



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



gobeklitepe landscape



"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

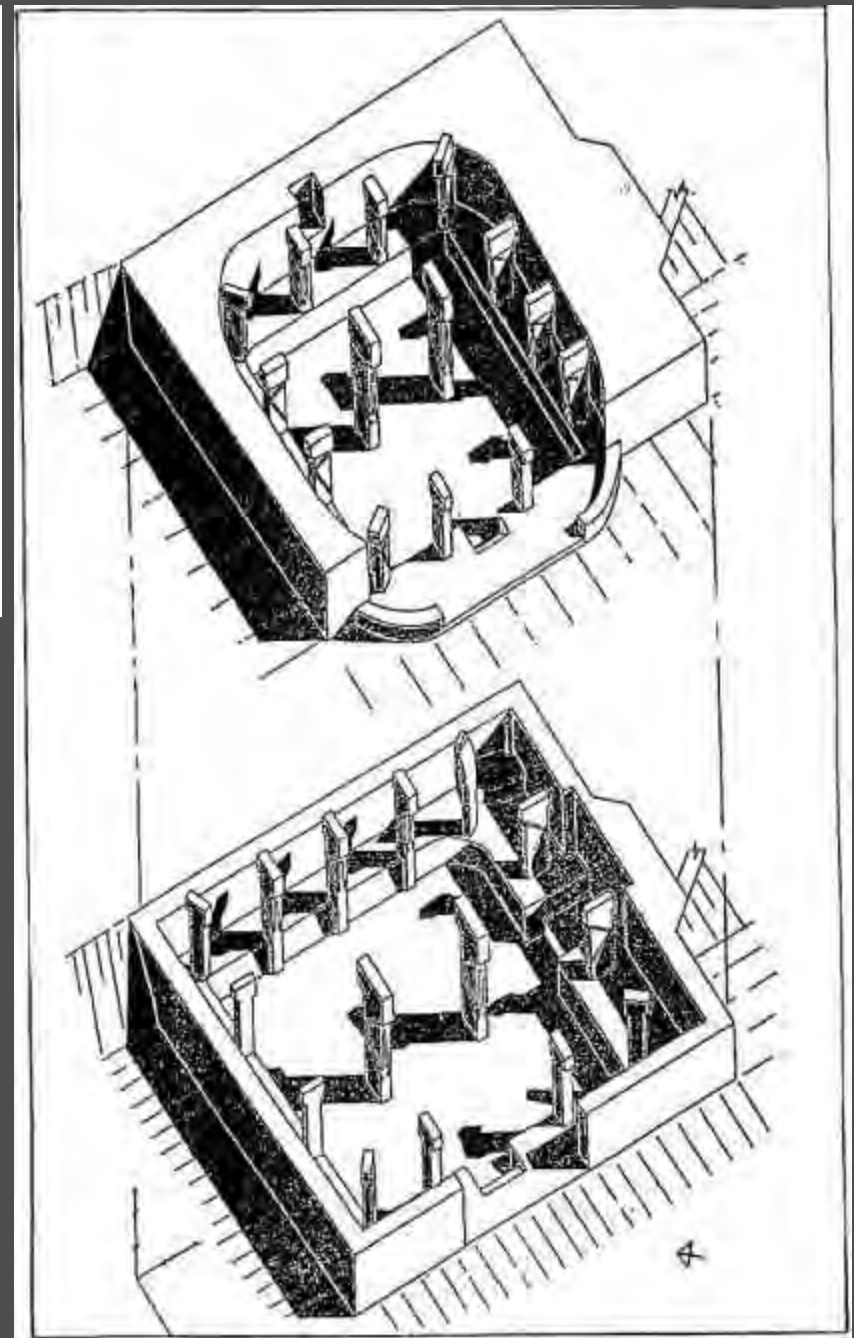
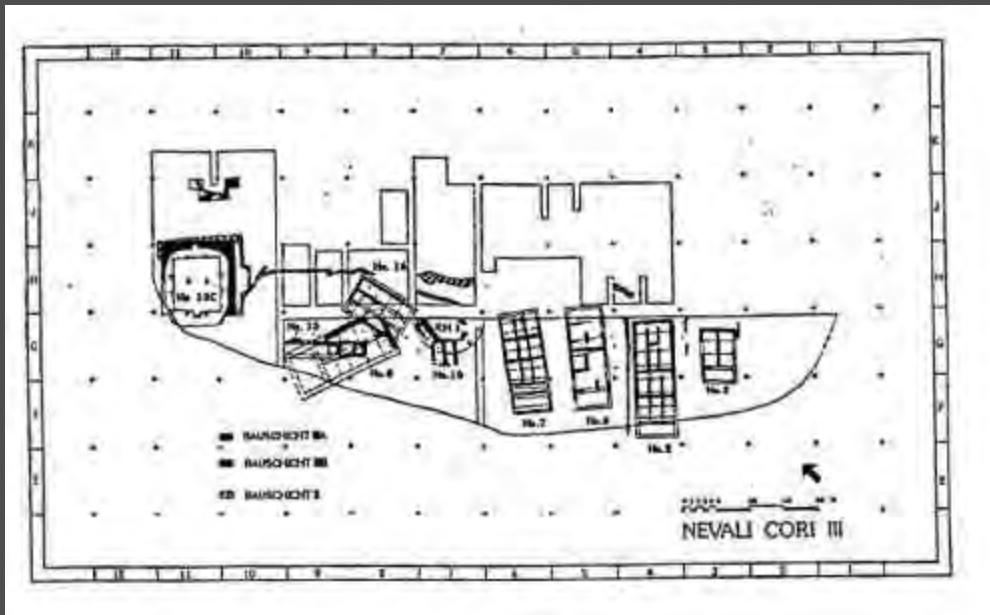


gobeklitepe pillars and animal iconography



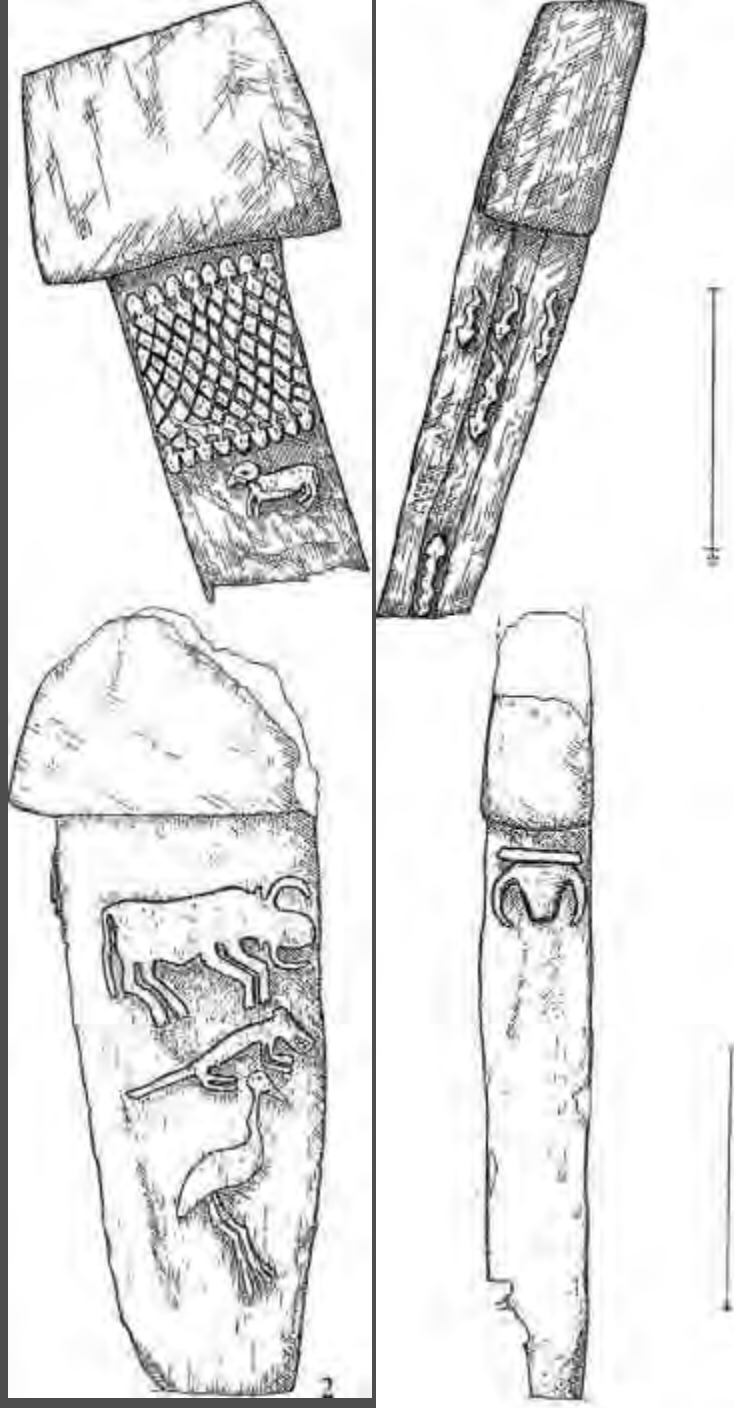


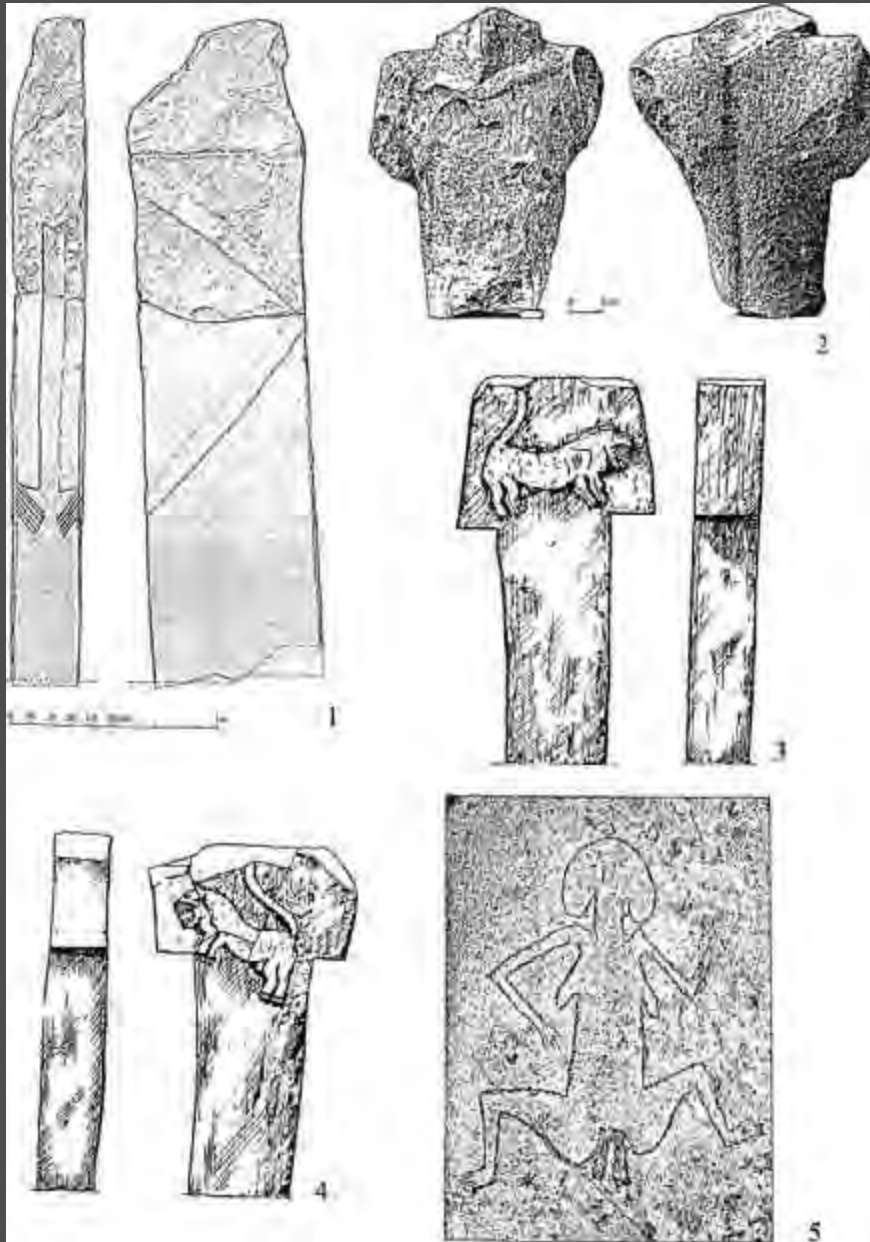




nevali cori settlement and architecture

nevali cori
megalthic columns



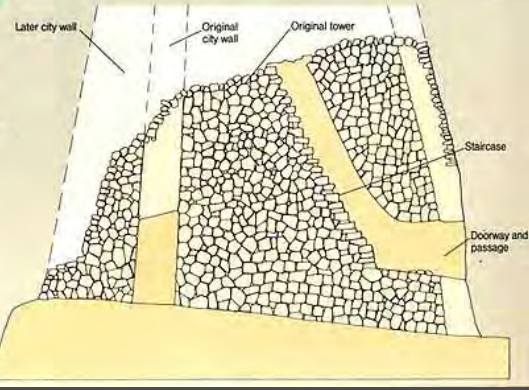


nevali cori visual culture

ceramic Neolithic period did their sites become as large or as complex.

