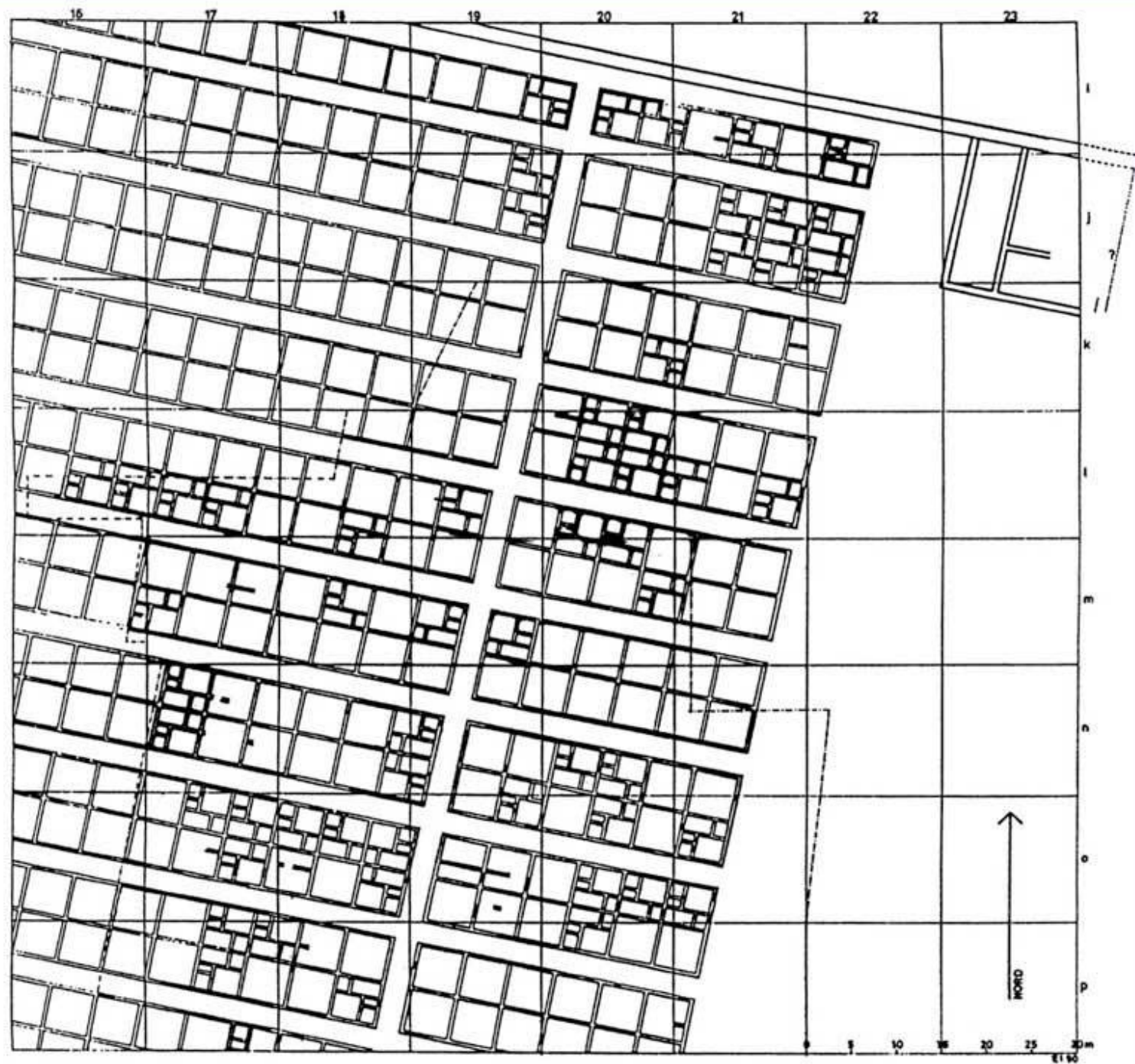


Figure 2.6 Simplified site plan of Tell el-Daba/Avaris and Pi-Ramesses/Qantir, showing the principal mounds or tells and indicating approximately the principal periods of occupation, indicated either by Dynasty (XII, XIII, XV) or as New Kingdom (NK). Drawing: William Pabst.



