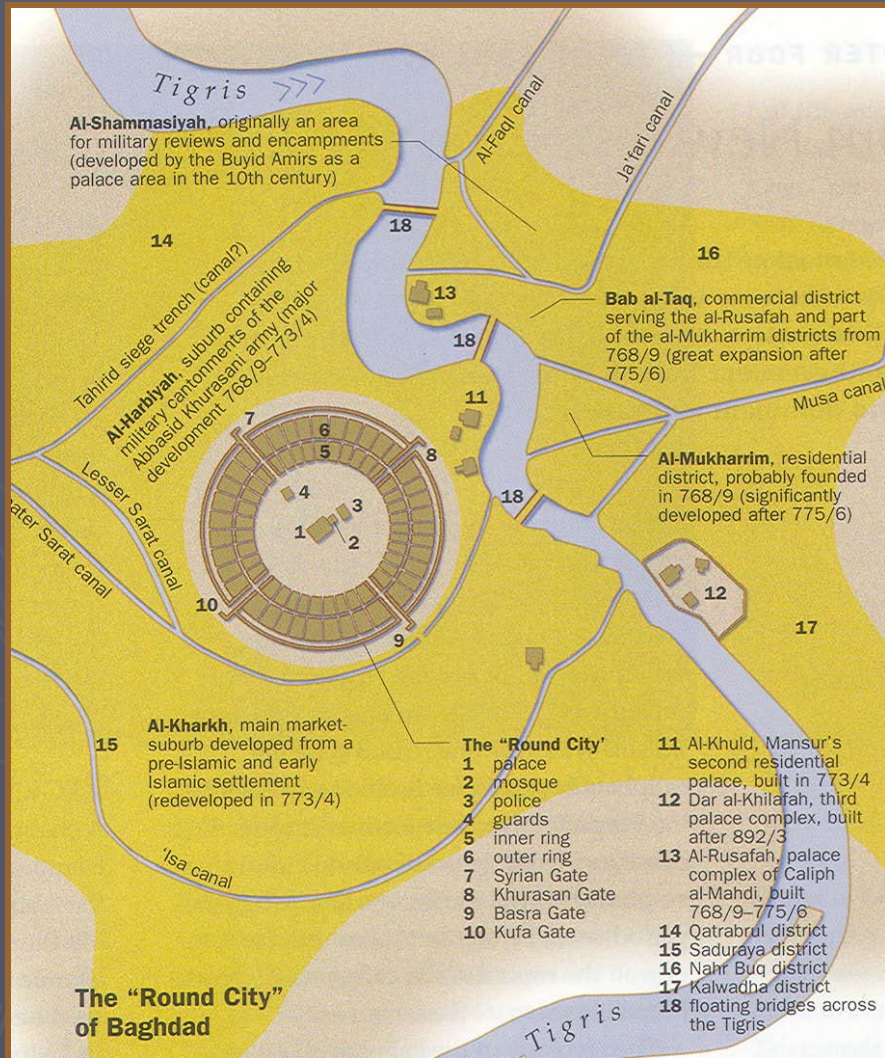


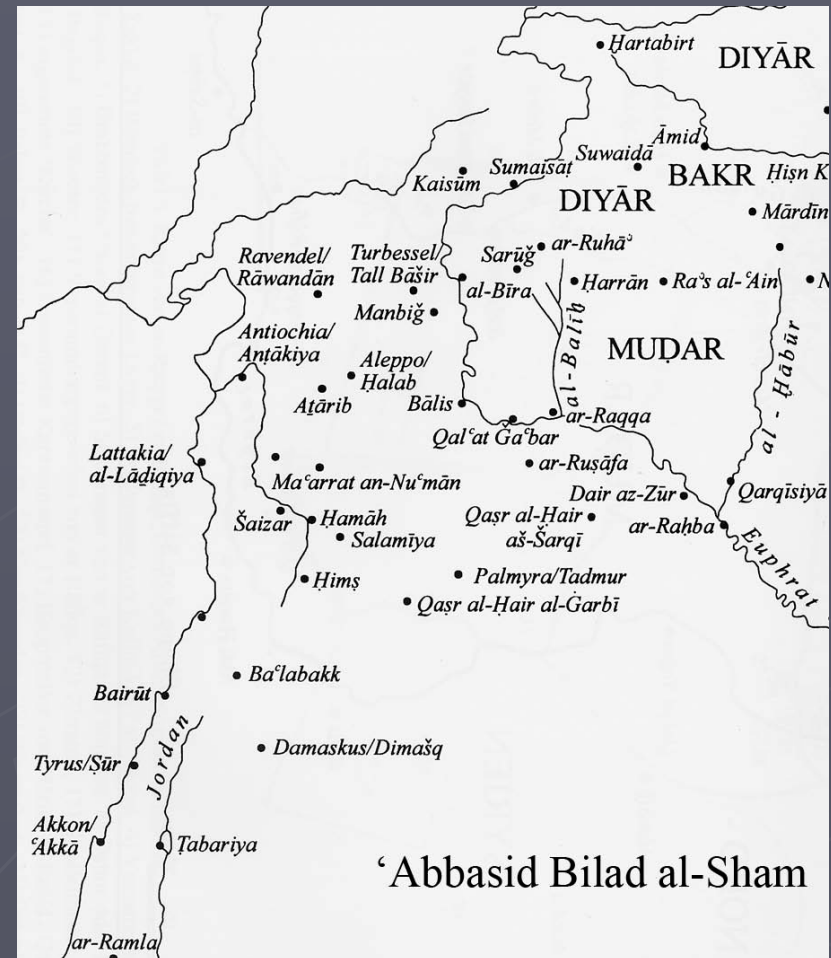
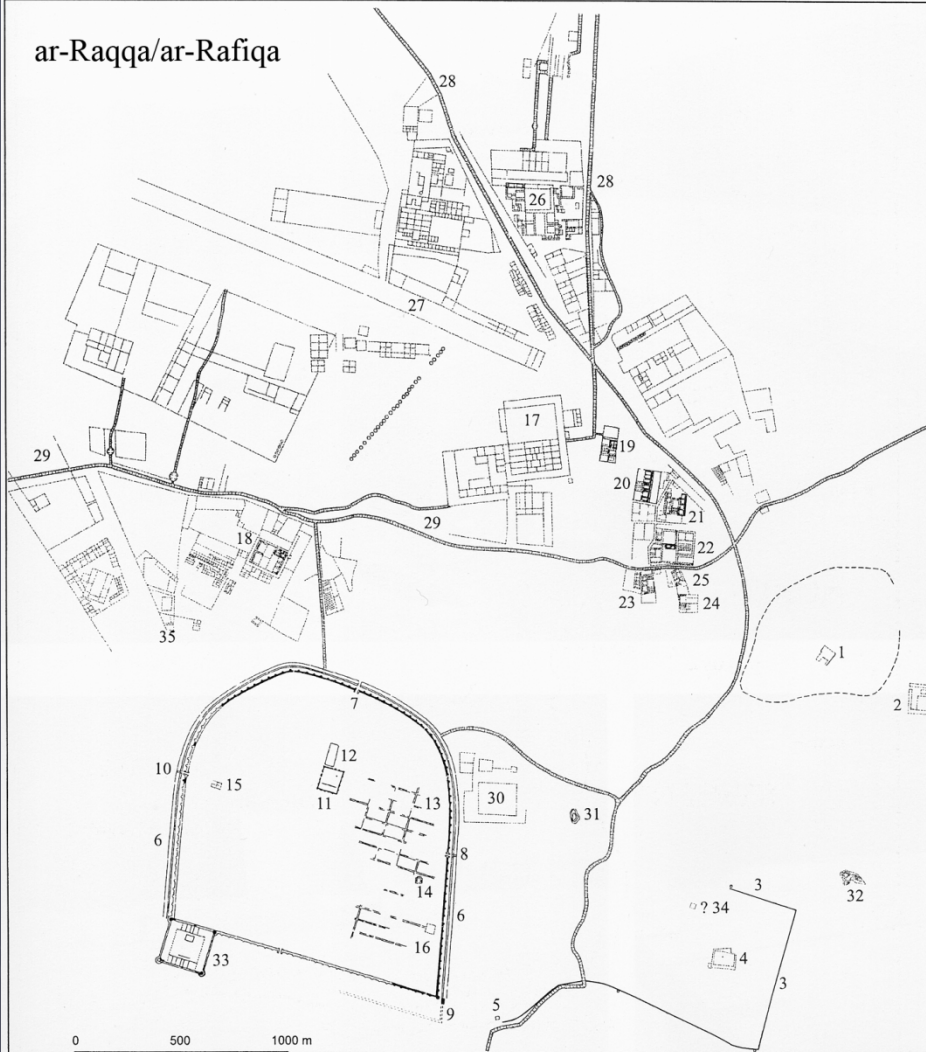
Baghdad, Samarra and the Topography of Royal Authority