Pottery Neolithic B) periods and throughout the Bronze Age.

Right and below One of the more remarkable features of Proto-Neolithic Jericho is the stone tower attached to the inside of the city wall. The tower is 10 m in diameter and still survives to a height of more than 8 m. A doorway 1.7 m high on its eastern side leads inside to a staircase of 22 steps, each made out of a single block of stone. The city wall was repaired and rebuilt several times and a ditch 8 m wide and more than 2 m deep was cut into the rock outside the wall. The purpose that the tower served is still a matter of debate.



jericho fortifications



Neolithic in the Near East: early sites of socialization

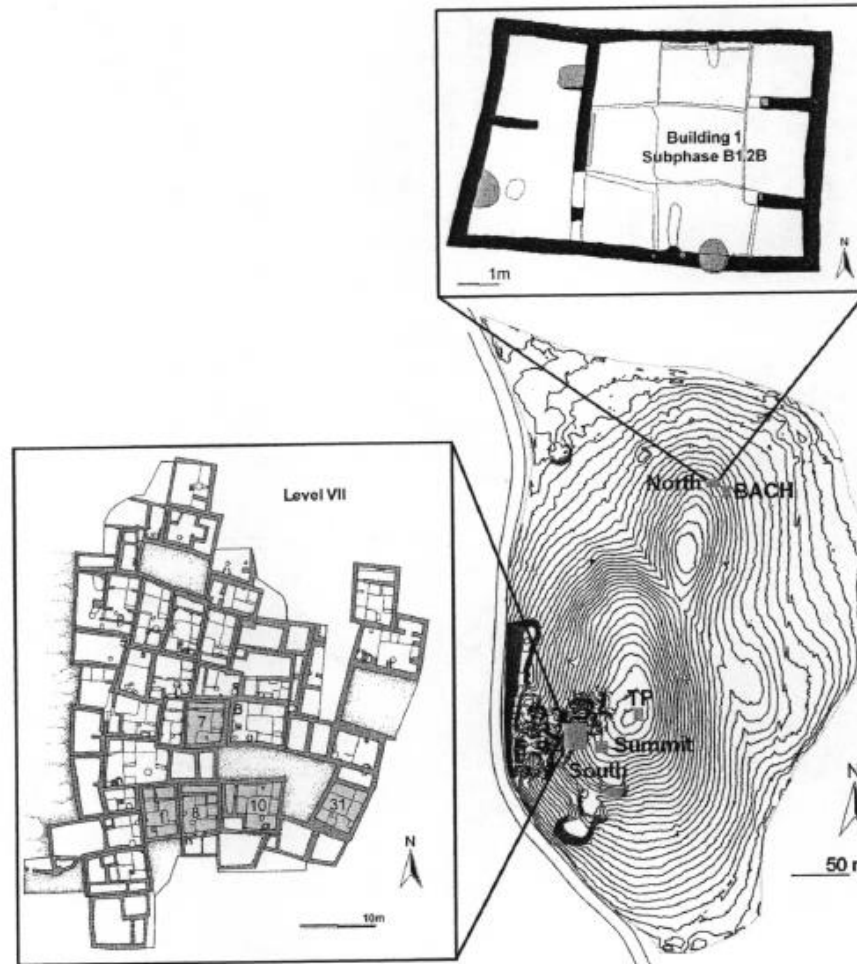


Figure 2. Excavated areas at Çatalhöyük and the locations of the buildings most referred to in the text. The building identified as “shrines” 1, 7, 8, 10, and 31 in Level VII are indicated. Buildings 6 and 17 occur in Levels VIII and IX respectively beneath “shrine” 10. Buildings 18 and 23 occur in Level X below “shrines” 8 and 1 respectively. Building 5 lies directly below Building 1.

catalhoyuk: neolithic-chalcolithic transition in Anatolia

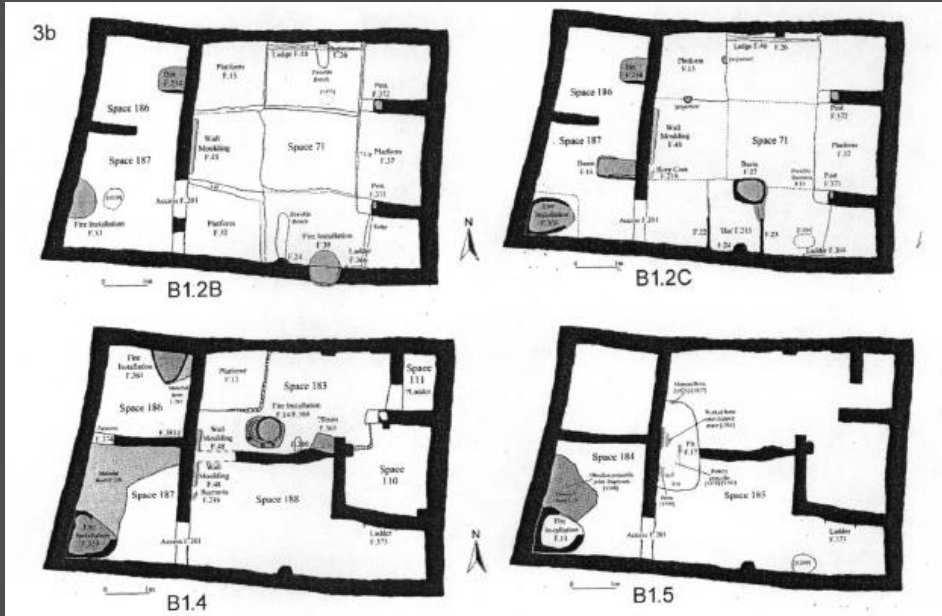
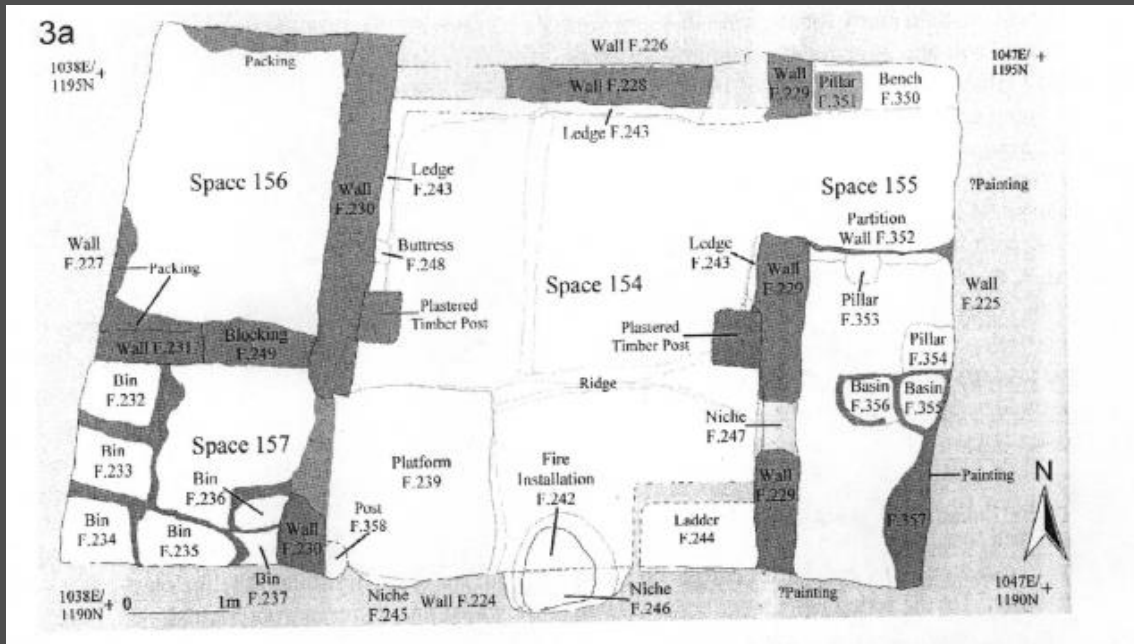
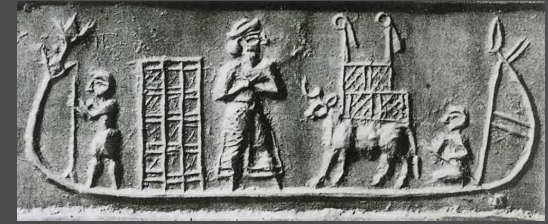


Figure 3. Phases of occupation of Building 5 (Figure 3a) and the house immediately above it, Building 1 (Figure 3b) at Catalhöyük.

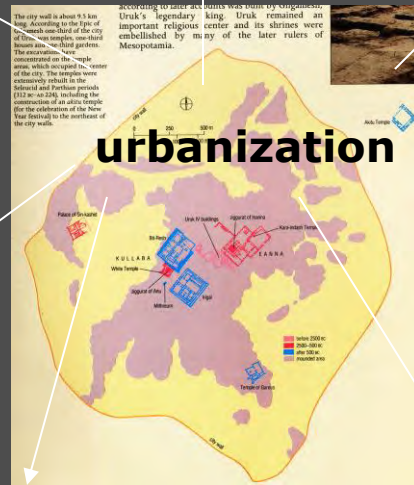
city as a result of a **landscape process** (intensification of settlement, hierarchization of settlement types and their overall spread in the geography)

social evolutionary models of increasing complexity

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 contending the public sphere

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

formation of the public sphere



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

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

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

synoecism?