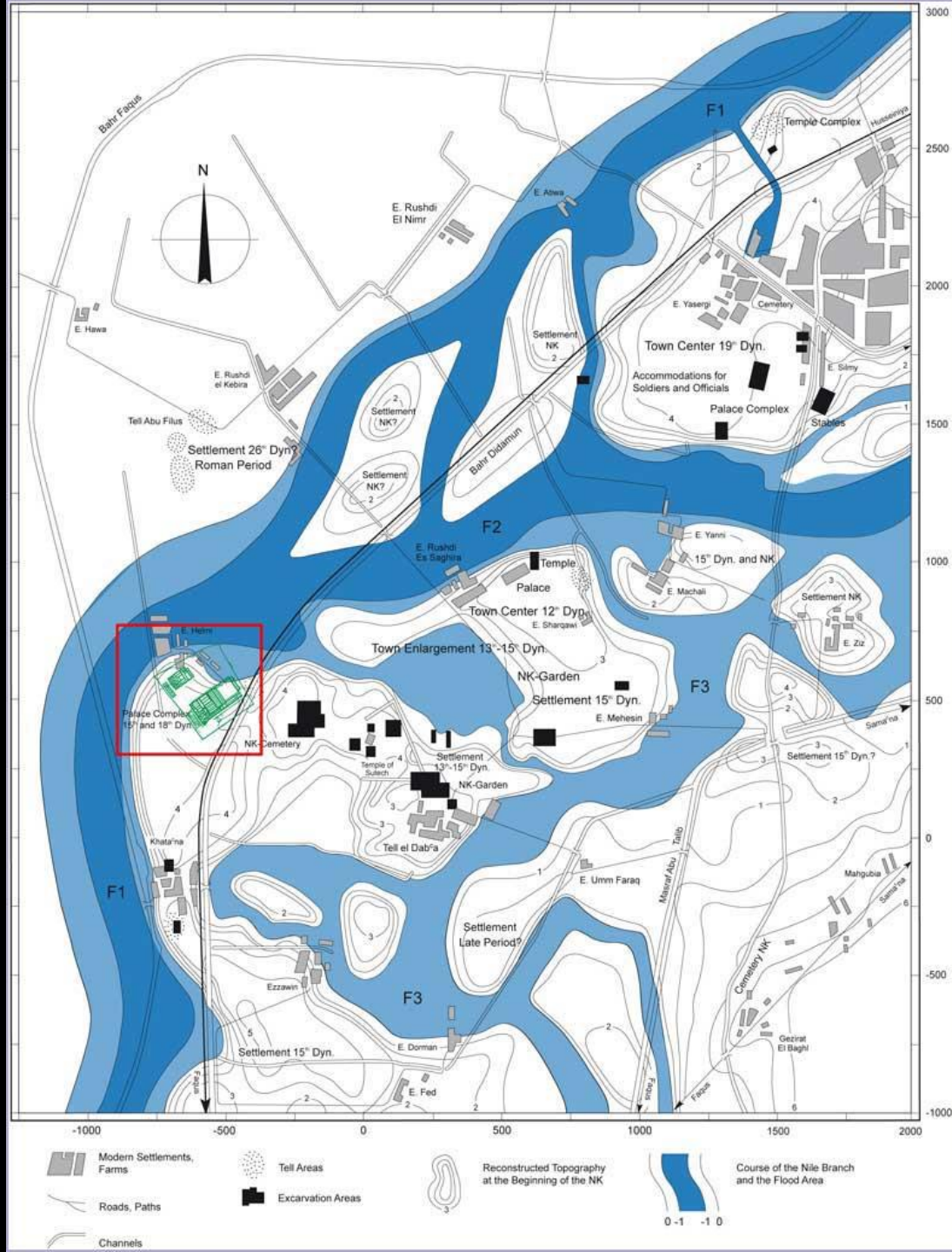






12<sup>th</sup> Dynasty back-to-back  
houses at Avaris



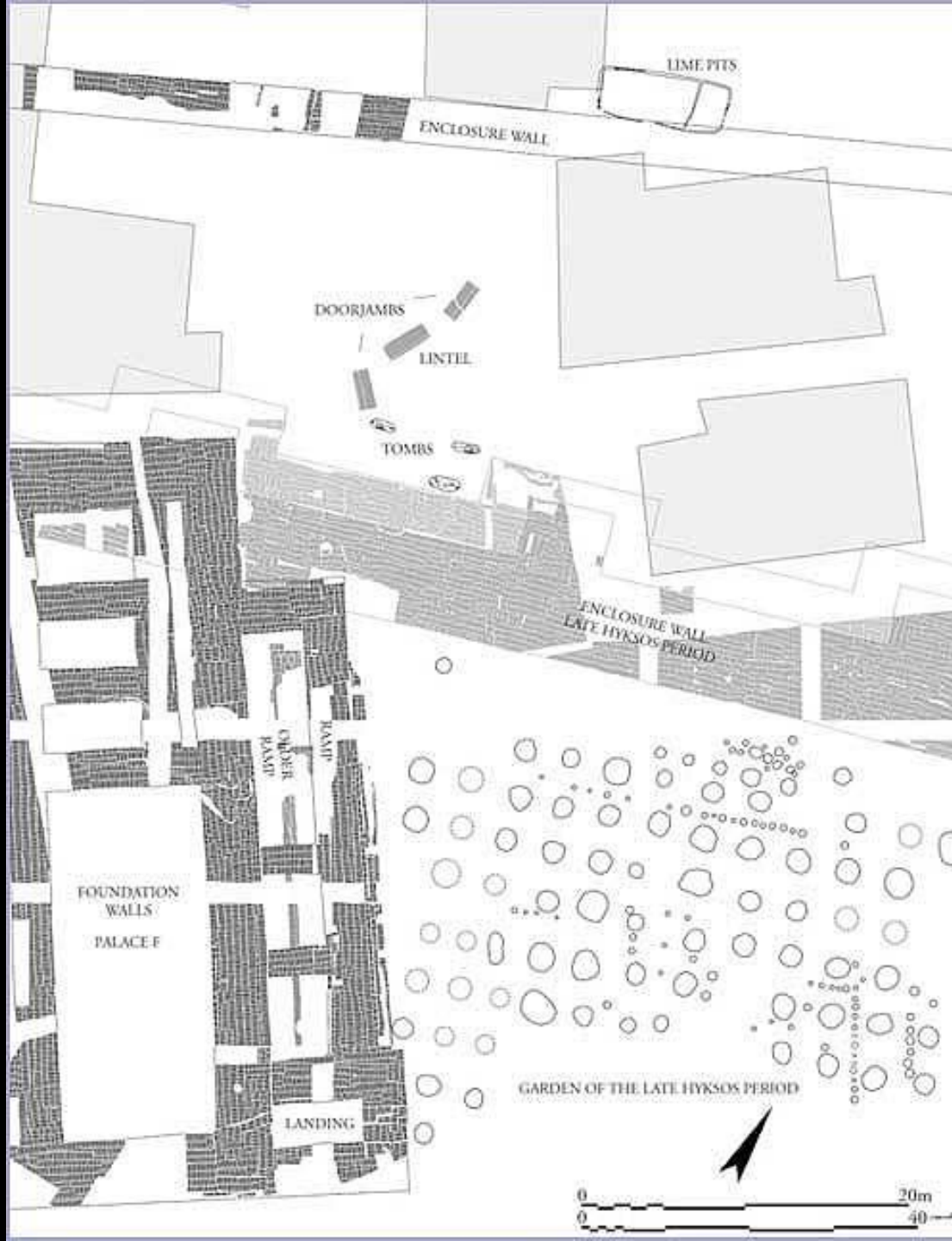




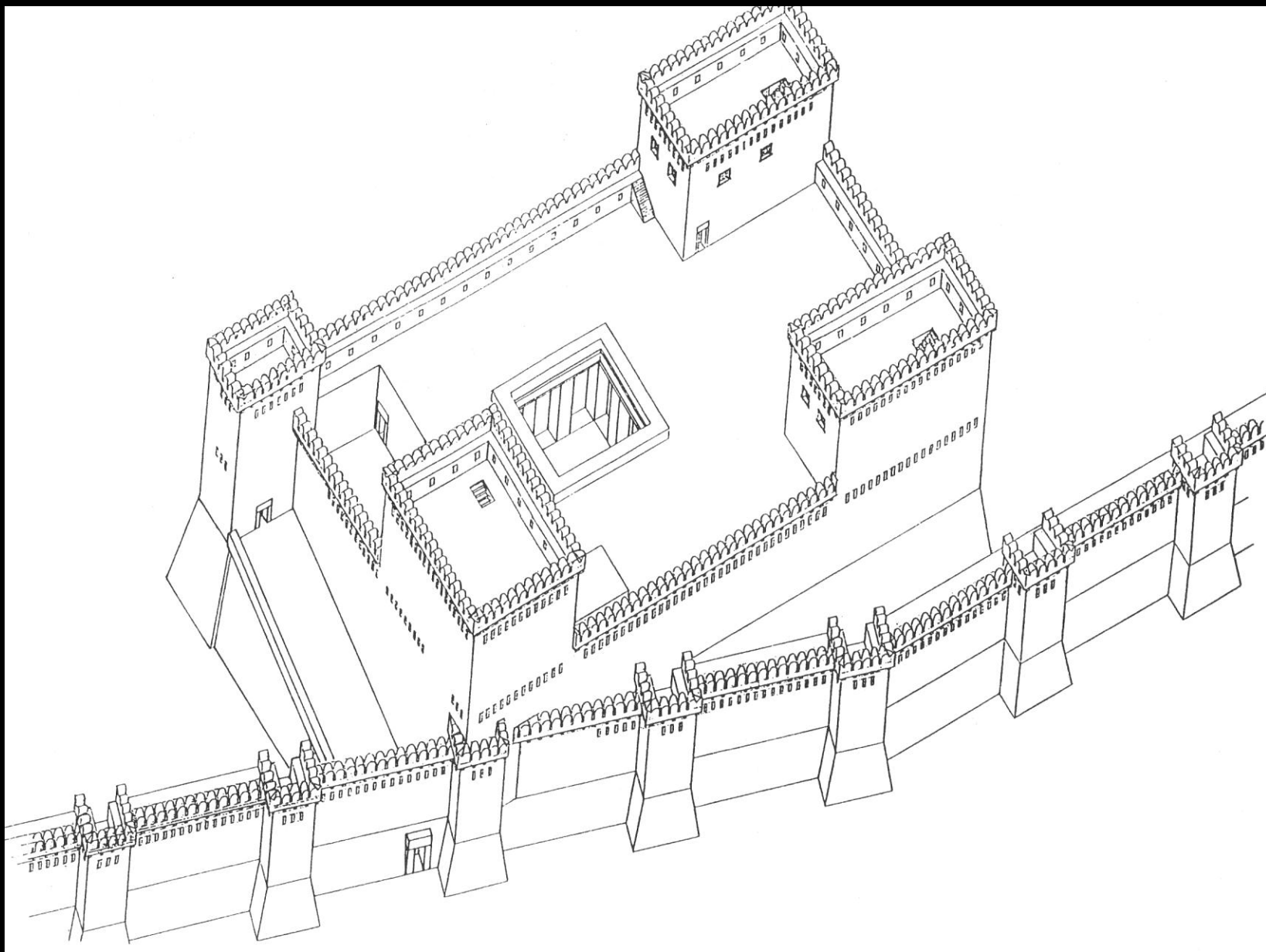