Baghdad

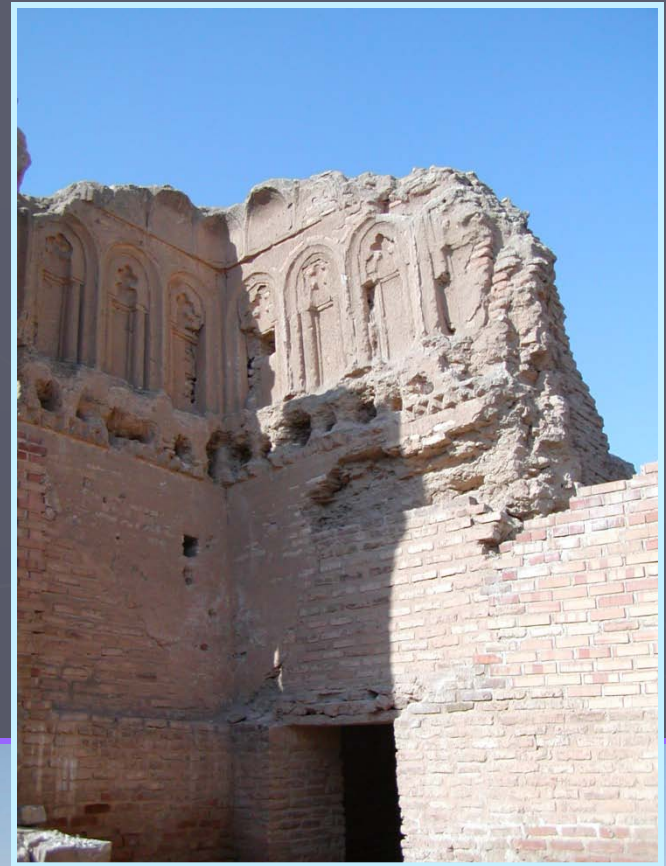


ar-Raqqa/ar-Rafiqa

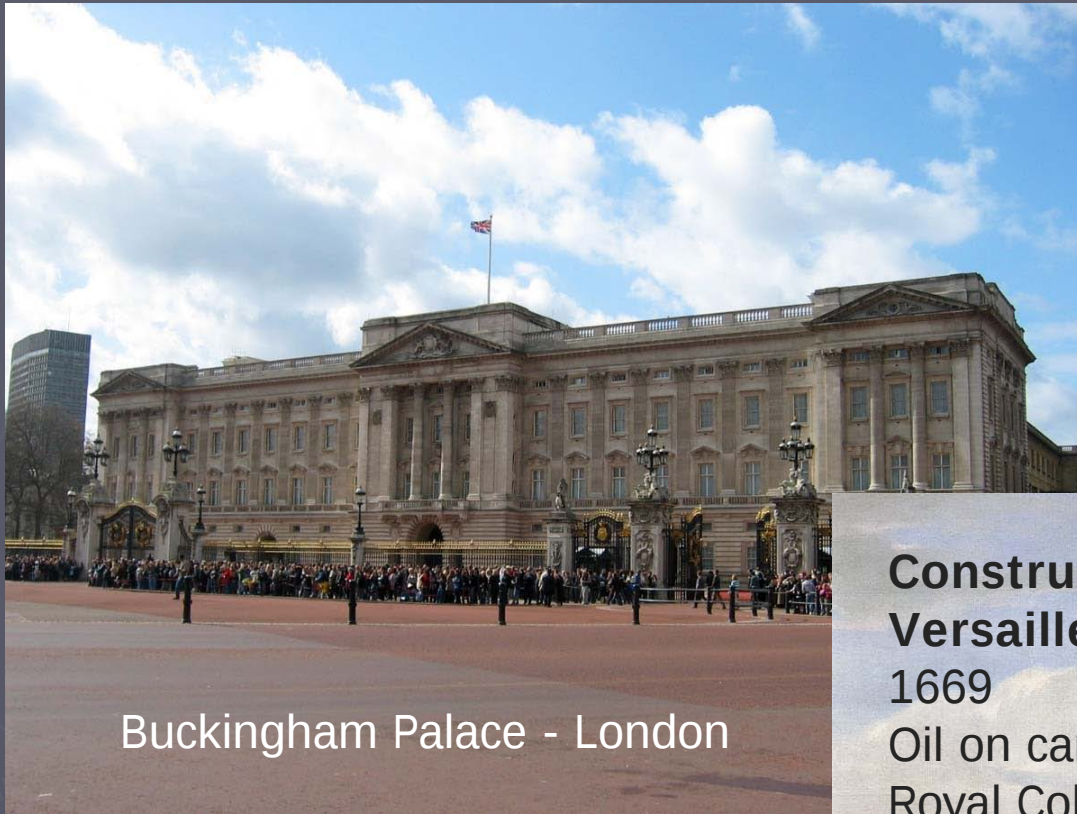


'Abbasid Bilad al-Sham

ar-Raqqa/ar-Rafiqa



Why Palaces?