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





uruk: cities and desire



“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” (tùr) and the “sheepfold” (amaš)

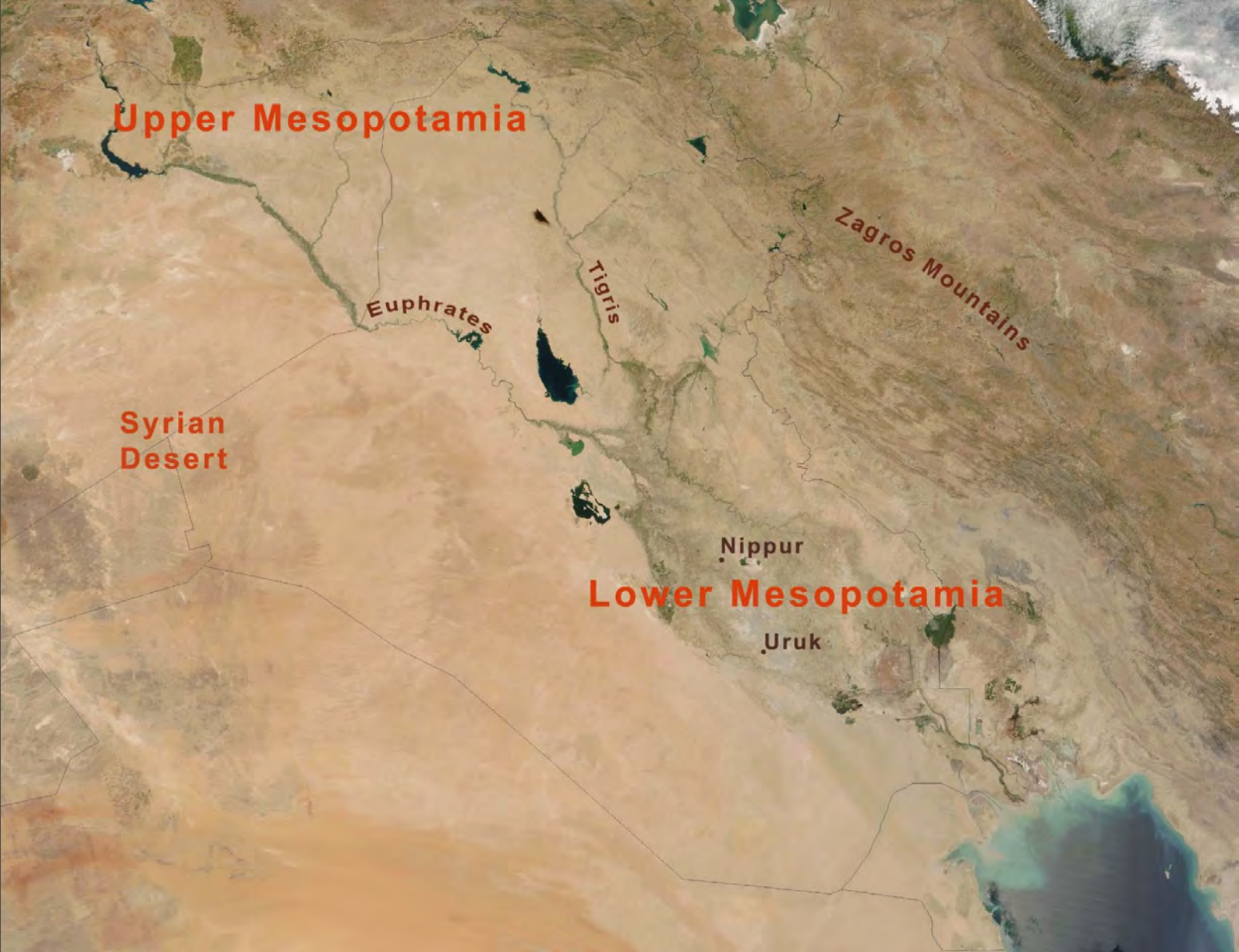


- 65** **ᵈen-líl á-dam-kù ki-a HAR-ra-za**
Enlil when you mapped out the holy settlement on the earth
- 66** **nibru^{ki} uru ní-za ši-im-mi-dù-dù-àm**
You built the city Nippur by yourself
- 67** **ki-ùr ki-sikil-zu a-bí-du₁₀-ga**
The *kiur*, your pure place
- 68** **ub-da-limmú-ba murub₄-ba dur-an-ki-ka 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-gìn-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 ukù-e nam-hé-a u4-bi mu-un-di-ni-ib-zal-e**
At its great feasts, the people spend the day in abundance.





Southern alluvium.



Upper Mesopotamia

Euphrates

Tigris

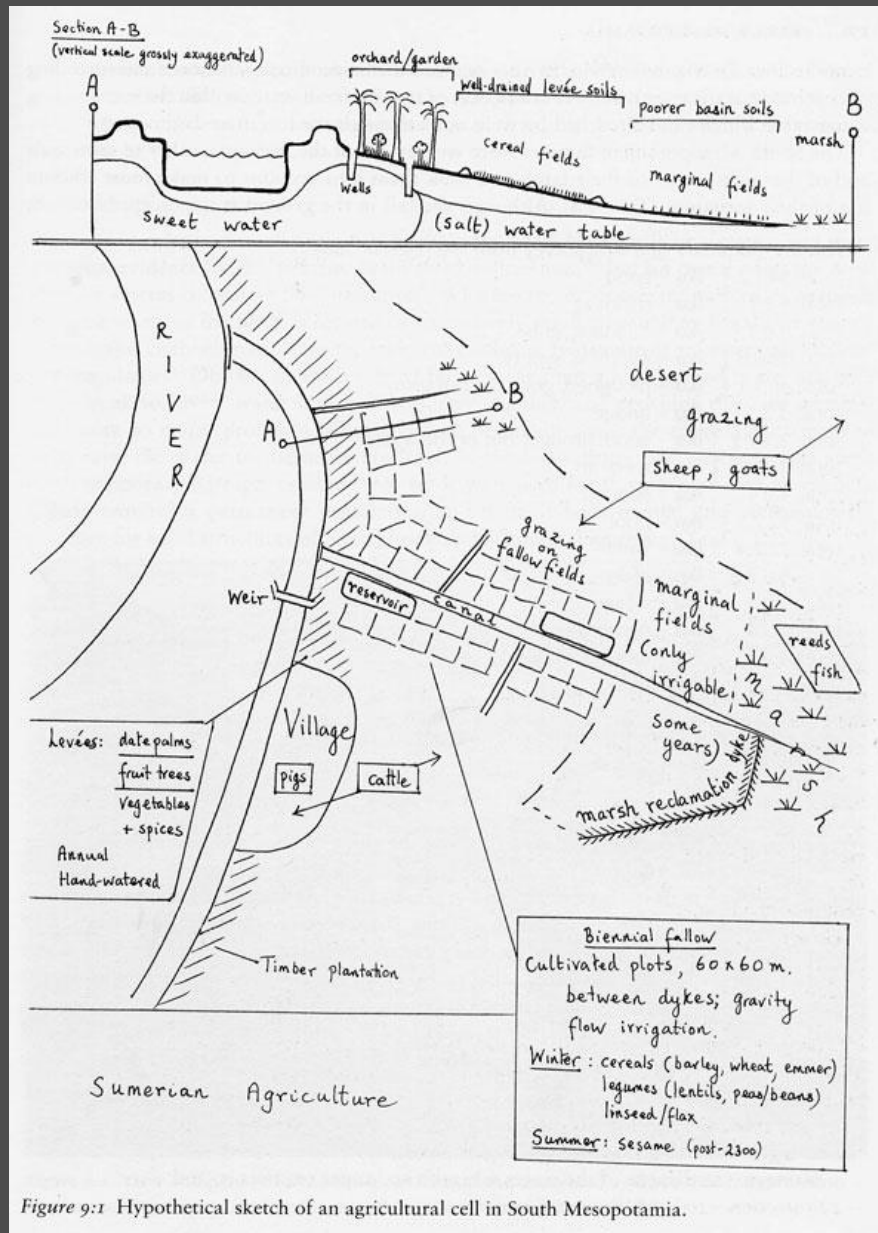
Zagros Mountains

**Syrian
Desert**

Nippur

Lower Mesopotamia

Uruk



Section

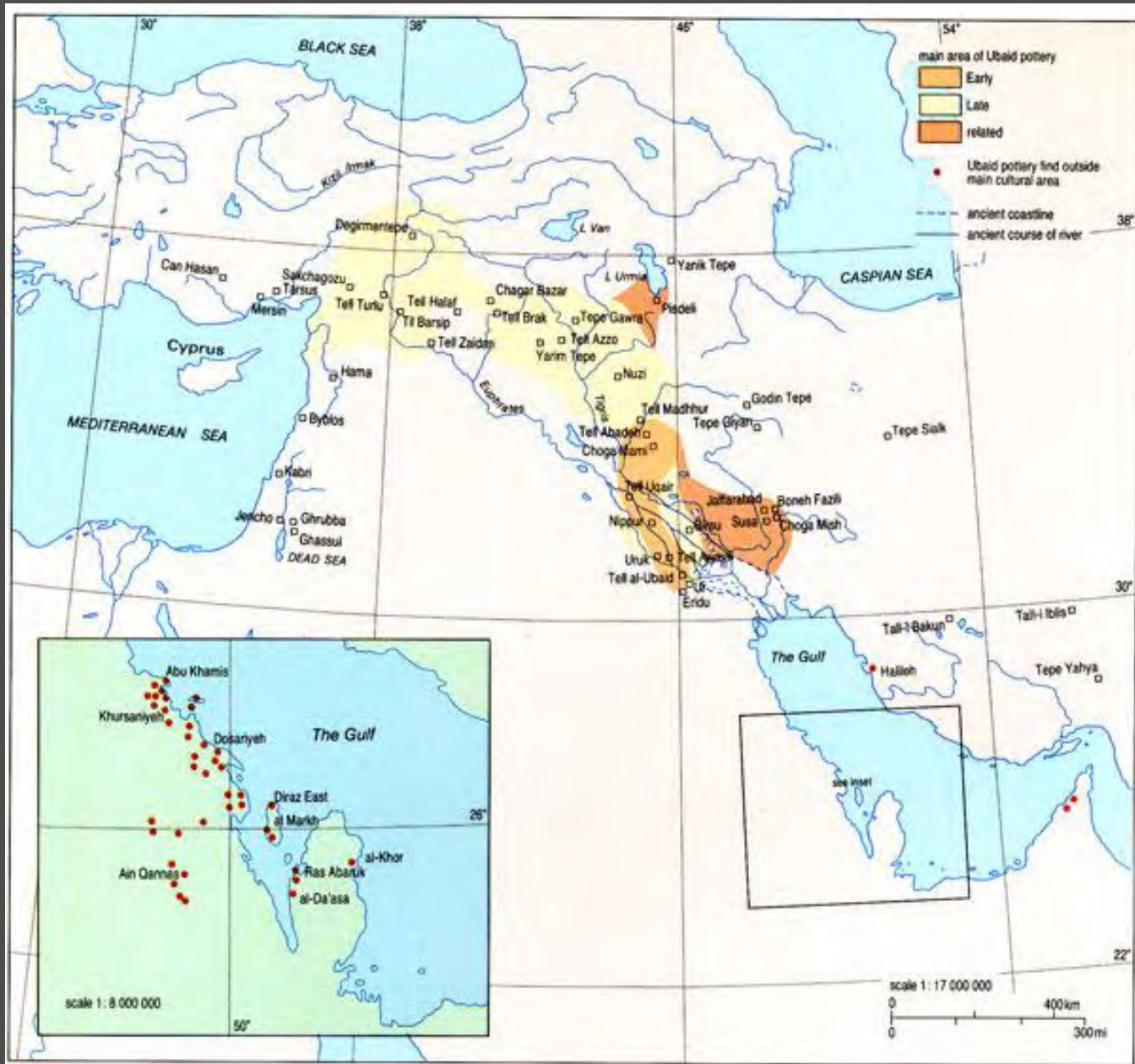
Map

Figure 9:1 Hypothetical sketch of an agricultural cell in South Mesopotamia.