15<sup>th</sup> Dynasty palatial structure

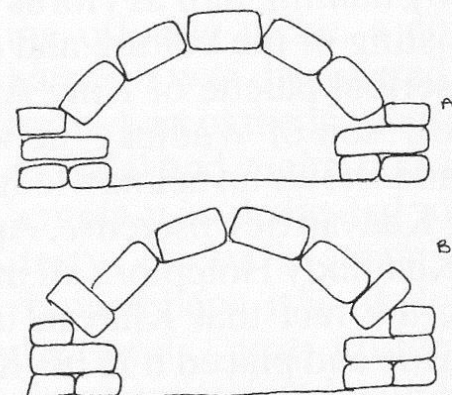
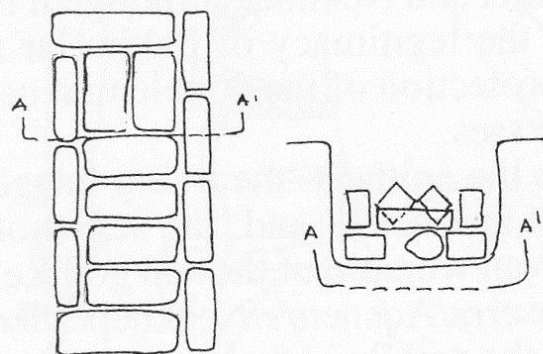
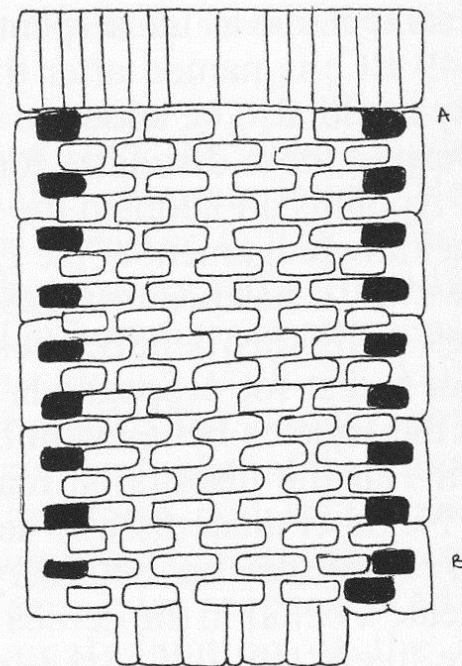
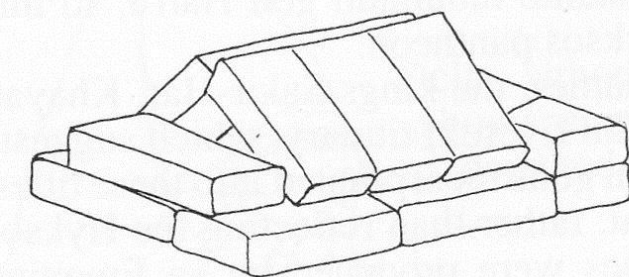




Avaris: 15<sup>th</sup> Dynasty  
palace, fortified wall  
and gardens







20. Three tomb designs of the Hyksos period. (Clockwise from top left) Superstructure of one tomb style – side view. Bird's-eye view of vaulted tomb with cross-sections of each end, marked A and B. Bird's-eye view of a brick tomb with cross-section (A) showing the position of the body under the roofing bricks. (Drawing by Charlotte Booth after Van den Brink, 1982)