Buckingham Palace - London

Construction of the Château de Versailles

1669

Oil on canvas, 103 x 138,5 cm

Royal Collection, London





\$ Mall of Arabia - Dubai



Remains of al-Askari mosque – Samarra, Iraq



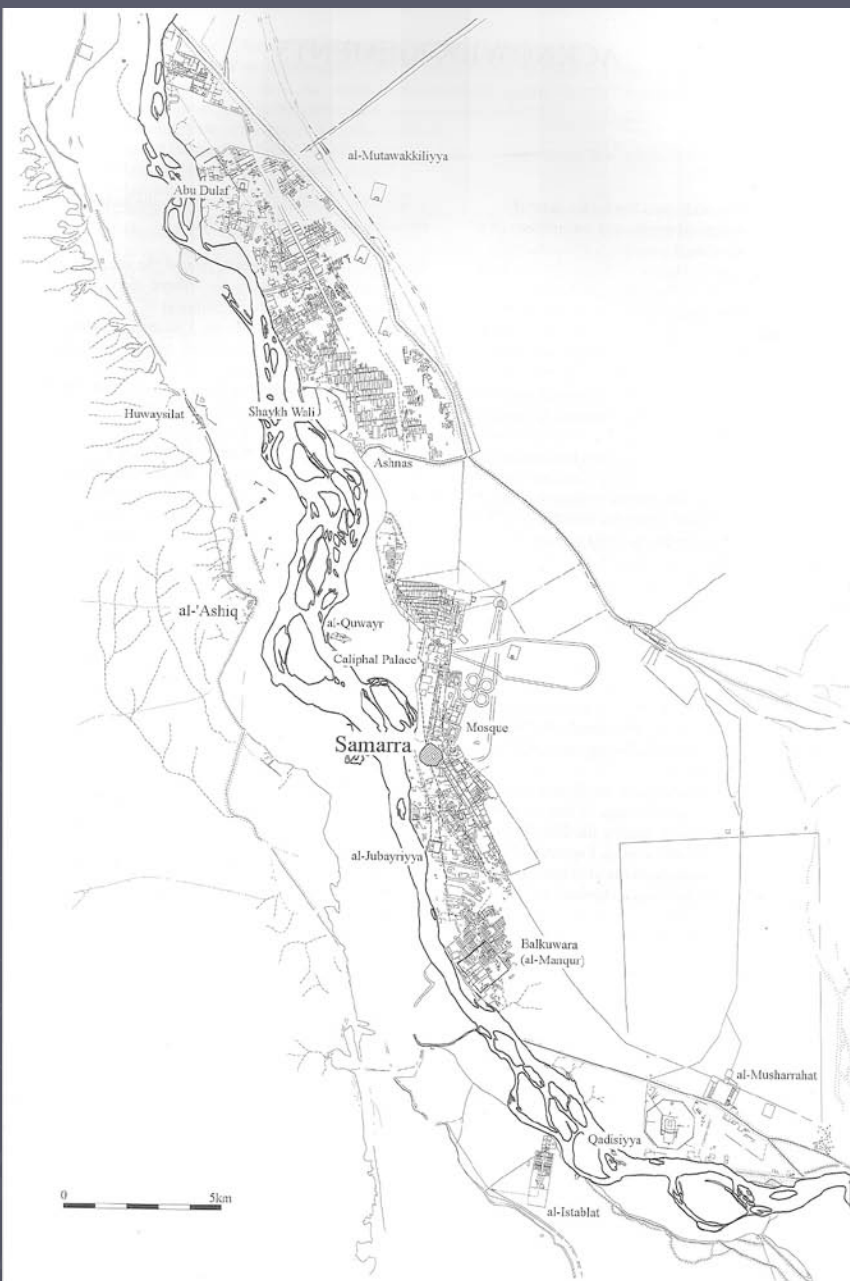
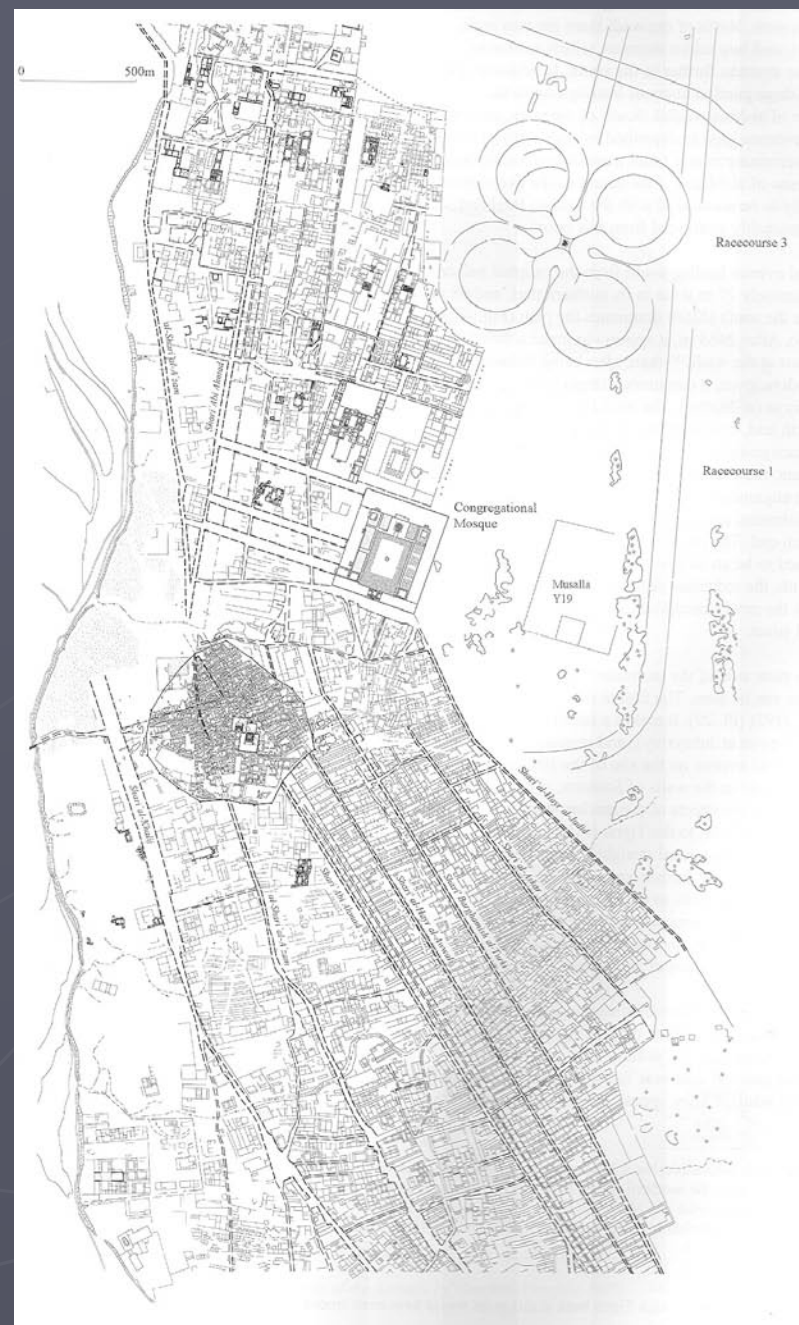


Fig. 2. Topography of the main site area of Samarra.