Irrigation system and settlement network in Southern Mesopotamia (Postgate)

archaeological time

5000-4000 BC Halaf period in the Northern Mesopotamia Ubaid period in the South Eridu temple sequence (<i>E-abzu</i>)	
4000-3500 Early Uruk period 3500-3100 Late Uruk period Uruk Level IV (<i>Eanna</i> Precinct) social complexity, urbanization, writing, mass-produced pottery potter's wheel introduced, new bureaucratic tools such as cylinder seals, long-distance trade	Protoliterate Period
3100-2900 Jemdet Nasr period Uruk Level III (<i>Eanna</i> Precinct)	
2950-2750 Early Dynastic I 2750-2600 Early Dynastic II 2600-2350 Early Dynastic III	Pre-Sargonic Period

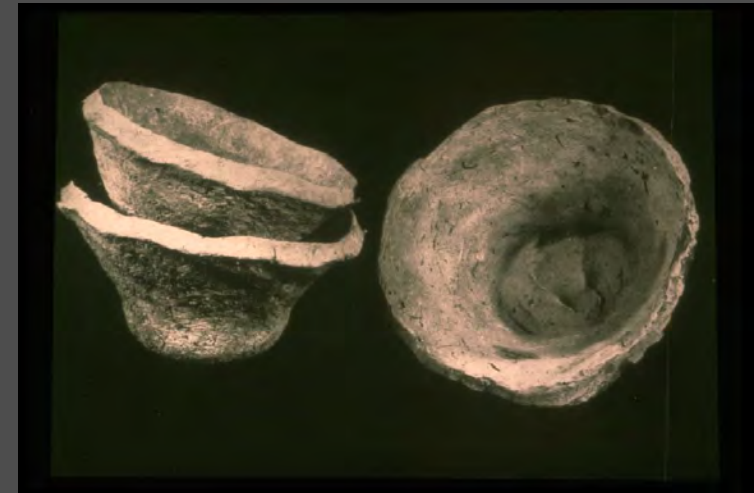




samarra



halaf



uruk

pottery technologies: evolution of simplicity

'THE CHANGING FACE OF CLAY'

*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)

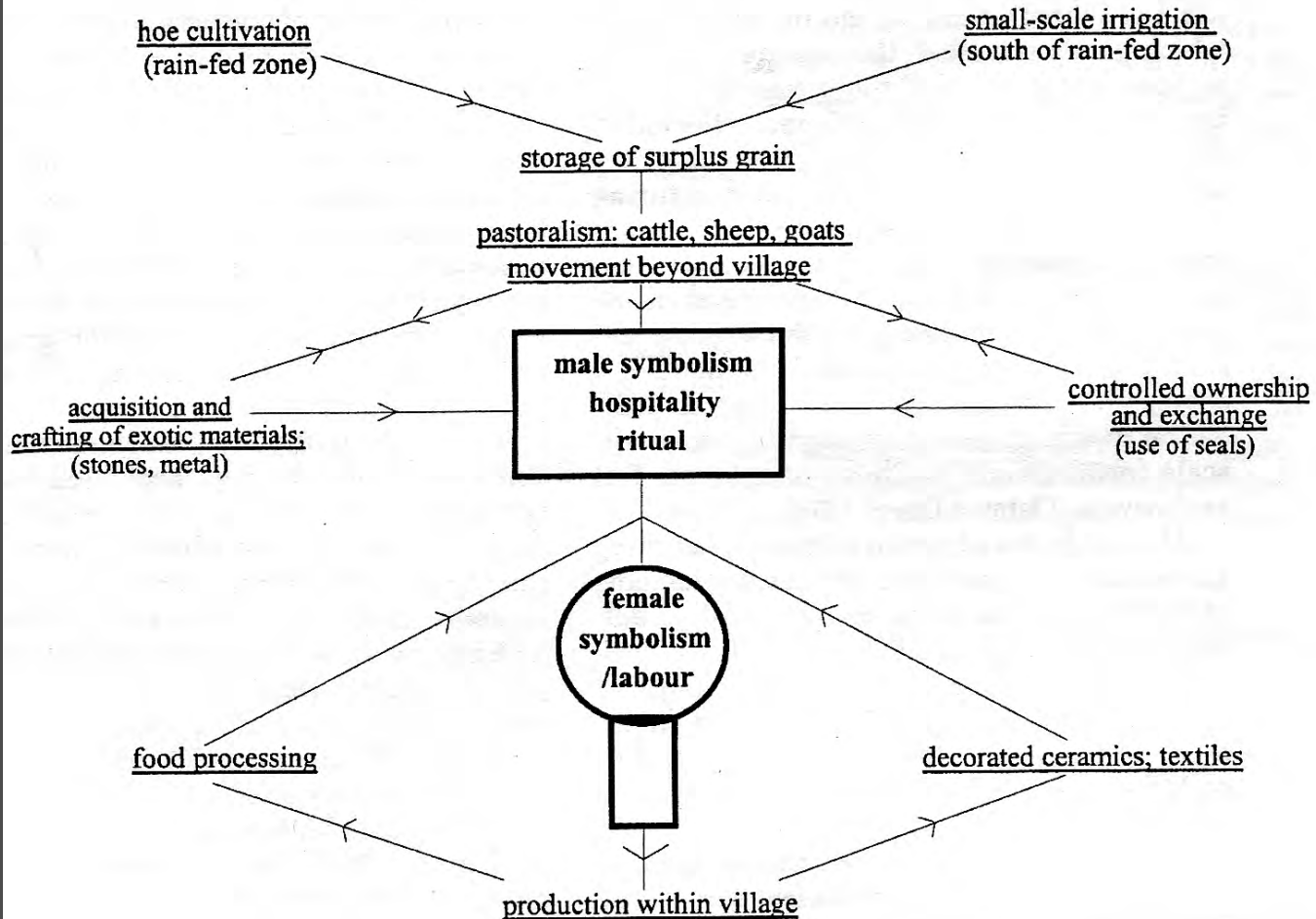




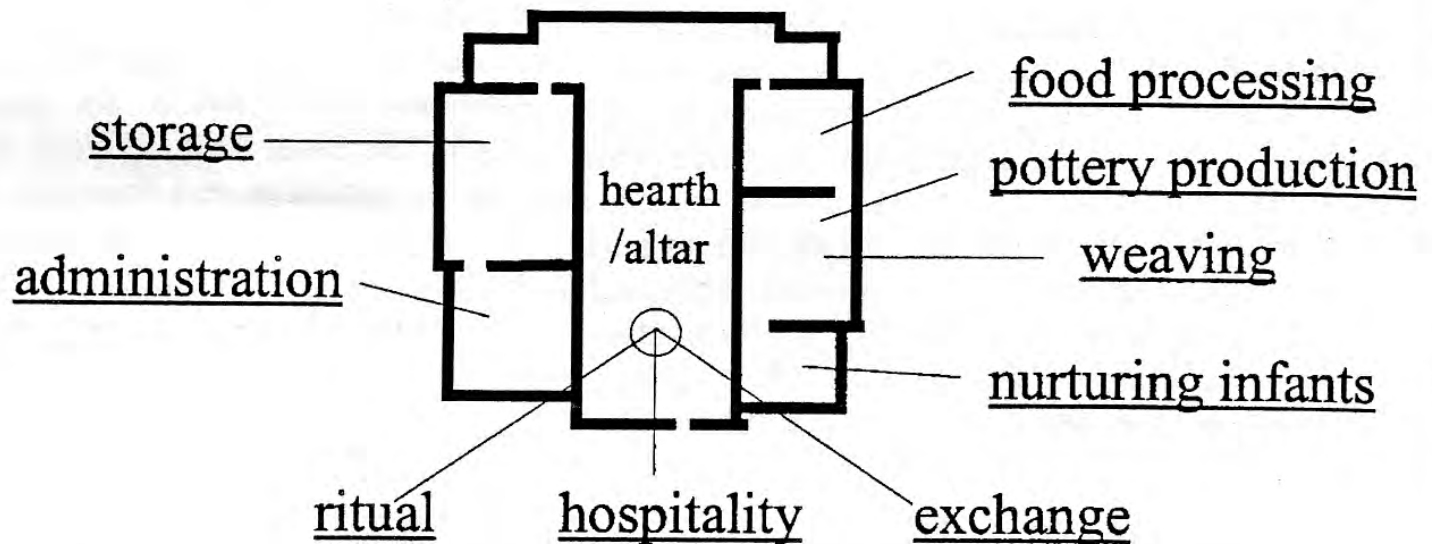


Fig. 1. Sawwan plan (the wall of the courtyard is shown in black)

tripartite building becomes standard framework for domestic life and the metaphor of the household is extended to administrative, productive and ritual action creating a new work ethic and greater overall output

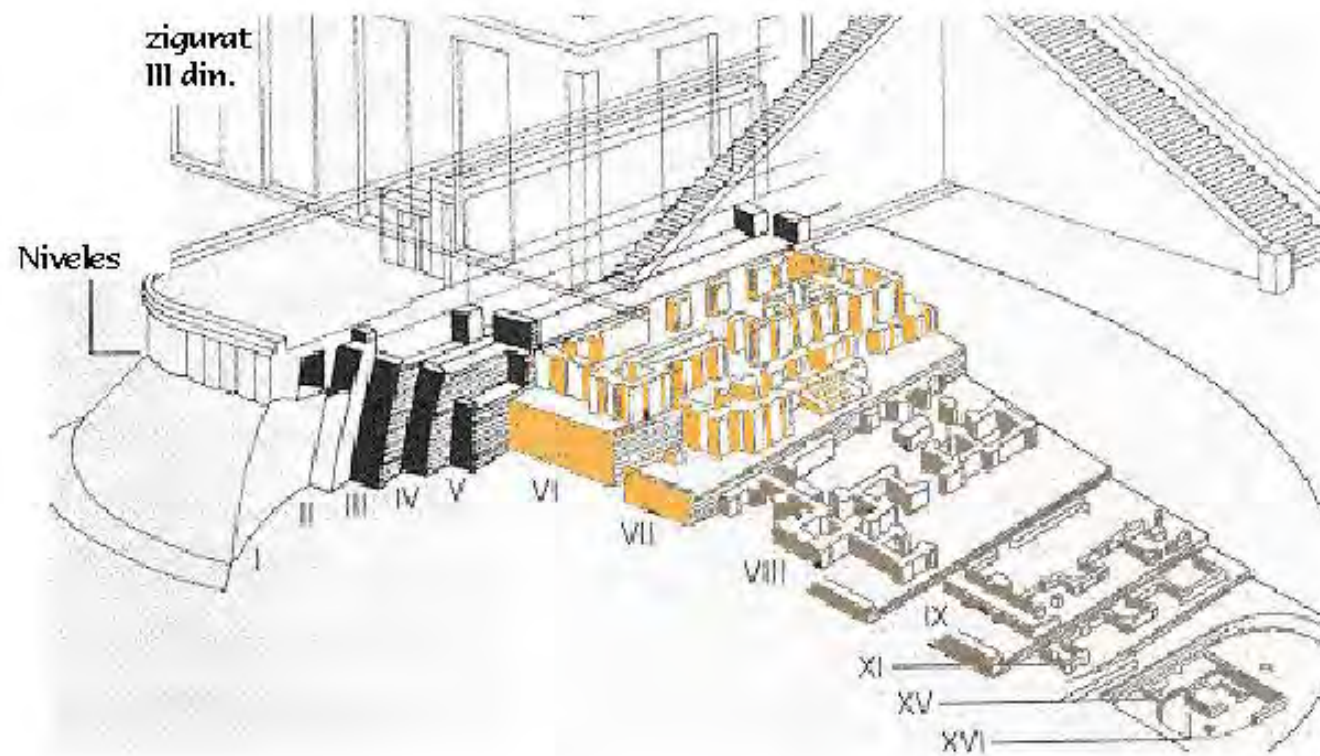
LATE 'UBAID (5000-4300 cal.BC)

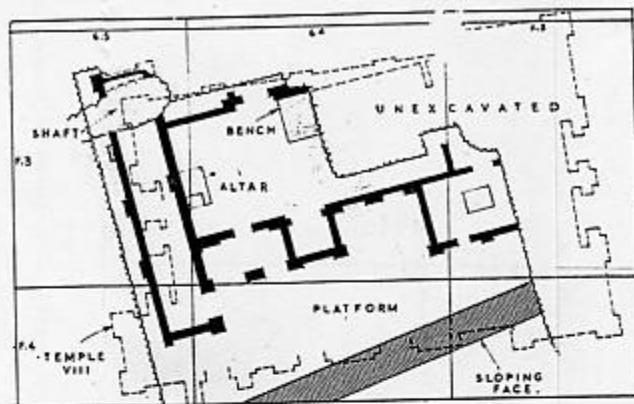
Tripartite 'house' as extended metaphor



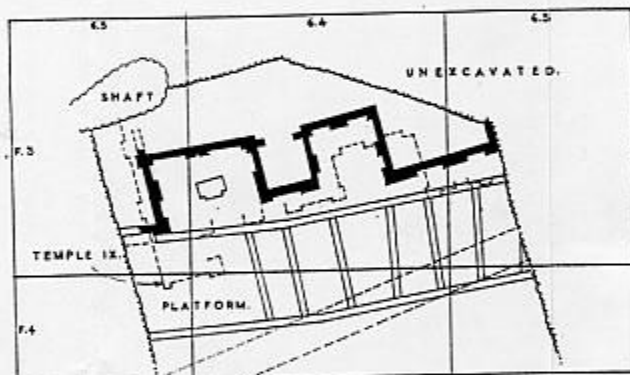
household : workshop : office : shrine







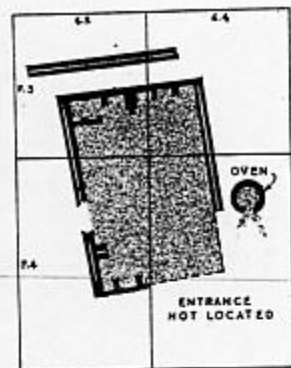
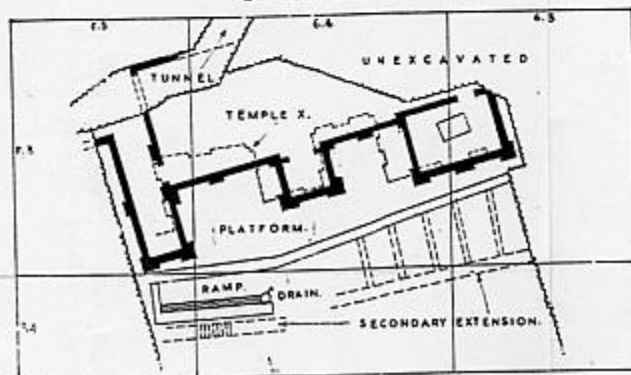
TEMPLE NINE.