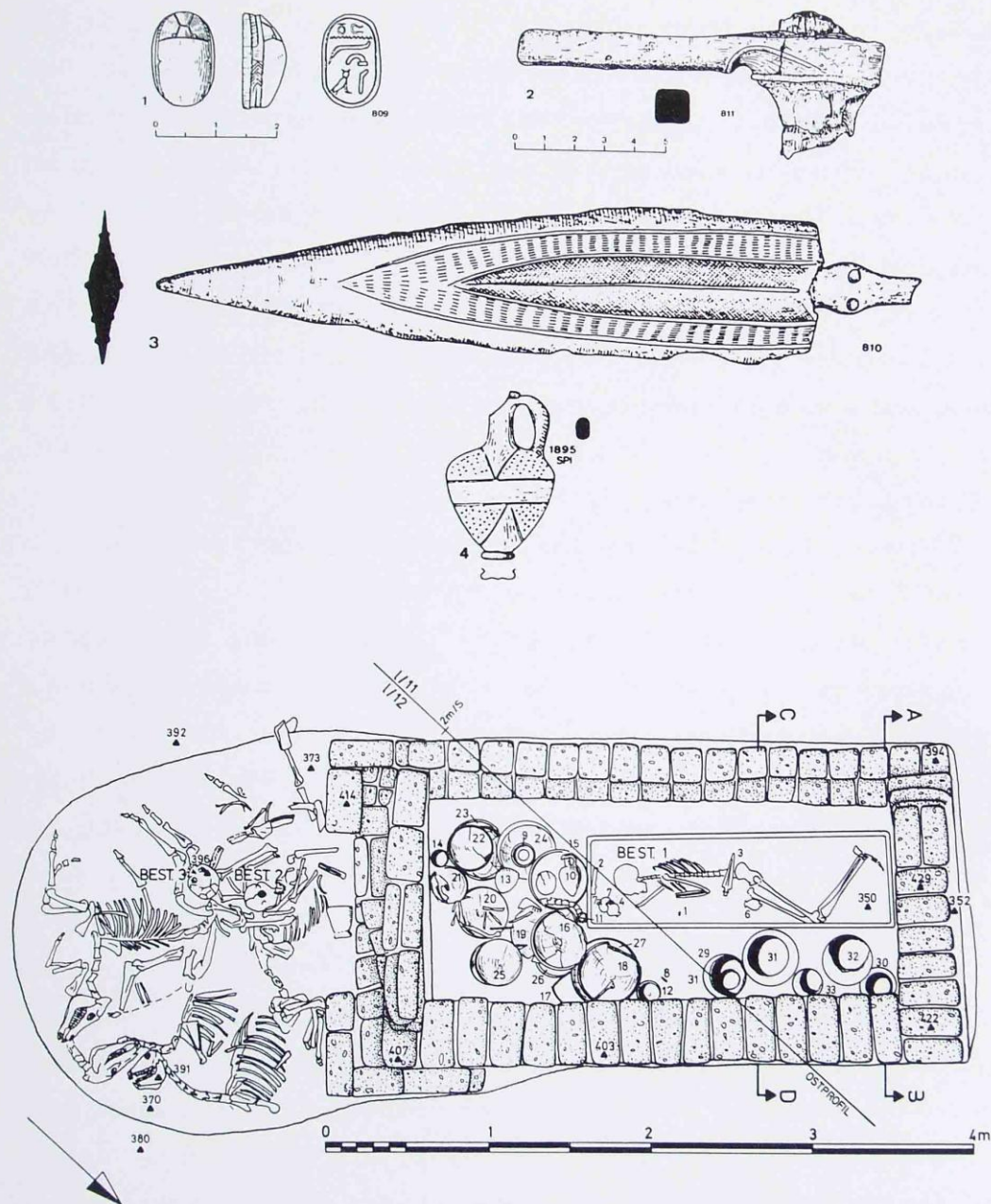