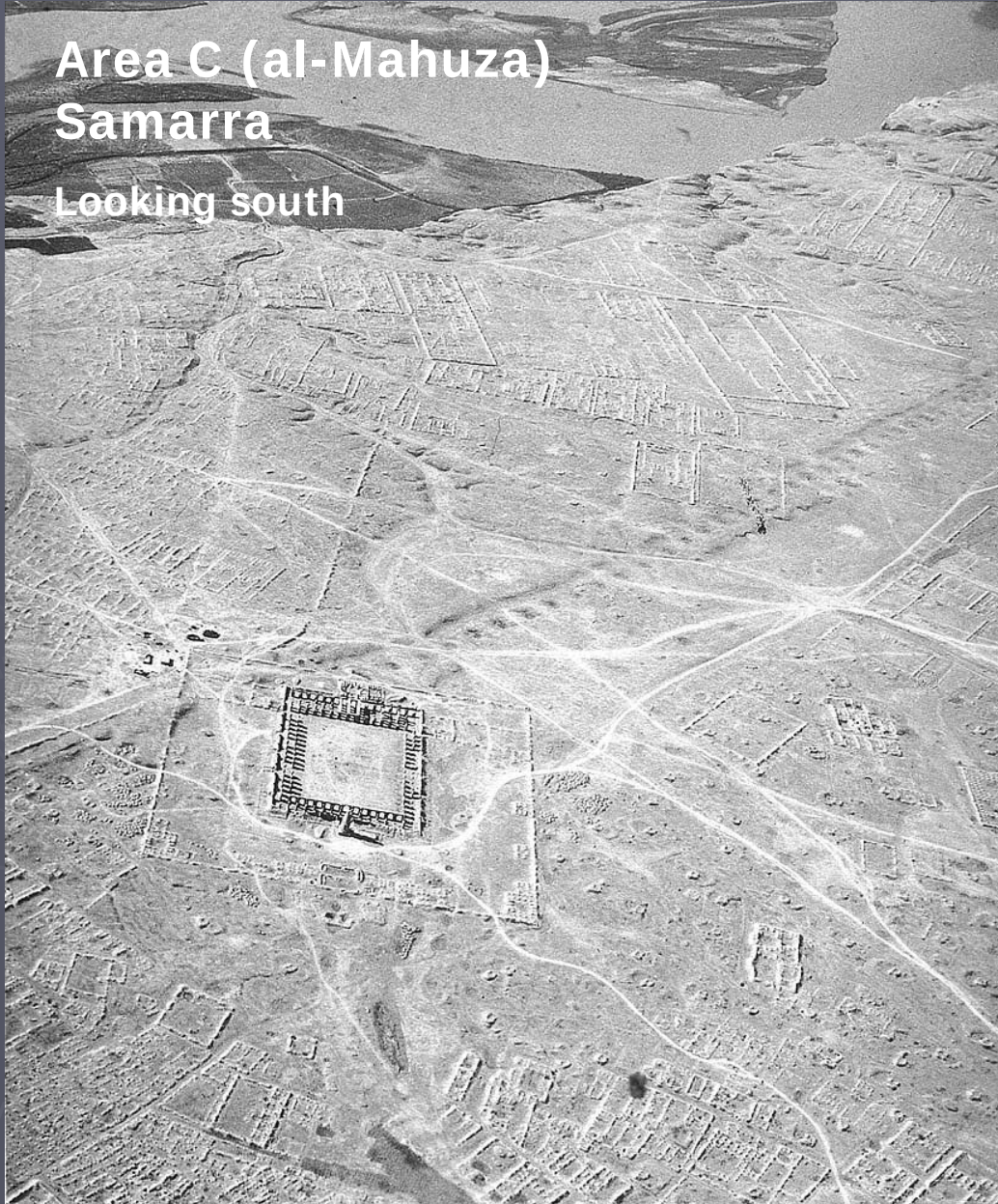


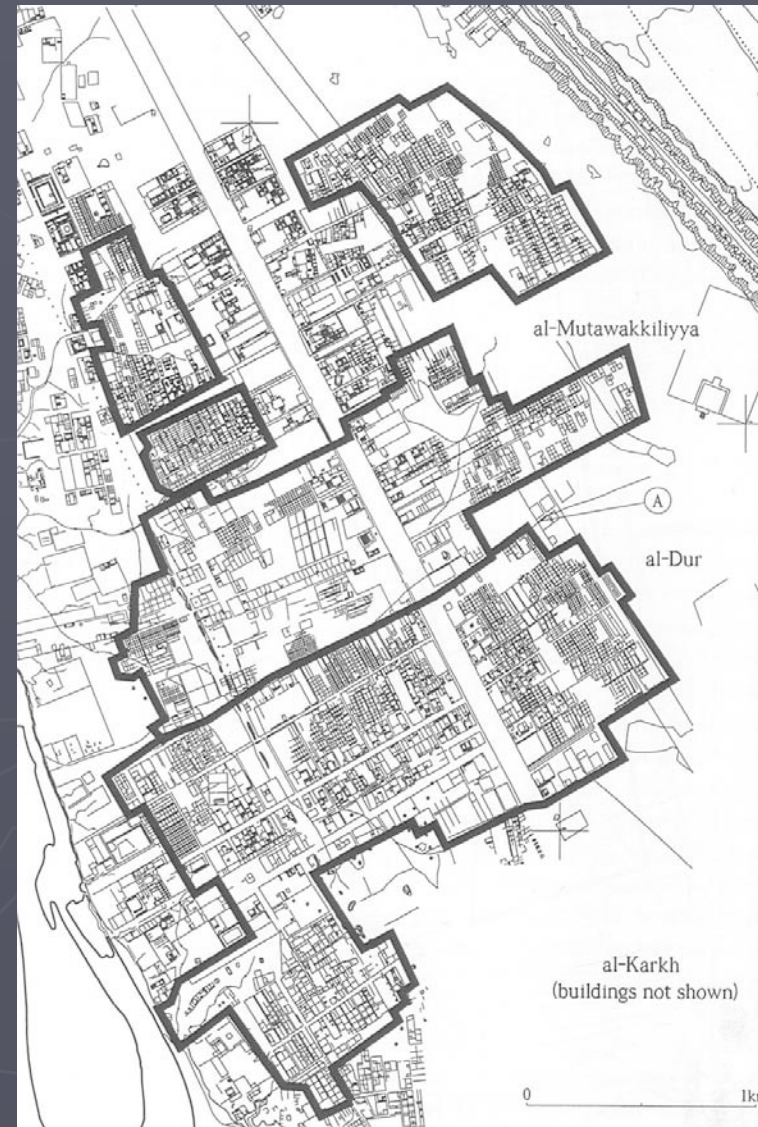
Abu Dulaf Mosque

Area C (al-Mahuza)