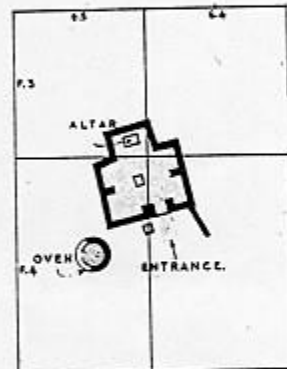
TEMPLE TEN.

SCALE 0 5 10 METRES.

TEMPLE ELEVEN.

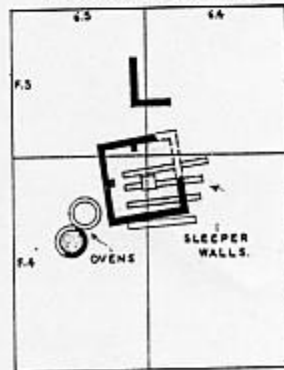


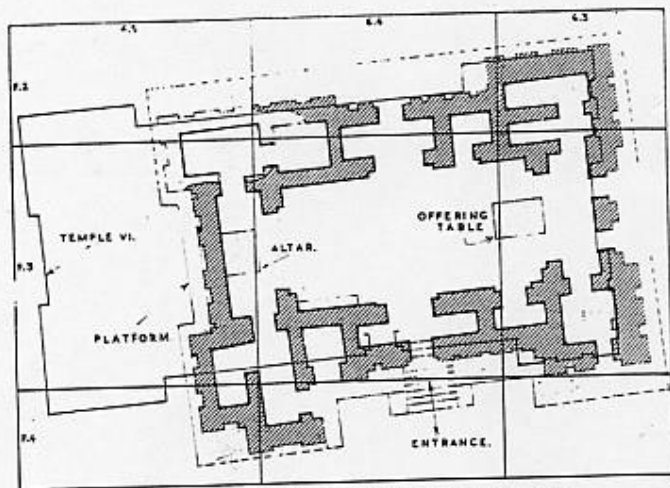
TEMPLE FIFTEEN.



TEMPLE SIXTEEN.

TEMPLE SEVENTEEN.

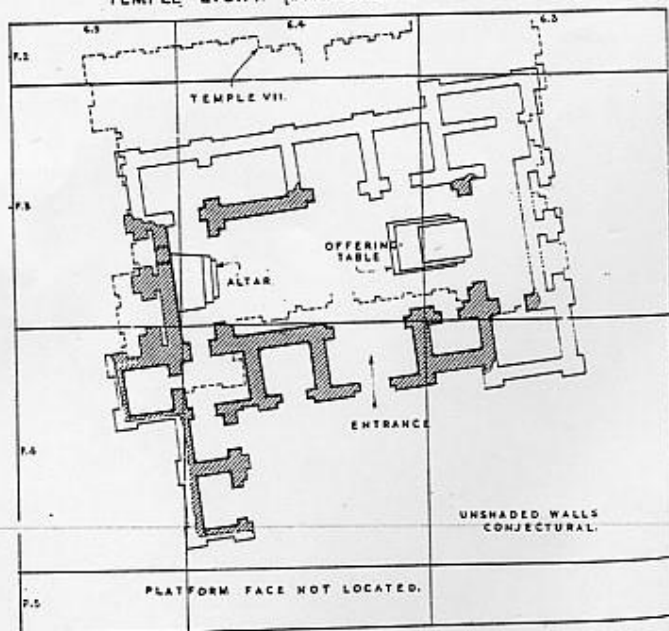


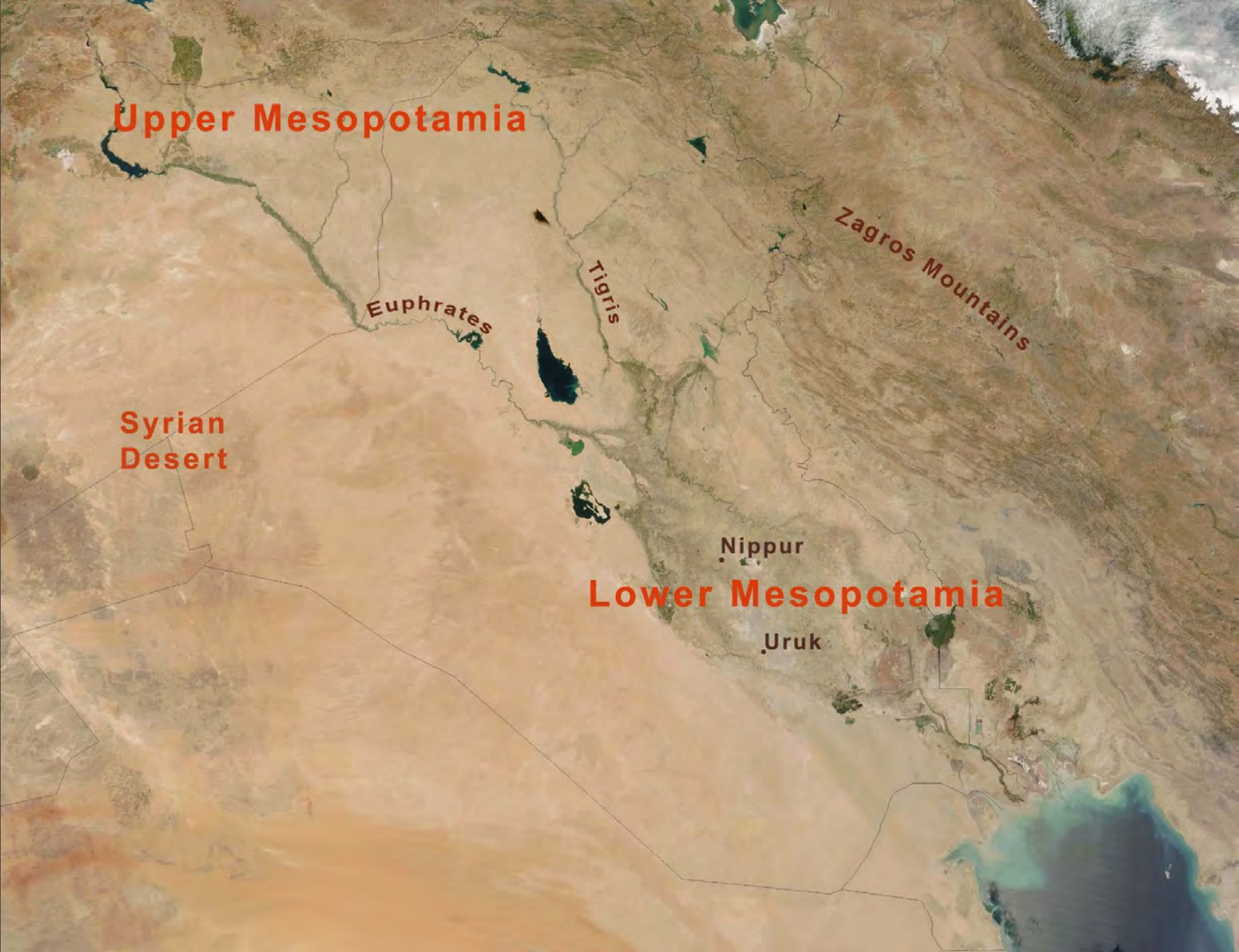


TEMPLE SEVEN. [WITH OUTLINE OF TEMPLE SIX]



TEMPLE EIGHT [WITH OUTLINE OF TEMPLE SEVEN]





Upper Mesopotamia

Euphrates

Tigris

Zagros Mountains

Syrian Desert

Nippur

Lower Mesopotamia

Uruk




















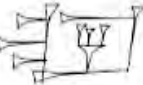













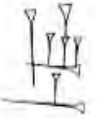












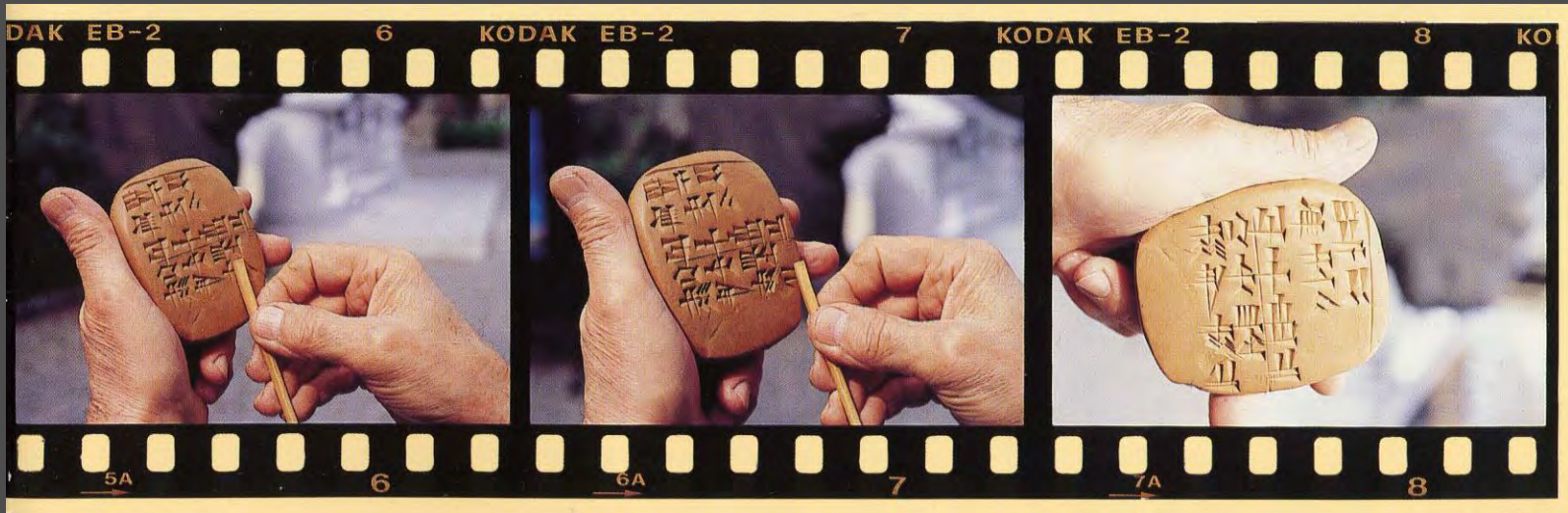
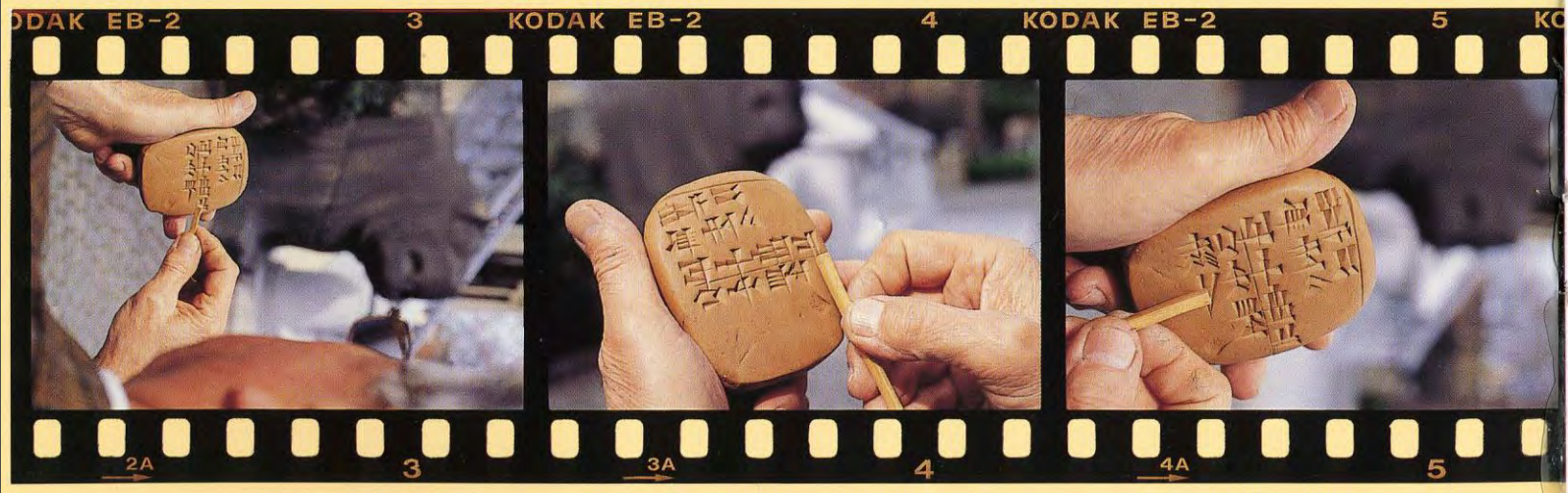
Hollow clay balls (bullae) and tokens