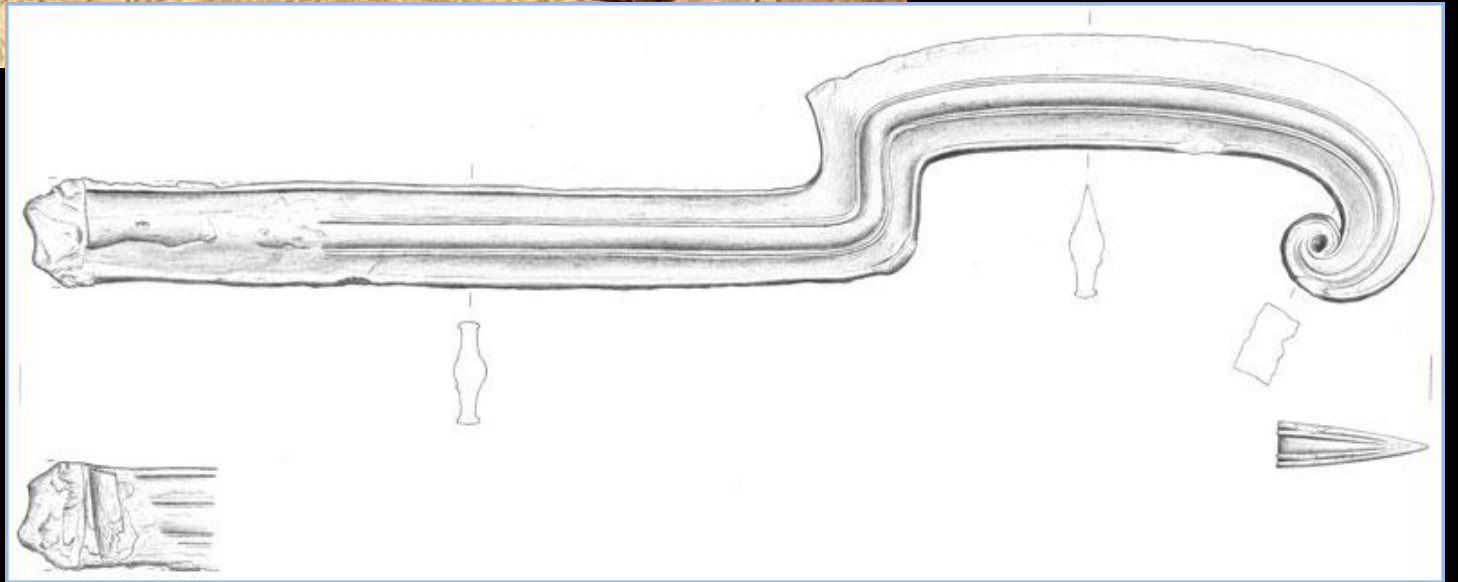