Samarra

Looking south

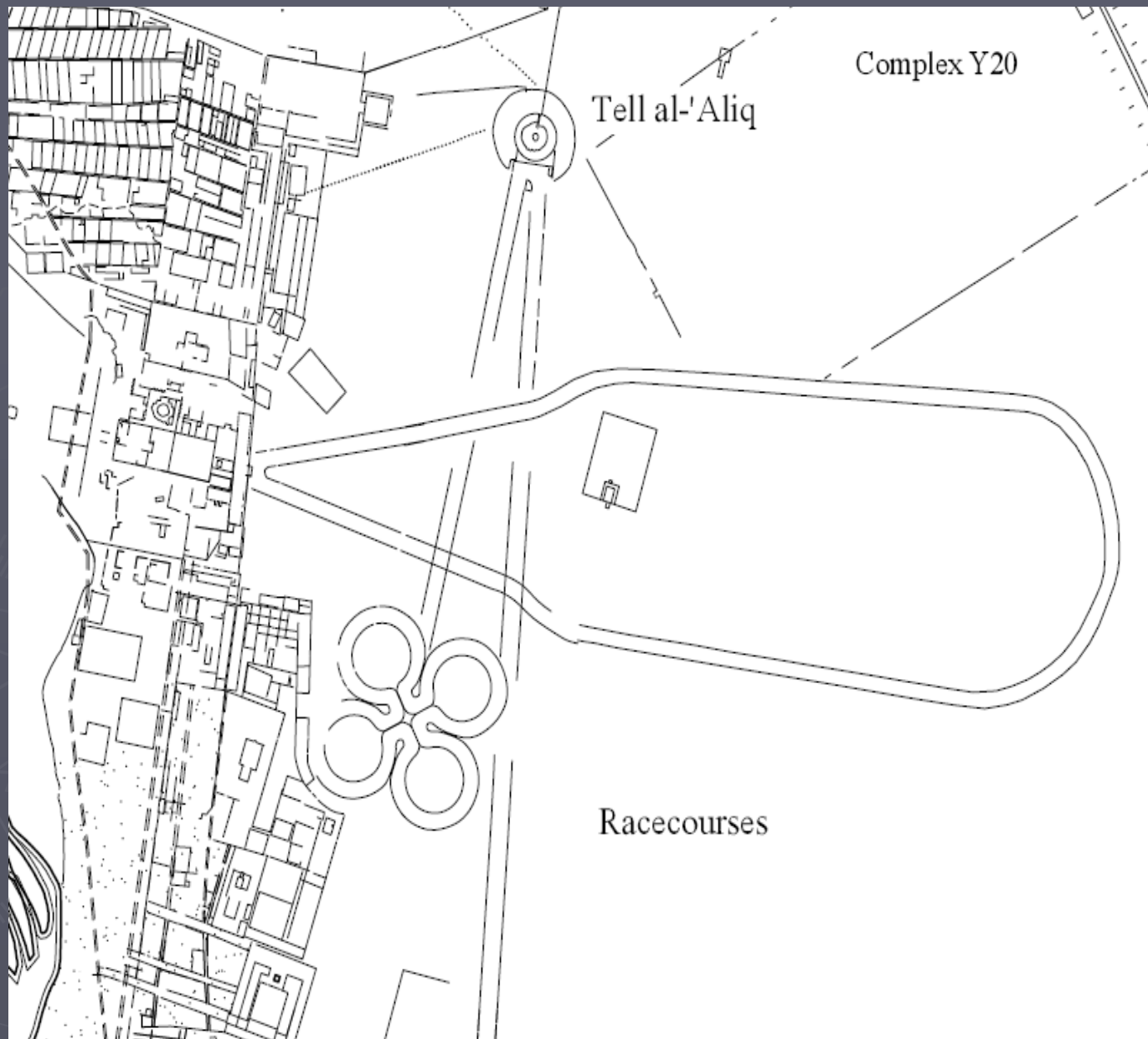


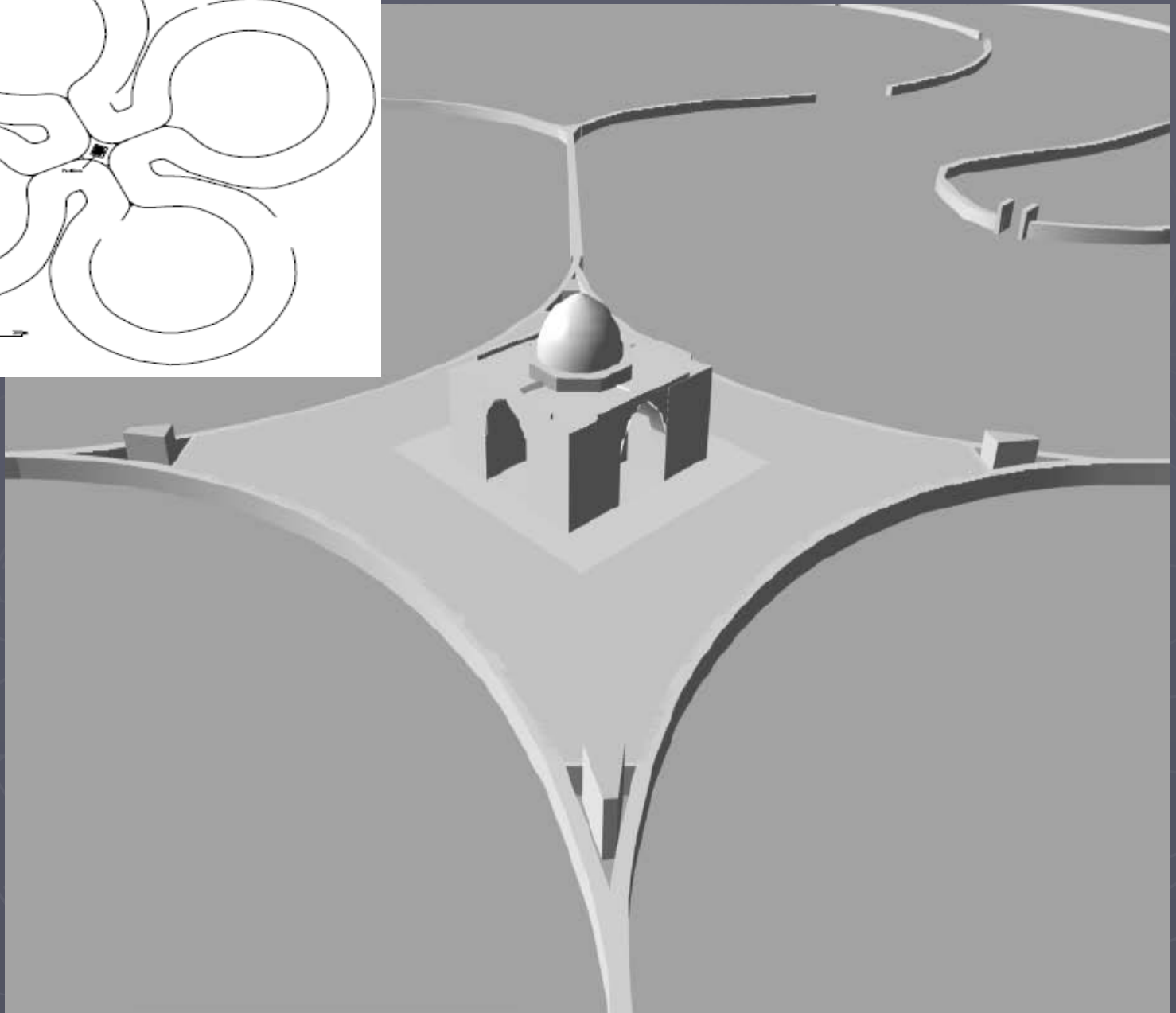
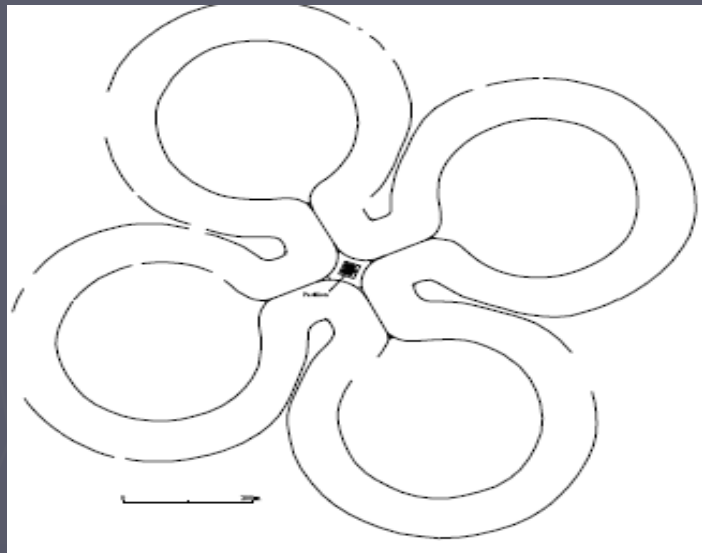