Examples of Uruk IV (above, excavation no. W 7227,a) and Uruk III (below, no. W 14804,a) tablets



Late Uruk ca. 3100	Jemdet Nasr ca. 3000	ED III ca. 2400	Ur III ca. 2000	Old Assyrian ca. 1900	Old Babylonian ca. 1700	Middle Assyrian ca. 1200	Neo-Babylonian ca. 600	meaning of archaic sign
								SAG "head"
								NINDA "ration"
								GU ₇ "disbursement"
								AB ₂ "cow"
								APIN "plow"
								KI "locality"





10a



Impression from catalogue number 10a.



10b



Impression from catalogue number 10b.

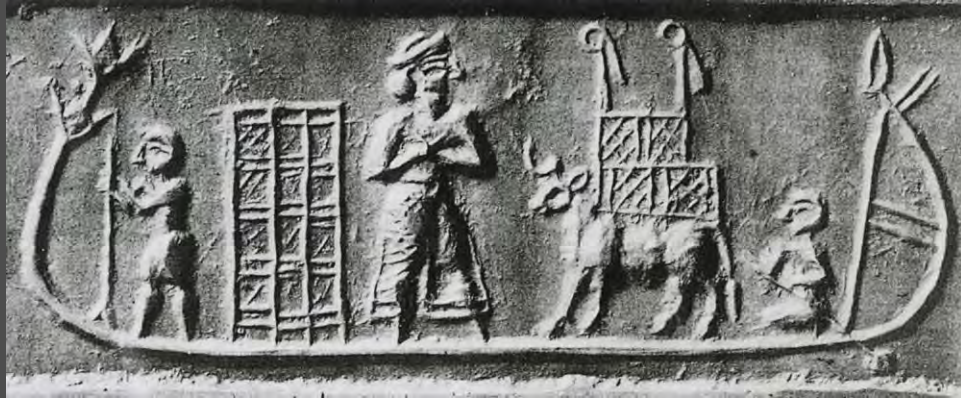


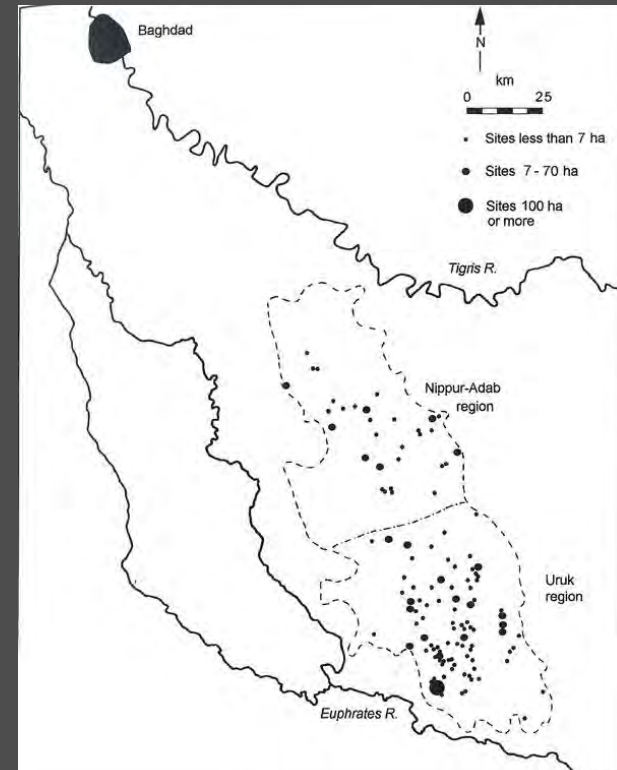
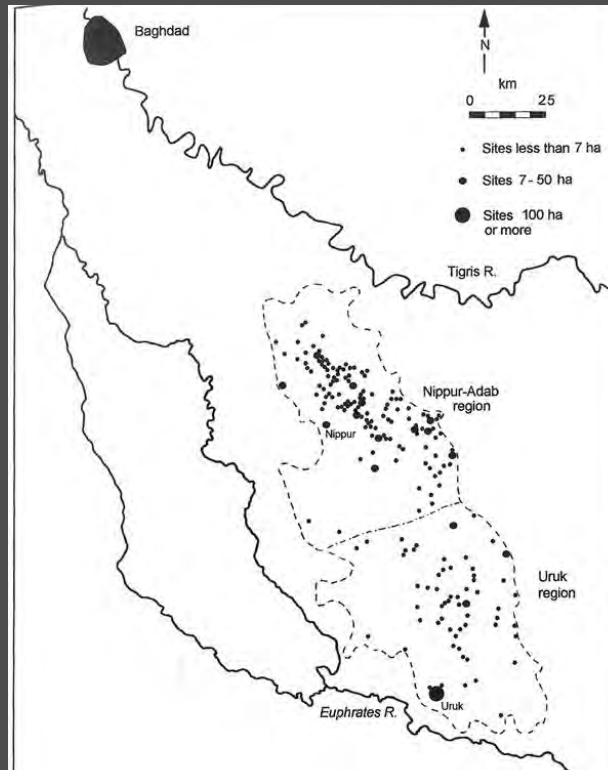
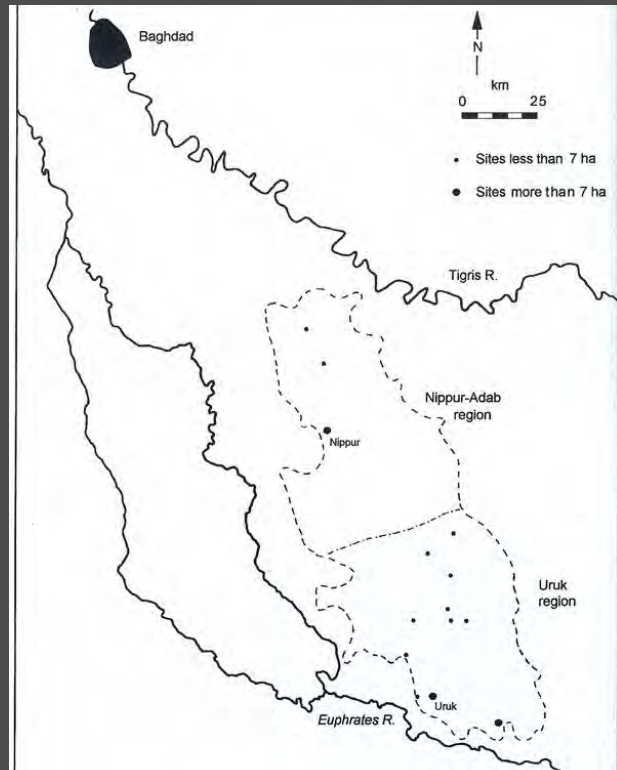
10c



Impression from catalogue number 10c.

Uruk cylinder seals and their impressions: new bureaucratic technologies?

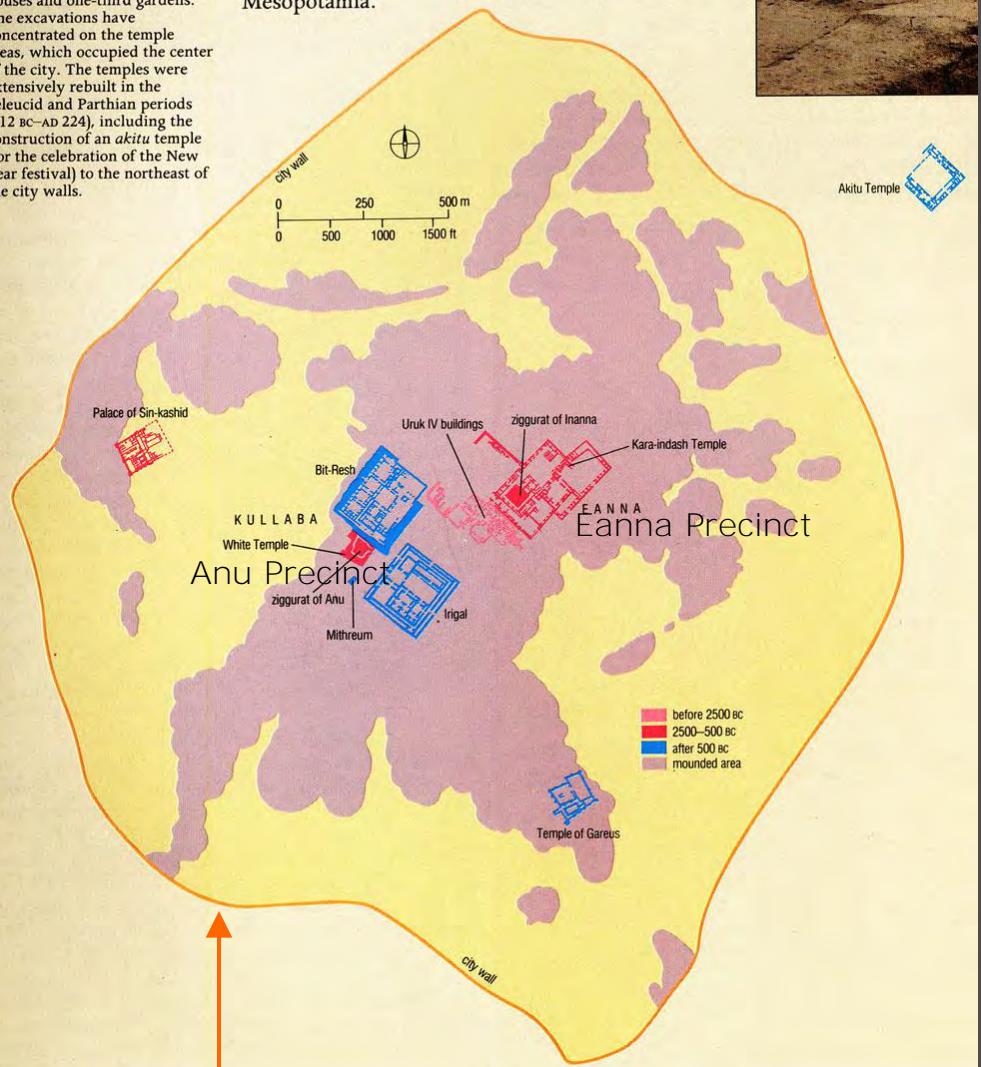
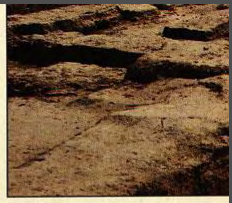