Fig. 35 Tomb A/II-I-no.5 of the deputy treasurer named 'Amu, 'the Asiatic'.











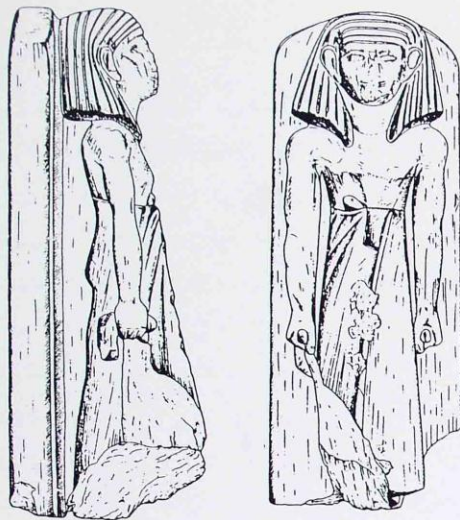


Fig. 23 Serpentine statuette of an official from palace tomb F/I-1/19-no. 1, stratum d/1 (reg. no. 5093).

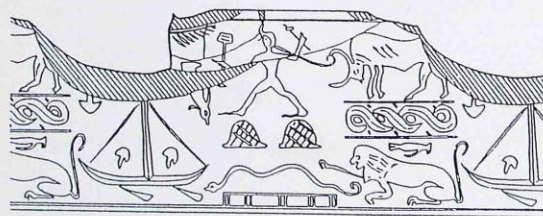


Fig. 25 Impression from cylinder seal depicting the north Syrian weather-god, found in the northern part of the palace of the early 13th Dynasty, stratum d/1 (reg. no. 2995).

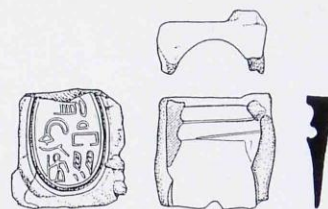


Fig. 24 Seal-impression of the treasurer of the King of Lower Egypt and chief steward named Aya from palace tomb F/I-m/18-no. 2, stratum d/1 (reg. no. 5696).

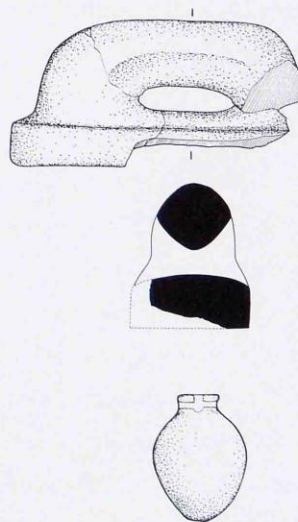
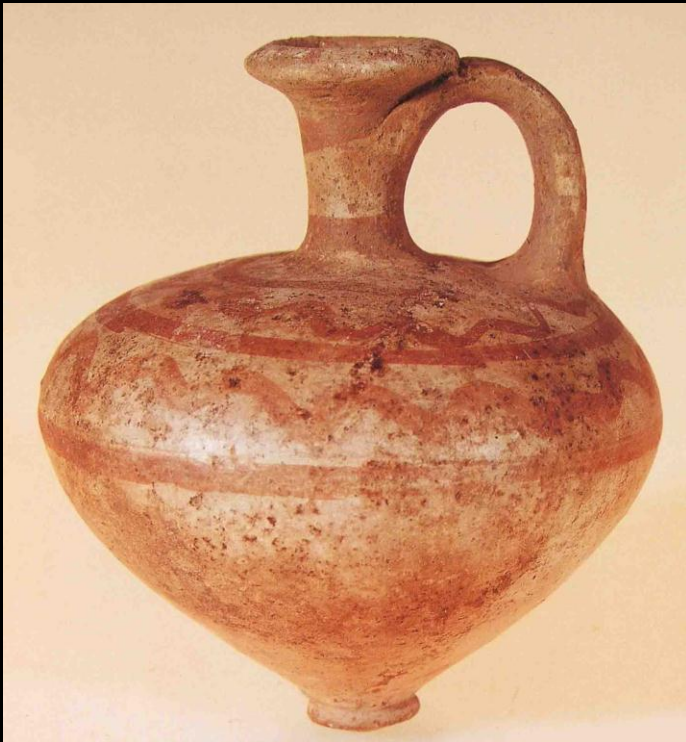


Fig. 26 Plumb-bob and stone float left in the courtyard of the palace by builders (reg. nos. 3117 and 3118).



Tell el-Yahudiyeh ware



“I haven’t left a plank to the hundreds of ships of fresh cedar which were filled with gold, lapis, silver, turquoise, bronze axes without number, over and above the moringa-oil, incense, fat, honey, willow, boxwood, sticks and all their fine woods- all the fine products of Retjenu- I have confiscated all of it!”

-Kamose Stela II