Examples of Samarra Military Cantonments



The Racecourses

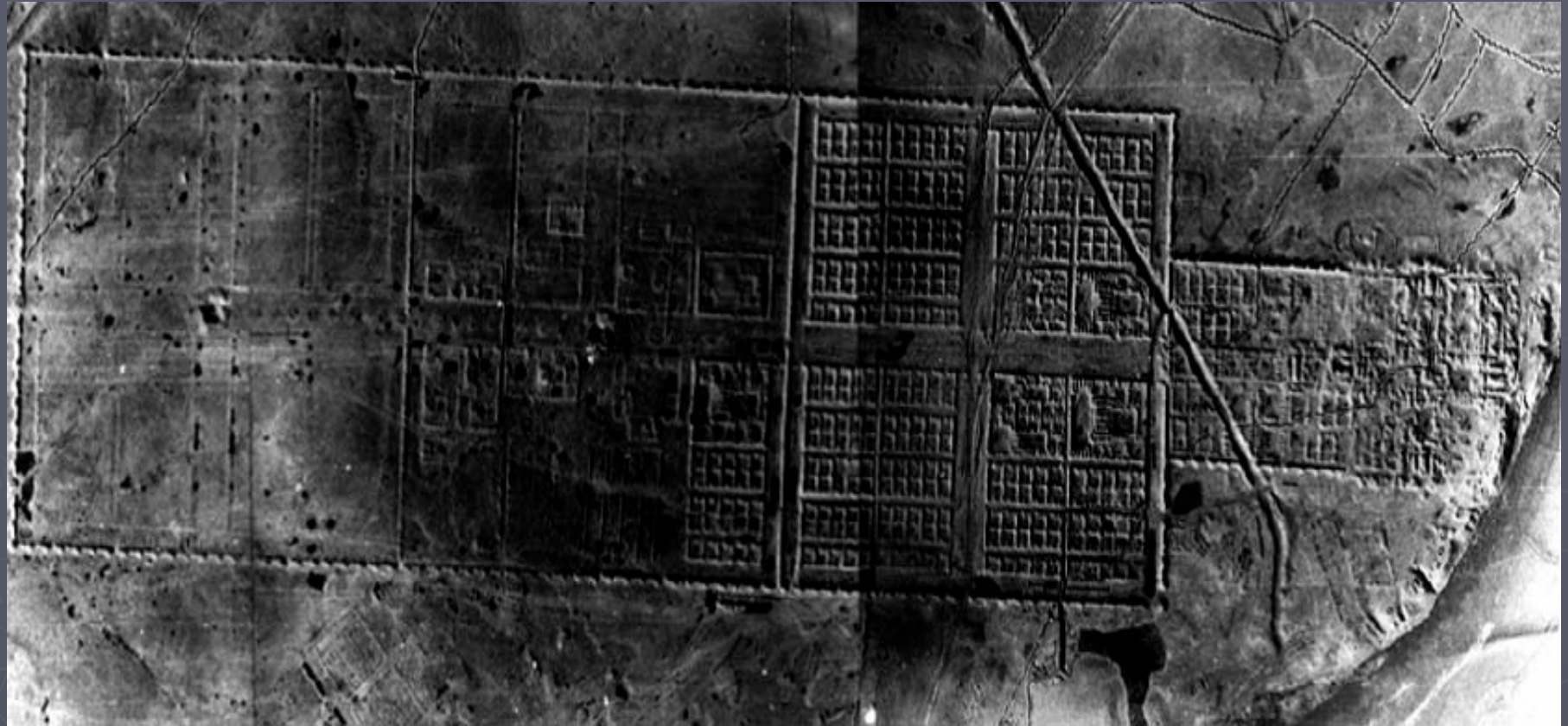




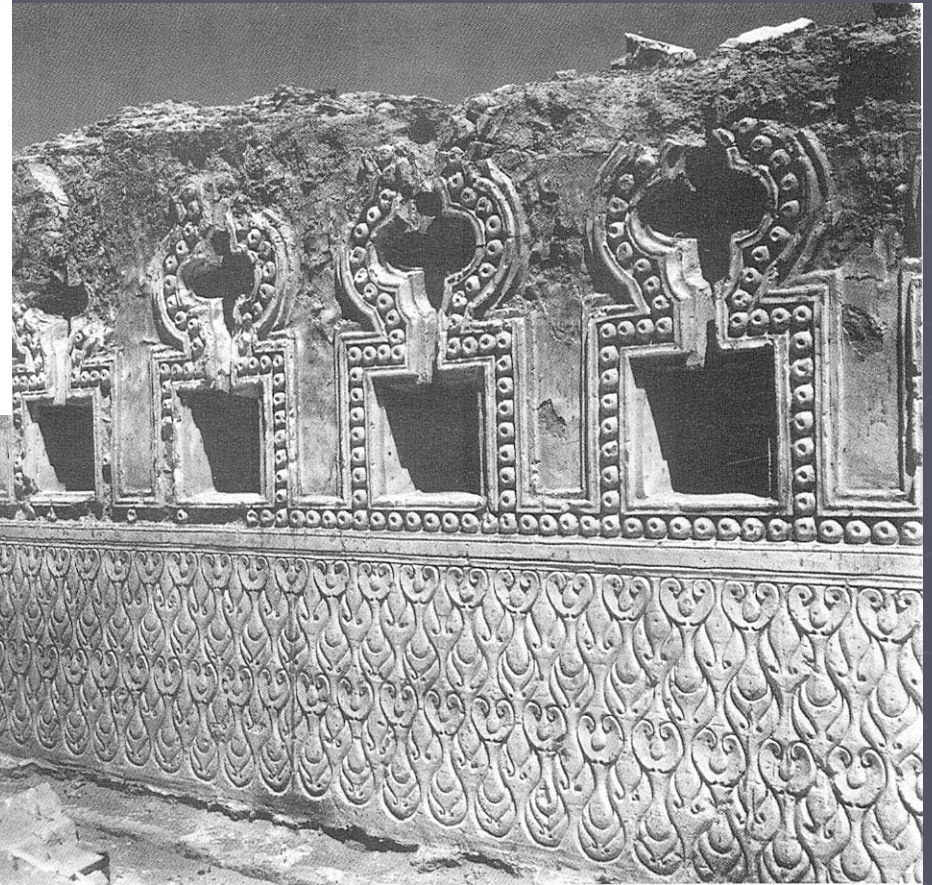
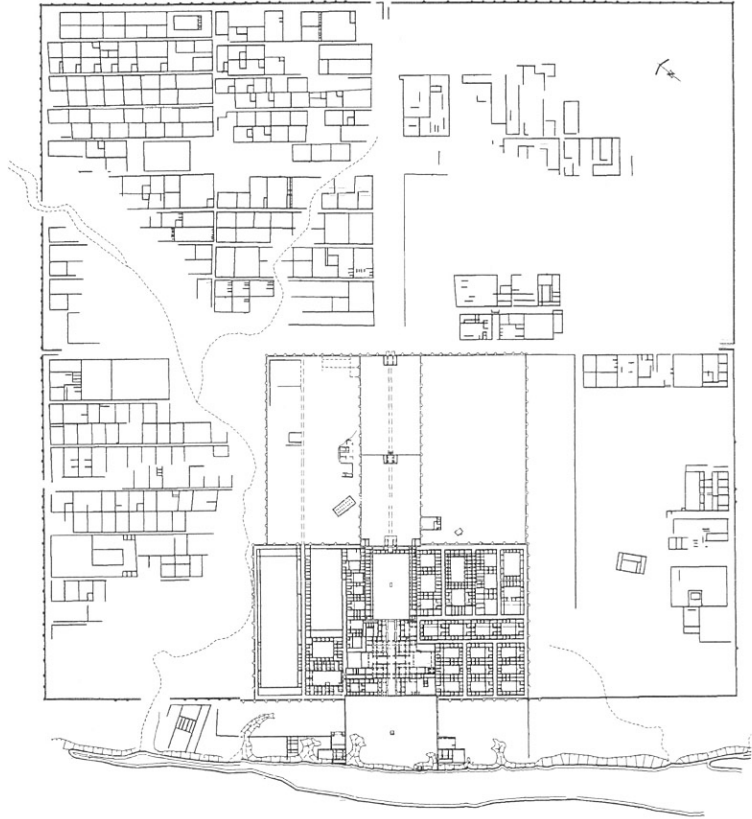