Uruk and Nippur, urbanization in Southern Alluvium (4000-2900 BC)
 villages, hamlets, towns and cities: socialization of the world

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 BC-AD 224), including the construction of an *akitu* temple (for the celebration of the New Year festival) to the northeast of the city walls.

according to later accounts 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

{ *Tablet I: Line 9* }

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

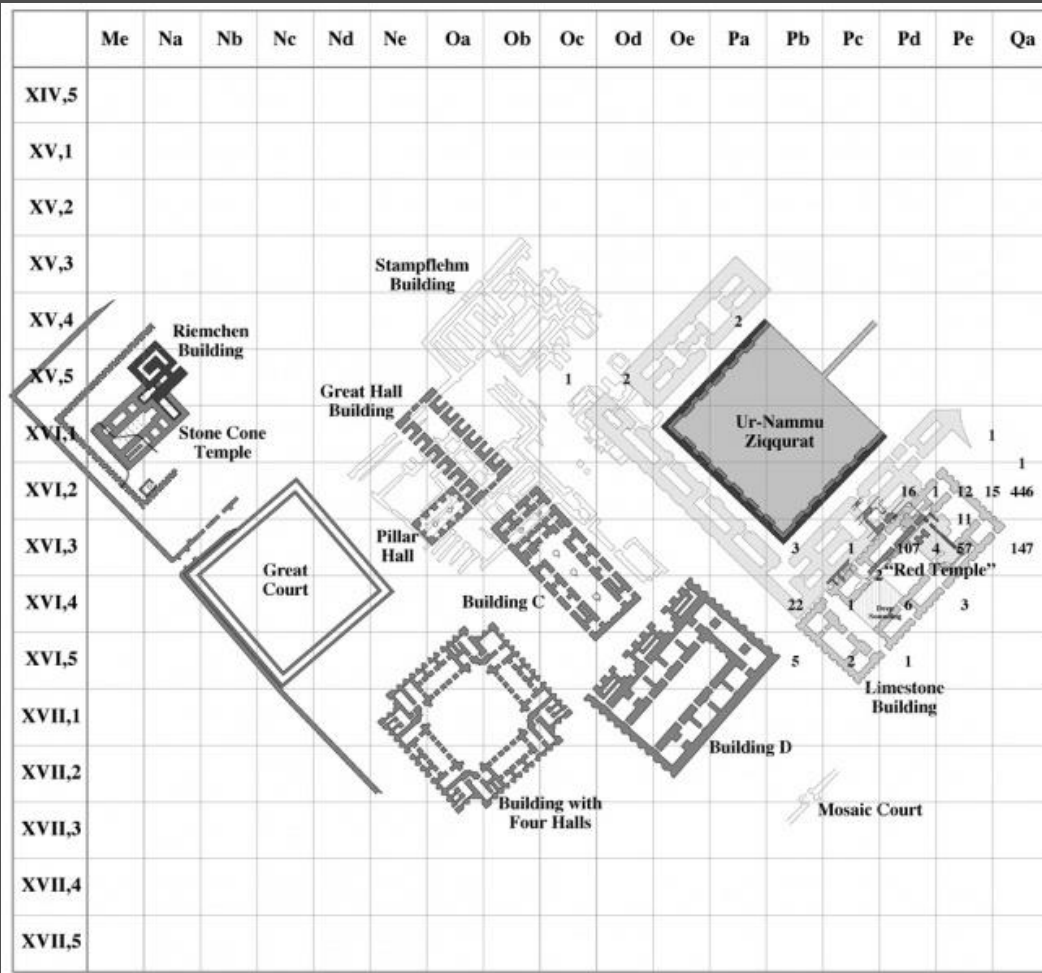
Lokale Konzentration ◻
Hohe Dichte 



URUK - WARKA
SURVEY DES STADTGEBIETES
1982 - 1984

0 100 200 300m

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

	Me	Na	Nb	Nc	Nd	Ne	Oa	Ob	Oc	Od	Oe	Pa	Pb	Pc	Pd	Pe	Qa
XIV,5																	
XV,1																	
XV,2																	
XV,3																	
XV,4																	
XV,5																	
XVI,1																	
XVI,2																	
XVI,3																	
XVI,4																	
XVI,5																	
XVII,1																	
XVII,2																	
XVII,3																	
XVII,4																	
XVII,5																	



uruk/warka:
monumentalization of the Eanna Precinct





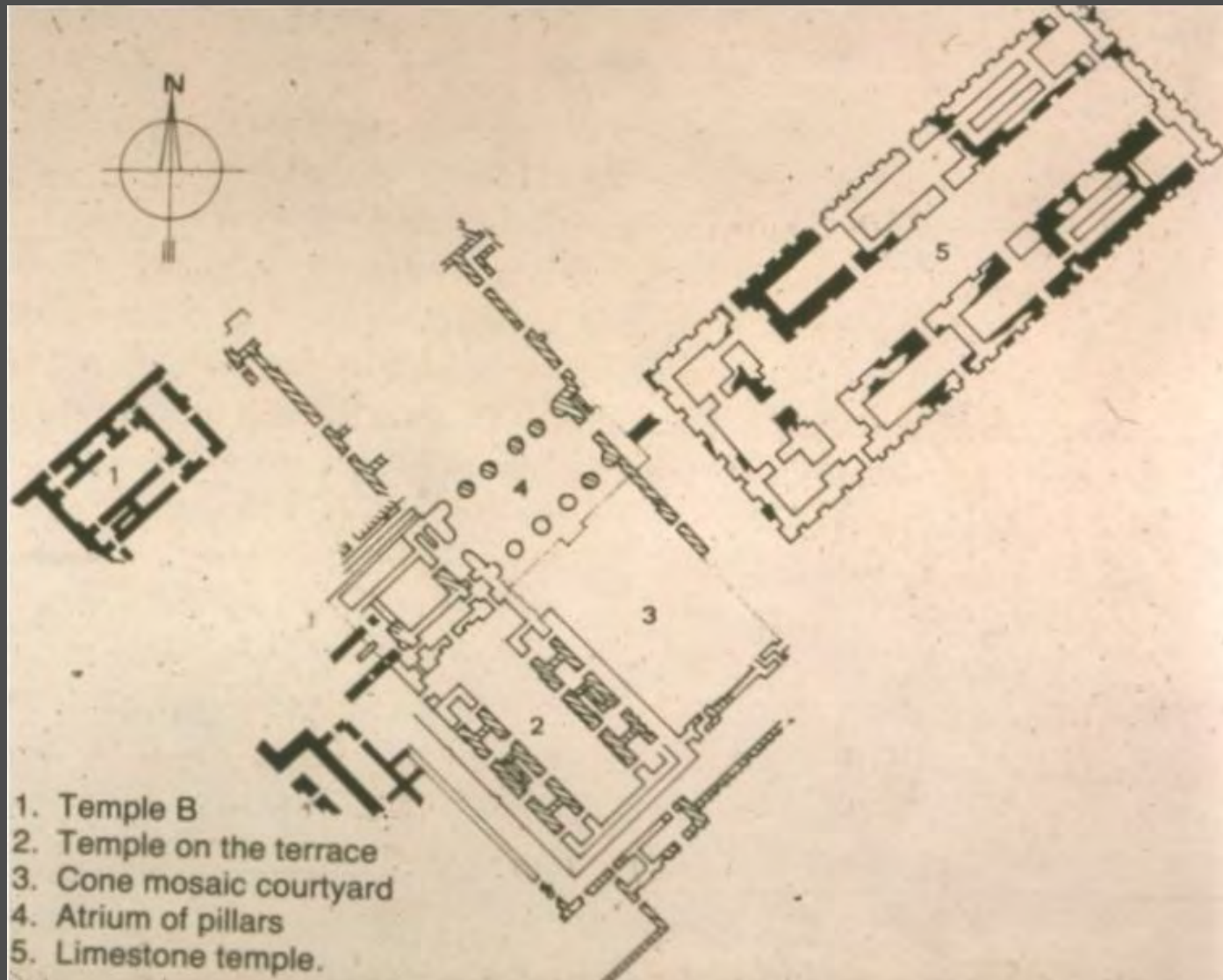
uruk/warka: trough



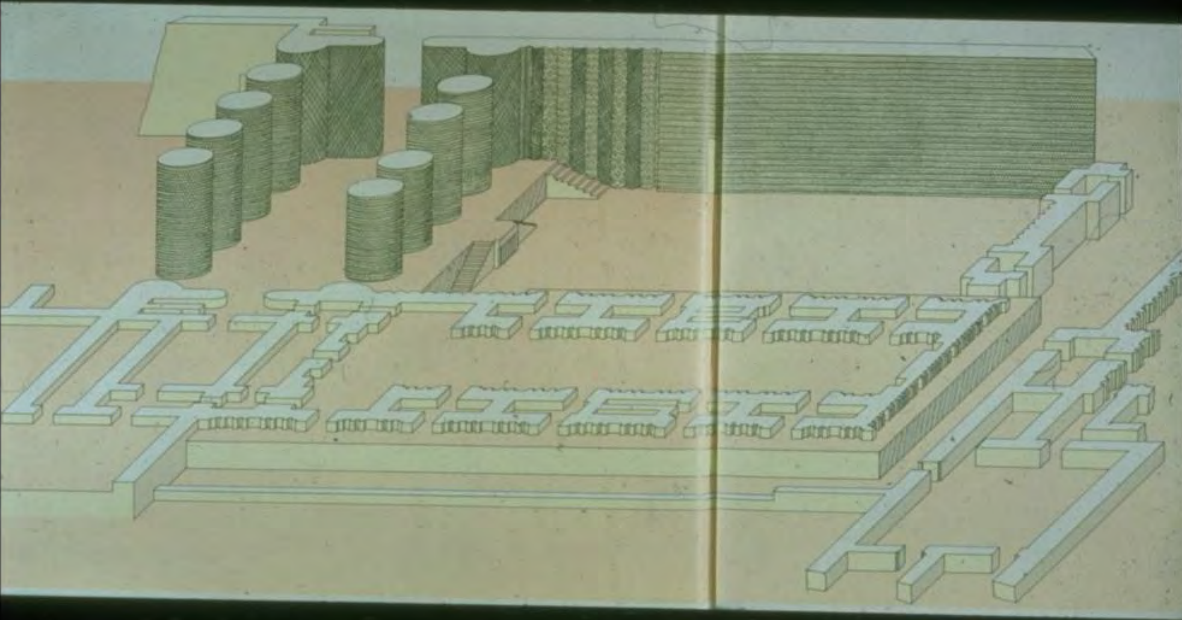
“the urban jar”

