200 mm annual rainfall line and the distribution of barley and wheat in the Near East, with some Epipalaeolithic and Proto-Neolithic settlements.
Neolithic in the Near East: early sites of socialization
gobeklitepe site before archaeology
“starting as a sacred spot...”
gobeklitepe pre-agricultural social interaction and cult practice, feasting, visual/architectural culture
gobeklitepe archaeology of a ritual place
gobeklitepe archaeology of a ritual place
gobeklitepe pillars and animal iconography
nevali cori settlement and architecture
nevali cori
megalithic columns
nevali cori visual culture
jericho fortifications
Neolithic in the Near East: early sites of socialization
catalhoyuk: neolithic-chalcolithic transition in Anatolia
urbanization

agricultural production and animal husbandry and various technologies of food processing that becomes varied and complex enough for industrialized production and redistribution. Place-specific technologies of production.

city as storehouse, city as cattlepen

craft specialization and long distance trade go hand in hand together: the city acts as a place of innovation with the concentration of symbolic capital

mobilization, mixture, hybridity: city as a result of a socializing process: with increased social interactions, where anonymity starts to play a role

invention of writing has to do with the bureaucratic management of trade, i.e. a technology of exchange systems, like the cylinder seals, hollow clay balls and the like.

formation of an urban elite which is formed of household contesting the public sphere

synoecism?

social evolutionary models of increasing complexity

formation of forms of social-symbolic power (include here a shared visual culture)

search of collective identity, collective understanding of the past (social history), shared cultural practices and a "knowledge-space"

formation of the public sphere

- everyday performances
- state rituals, spectacles
- massive architectural projects at gradually fixed sacred spots

- city as a result of a landscape process (intensification of settlement, hierarchization of settlement types and their overall spread in the geography)
“Despina can be reached in two ways: by ship or by camel. The city displays one face to the traveller arriving overland and a different one to him who arrives by the sea... Each city receives its form from the desert it opposes; and so the camel driver and the sailor see Despina, a border city between two deserts.”

Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities 17-18 (Cities & Desire 3)
Mesopotamian city:
the “cattlepen” (tàr) and the “sheepfold” (amaš)
65  ḏen-lîl á-dam-kù ki-a HAR-ra-za  
Enlil when you mapped out the holy settlement on the earth

66  nibruₖᵊ  uru ní-za ši-im-mi-dù-dù-âm  
You built the city Nippur by yourself

67  ki-ùr ki-sikil-zu a-bí-du₁₀-ga  
The *kiur*, your pure place

68  ub-da-limmú-ba murub₄-ba dur-an-ki-ka ki ba-e-ni-tag-ge  
In the *dur-an-ki*, in the middle of the four quarters of the earth, you founded it

69  sahar-bi zi-kalam-ma zi-kur-kur-ra-ka  
Its soil is the life of the land (Sumer), the life of all the foreign lands.

70  sig₄-bi kù-huš-a uru⁴-na₄ za-gin-na-ka  
Its brickwork is gleaming gold, its foundation is lapis-lazuli.

71  am-gim ke-en-ge-ra si mul ba-ni-ib-bé  
Like a steer, it raises up its horns in Sumer,

72  kur-kur-re sag im-ma-da-sìg-ge  
All the lands bow their heads,

73  ezen-gal-gal-bi ukè-e nam-hé-a u⁴-bi mu-un-di-ni-ib-zal-e  
At its great feasts, the people spend the day in abundance.

Hymn to Enlil (D. Reisman 1969)
Southern alluvium.
Irrigation system and settlement network in Southern Mesopotamia (Postgate)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5000-4000 BC</td>
<td>Halaf period in the Northern Mesopotamia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ubaid period in the South</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eridu temple sequence (<em>E-abzu</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4000-3500</td>
<td>Early Uruk period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3500-3100</td>
<td>Late Uruk period</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uruk Level IV (<em>Eanna Precinct</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>social complexity, urbanization, writing, mass-produced pottery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>potter’s wheel introduced, new bureaucratic tools such as cylinder</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>seals, long-distance trade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3100-2900</td>
<td>Jemdet Nasr period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uruk Level III (<em>Eanna Precinct</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2950-2750</td>
<td>Early Dynastic I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2750-2600</td>
<td>Early Dynastic II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2600-2350</td>
<td>Early Dynastic III</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Protoliterate Period**

**Pre-Sargonic Period**
pottery technologies: evolution of simplicity
colonisation of northern and central Mesopotamia and spread of settlement to metal and obsidian sources. Fission of male/female productive life; growth of male status groups engaged in trade

HASSUNA-SAMARRA-HALAF (6500-5000 cal BC)

hoe cultivation (rain-fed zone) —> storage of surplus grain

small-scale irrigation (south of rain-fed zone)

pastoralism: cattle, sheep, goats

movement beyond village

acquisition and crafting of exotic materials: (stones, metal)

male symbolism hospitality ritual

controlled ownership and exchange (use of seals)

female symbolism/labour

food processing

decorated ceramics; textiles

production within village
LATE 'UBAID (5000-4300 cal.BC)