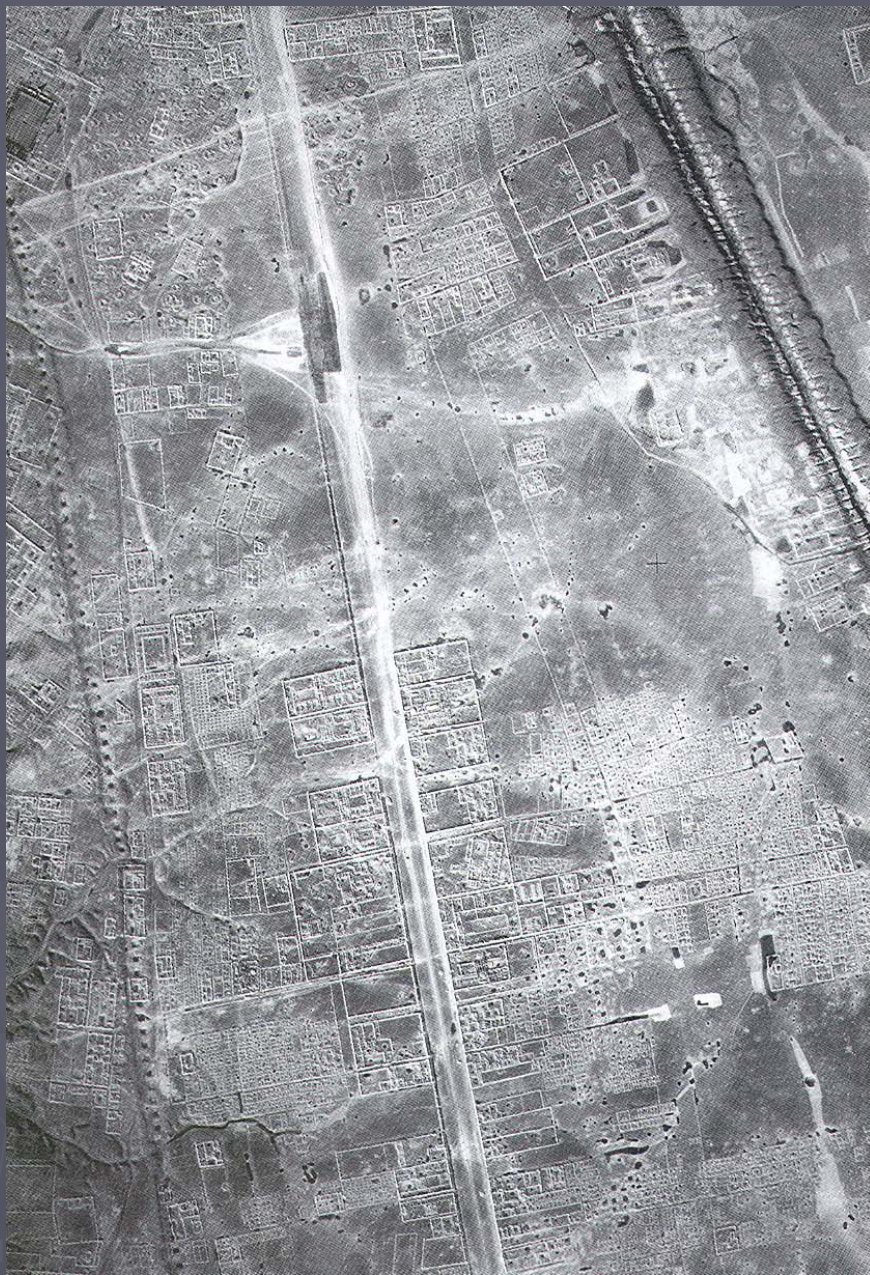
Al-Istablat – Land Speculation?





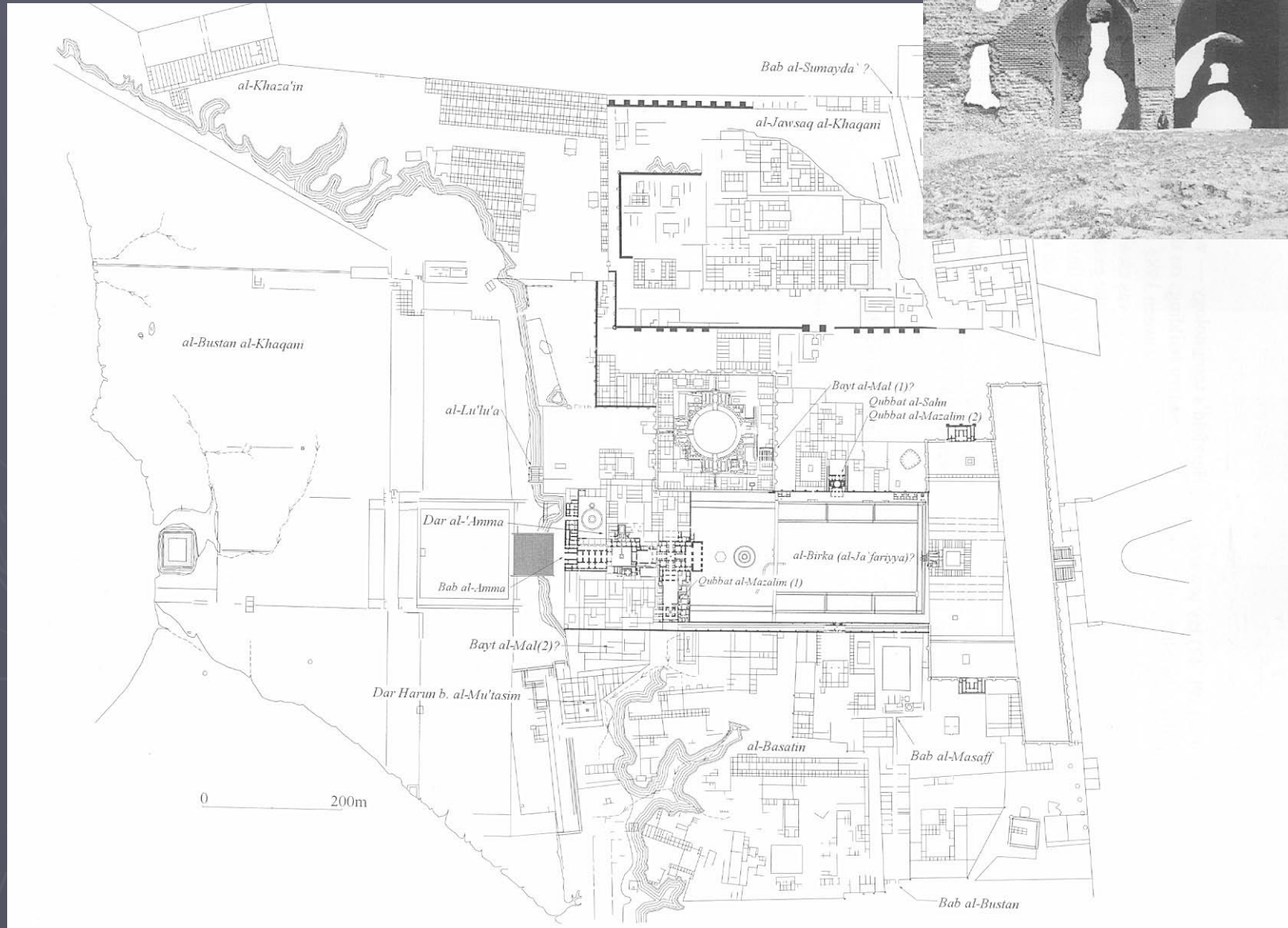
Bulkawara Palace





Main Street – Al-Mutawakkiliyya

Dar al-Khalifa



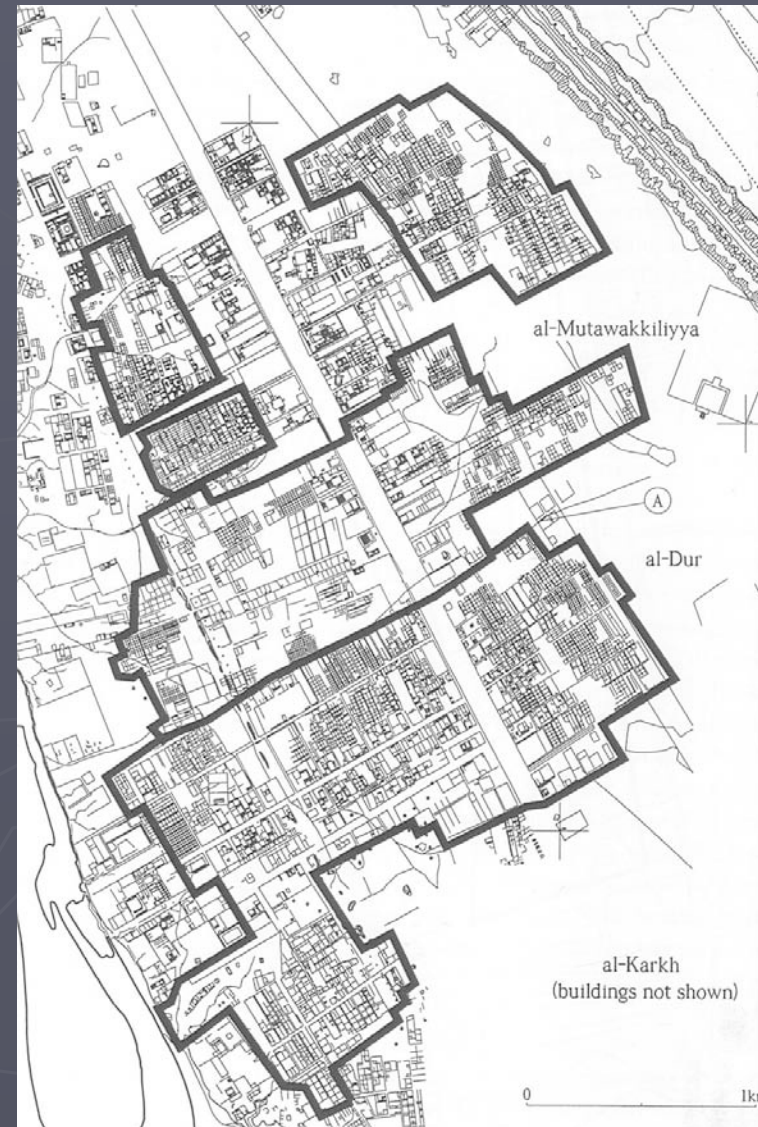
Urban Sprawl



Central Samarra

Tokyo Skyline



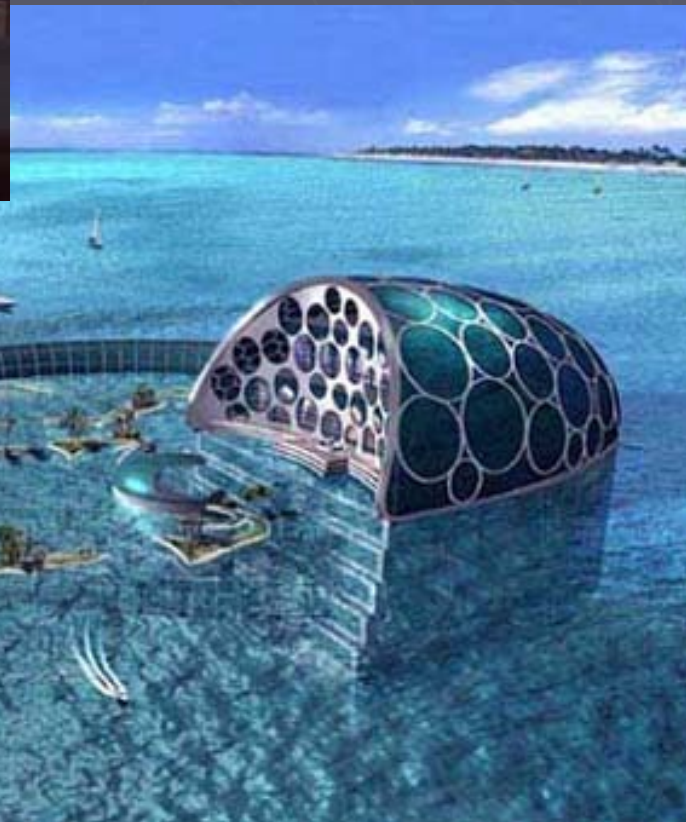


Examples of Samarra Military Cantonments

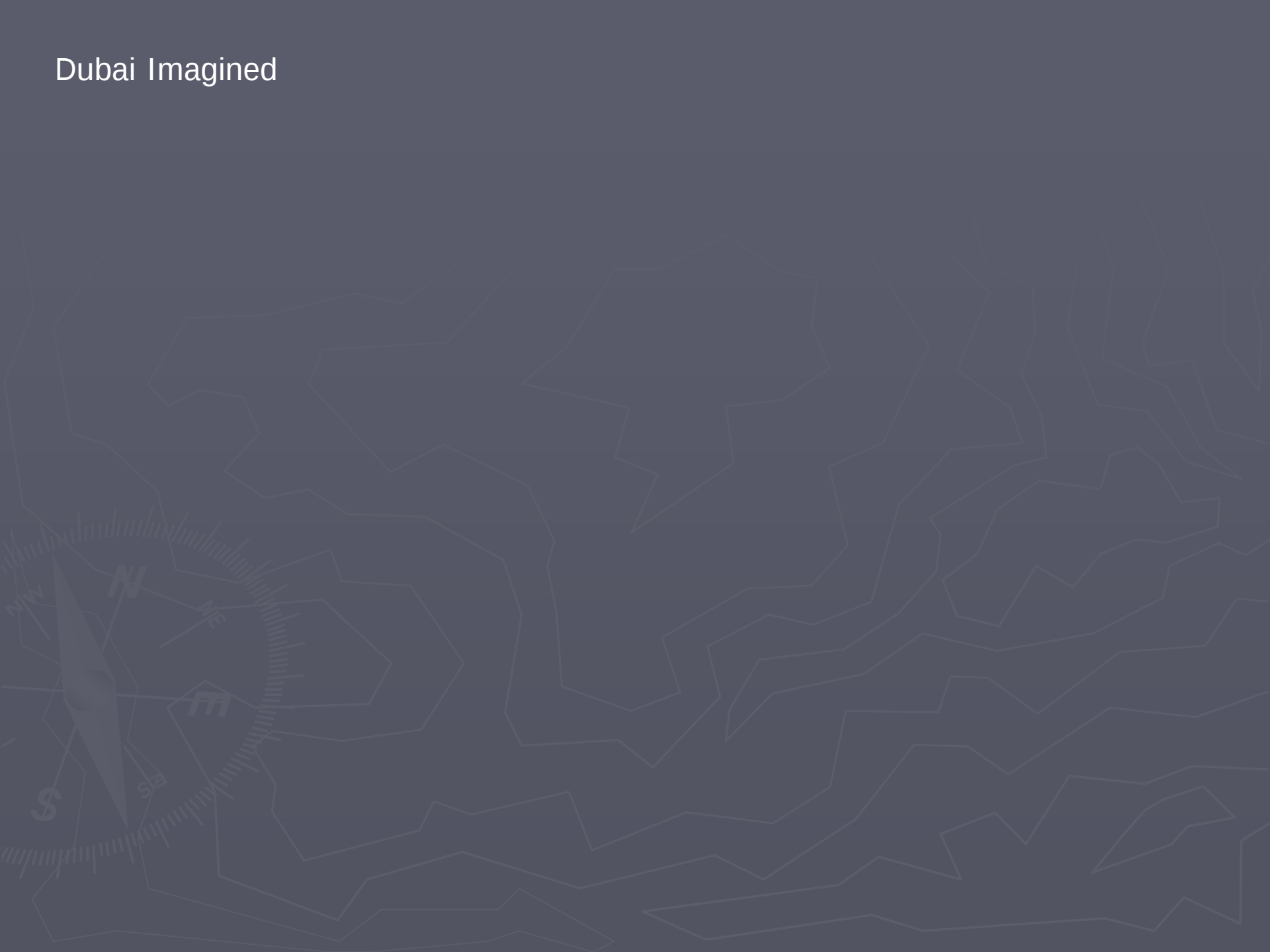
Davis-Monthan AFB "boneyard" - Arizona







Dubai Imagined



Dubai according to Google Earth



Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2009 DigitalGlobe
© 2009 AND
© 2009 LeadDog Consulting

© 2007 Google™

Pointer 25°09'23.27" N 55°09'32.32" E elev 0 ft

Streaming ||||| 100%

Eye alt 35.31 mi





Burj Dubai – Set to be the tallest building in the world when completed (2683 feet).

The footprint of this building is in the shape of a hymenocallis, a desert flower native to the area.