Tripartite 'house' as extended metaphor

- storage
- administration
- hearth/altar
- food processing
- pottery production
- weaving
- nurturing infants
- ritual
- hospitality
- exchange

household : workshop : office : shrine
Hollow clay balls (bullae) and tokens
Examples of Uruk IV (above, excavation no. W 7227,a) and Uruk III (below, no. W 14804,a) tablets
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Late Uruk ca. 3100</th>
<th>Jemdet Nasr ca. 3000</th>
<th>ED III ca. 2400</th>
<th>Ur III ca. 2000</th>
<th>Old Assyrian ca. 1900</th>
<th>Old Babylonian ca. 1700</th>
<th>Middle Assyrian ca. 1200</th>
<th>Neo-Babylonian ca. 600</th>
<th>meaning of archaic sign</th>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image7" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>SAG “head”</td>
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<td><img src="image10" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image11" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image14" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image15" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image16" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>NINDA “ration”</td>
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<td><img src="image17" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image18" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image19" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image22" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image23" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image24" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>GU₃ “disbursement”</td>
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<td><img src="image27" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image30" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image31" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image32" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>AB₂ “cow”</td>
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<td><img src="image33" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image34" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image35" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image38" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image39" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image40" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>APIN “plow”</td>
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<td><img src="image41" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
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<td><img src="image46" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image47" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td><img src="image48" alt="Image of sign" /></td>
<td>KI “locality”</td>
</tr>
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Uruk cylinder seals and their impressions: new bureaucratic technologies?
Uruk and Nippur, urbanization in Southern Alluvium (4000-2900 BC) 

villages, hamlets, towns and cities: socialization of the world
The city wall is about 9.5 km long. According to the Epic of Gilgamesh, one-third of the city of Uruk was temples, one-third houses, and one-third gardens. The excavations have concentrated on the temple areas, which occupied the center of the city. The temples were extensively rebuilt in the Seleucid and Parthian periods (312 BCE–224 CE), including the construction of an akina temple (for the celebration of the New Year festival) to the northeast of the city walls.

According to later accounts, it was built by Gilgamesh, Uruk’s legendary king. Uruk remained an important religious center and its shrines were embellished by many of the later rulers of Mesopotamia.

Uruk/Warka:
layout of the city and excavated remains from Uruk Period to the Hellenistic

City wall: constructed at the end of the 4th millennium
social actors of the past

uruk: its archaeologists
AD 1934.

uruk: its “priest king?”
4th millennium BC
He had the wall of Uruk built, the sheepfold [Uruk-the-Sheepfold]
Of holiest Eanna, the pure treasury [sacred storehouse].
See if its wall is not (as straight) as the (craftsman’s) string [like a strand of wool],
Inspect its [...]wall (battlements?), the likes of which noone can equal,
Touch the threshold stone [Take the stairway]-it dates from ancient times.
Approach the Eanna Temple, the dwelling of Ištar,
such as no later king or man will ever equal.
Go up on the wall [of Uruk] and walk around,
Examine its foundation inspect its brickwork thoroughly
Is not its masonry of baked brick,
did not the Seven Sages themselves lay out its plans?
One square mile city, one square mile palm groves,
one square mile is brick-pits, [and] the [open ground?] of Ištar’s temple
Three square miles and the [open ground] of Uruk it encloses.

[Standard Gilgameš epic, Tablets I and XI]
uruk/warka: ruined landscapes
Late Uruk period (3600-3100 BC) is chronologically divided in the Eanna district as:

Late Uruk V, ca 3600-3500 BC
Late Uruk IVc
Late Uruk IV b
Late Uruk IVa. ca 3200-3100 BC
Verbreitungsgebiete von Glasfunden

Lokale Konzentration
Hohe Dichte

Bit Alitu

Palast des Sennedjem

URUK - WARKA
SURVEY DES STADT Gebietes
1982 - 1984
uruk/warka: monumentalization of the ceremonial center:
The Eanna Precinct Levels V-III
Late Uruk period (3600-3100 BC) is chronologically divided in the Eanna district as:

- Late Uruk V, ca 3600-3500 BC
- Late Uruk IVc
- Late Uruk IV b
- Late Uruk IVa. ca 3200-3100 BC
uruk/warka: monumentalization of the Eanna Precinct
uruk/warka: trough

“the urban jar”
mudhif: reed construction from Inanna’s storerooms to marsh Arabs
uruk/warka: Eanna precinct, Level V
uruk/warka: cone mosaic courtyard
Cone mosaic, 3300–3100 B.C.; Late Uruk period
Excavated at the "Columned Hall," Uruk, Mesopotamia
Clay, mud plaster. Vorderasiatisches Museum, Berlin (L.1995.48.2)
uruk/warka: stone and terracotta cone mosaics
tell all ubaid, temple of ninhursag: architectural technologies contemporary to Uruk
Fig. 2  Reconstruction of the Stone Cone Temple at Uruk
(After: UVB 1, Pl. 41)

Fig. 3  Eanna sanctuary at Uruk, Level IVa
(After: UVB 21, Pl. 31)
Uruk (Warka) Vase, 3300–3000 B.C.;
Late Uruk period- Excavated from the Eanna Precinct
Alabaster, carved. Iraq Museum Baghdad
(Looted during the 2003 invasion of Iraq from the museum, but later returned)
Uruk (Warka) Vase, 3300–3000 B.C.;
Late Uruk period- Excavated from the Eanna Precinct
Alabaster, carved. Iraq Museum Baghdad
uruk/warka: representations of a ruler-priest?
uruk/warka: boulder with the relief representation of a lion hunt
uruk/warka: white temple on the kullaba precinct, dedicated to anu
urbanization

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