mudhif: reed construction from inanna's storerooms to marsh arabs





uruk/warka: Eanna precinct, Level V



uruk/warka: cone mosaic courtyard



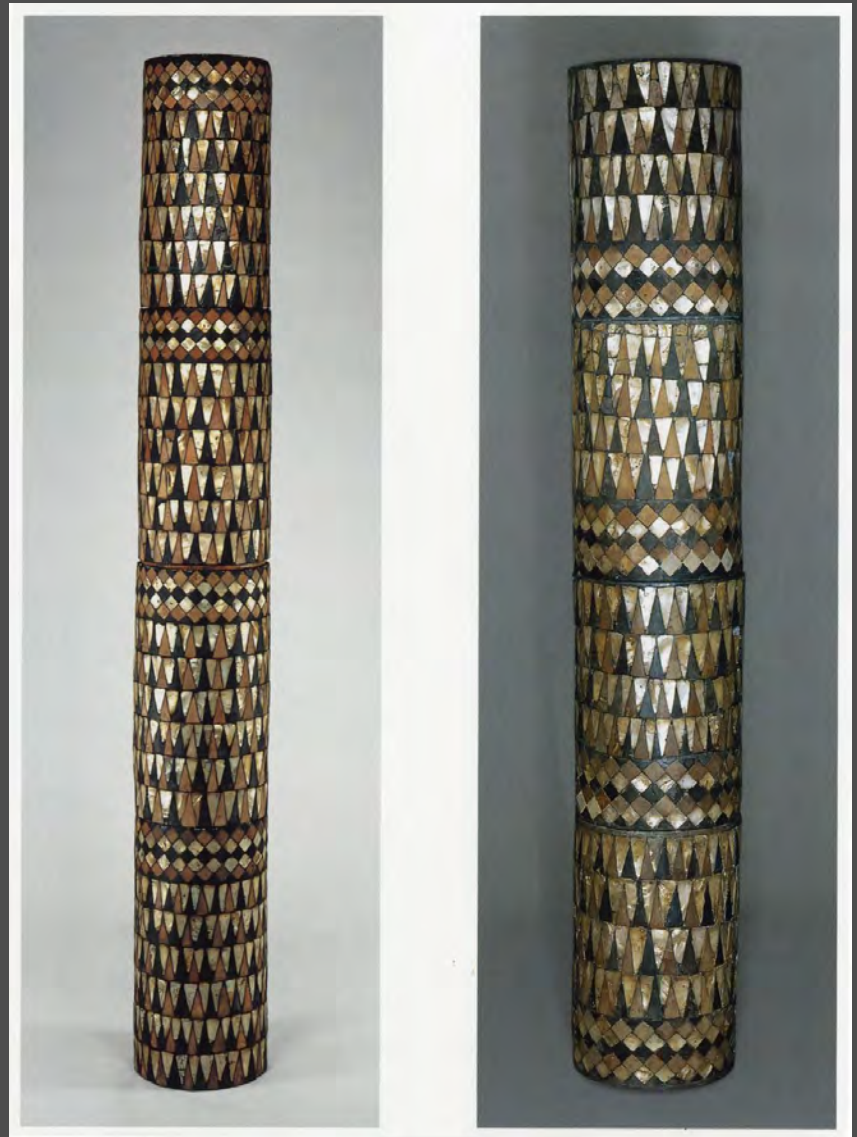
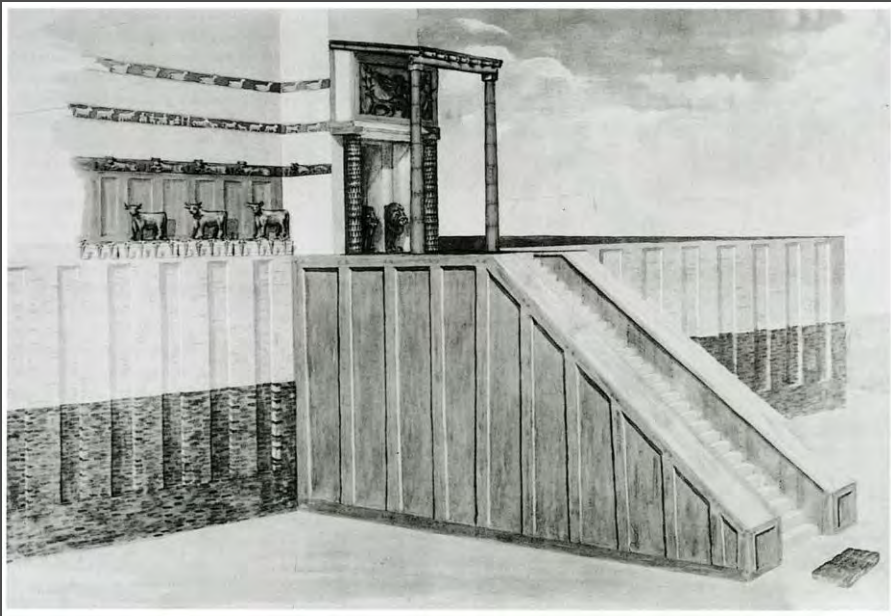
uruk/warka: innovative architectural technologies



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)

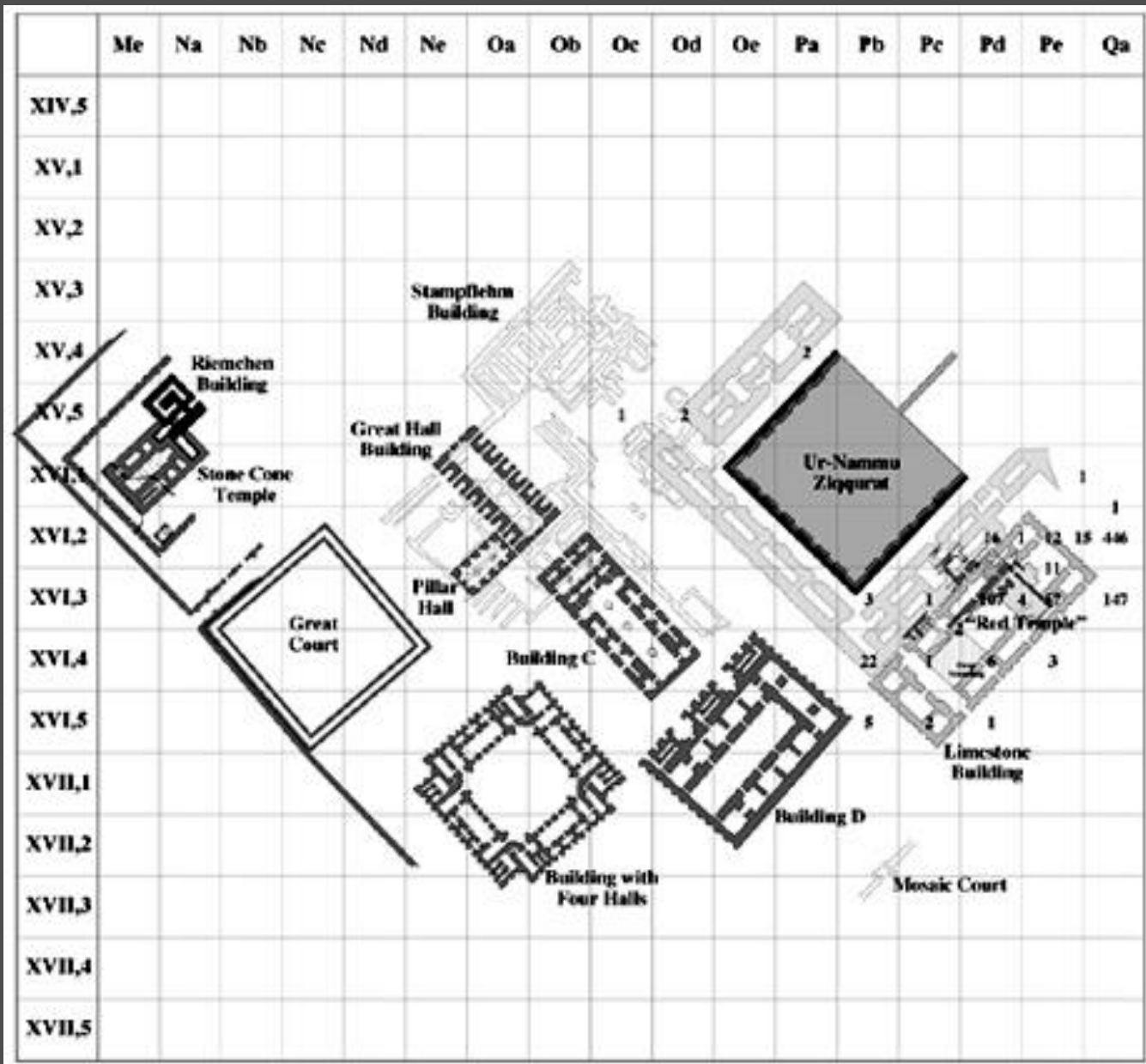
uruk/warka: stone and terracotta cone mosaics





tell all ubaid, temple of ninursag:
architectural technologies contemporary to Uruk





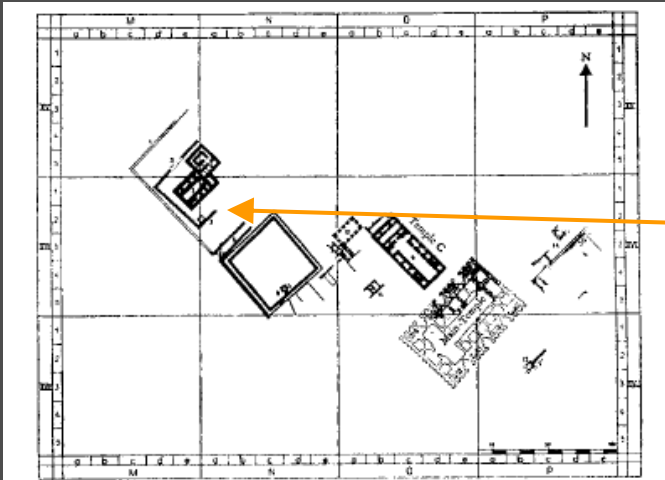


Fig. 3 Eanna sanctuary at Uruk, Level IV a
(After: UVB 21, Pl. 31)

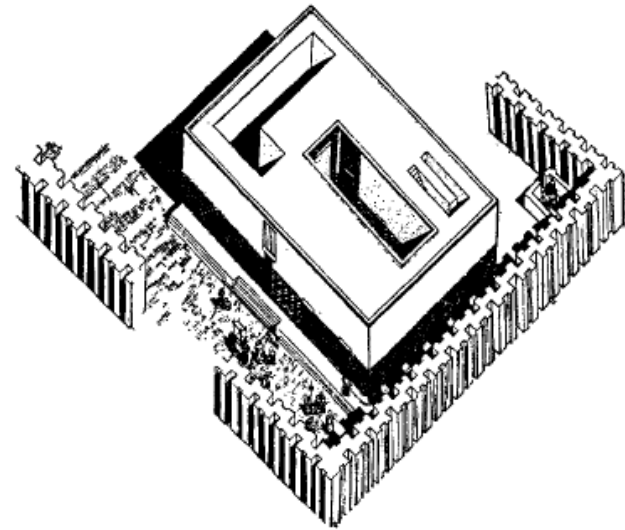


Fig. 2 Reconstruction of the Stone Cone Temple at Uruk
(After: UVB 15, Pl. 41)





Uruk (Warka) Vase, 3300–3000 B.C.;

Late Uruk period- Excavated from the Eanna Precinct

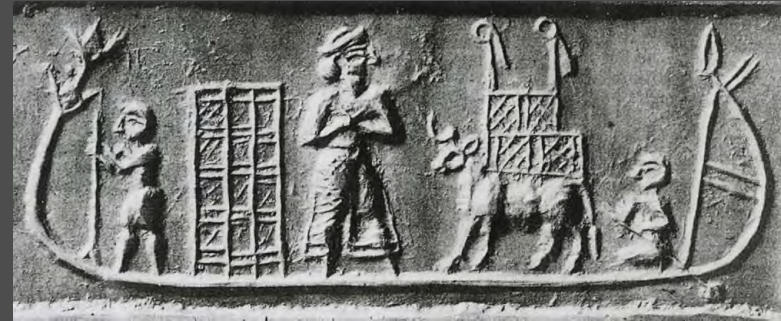
Alabaster, carved. Iraq Museum Baghdad

(Looted during the 2003 invasion of Iraq from the museum, but later returned)



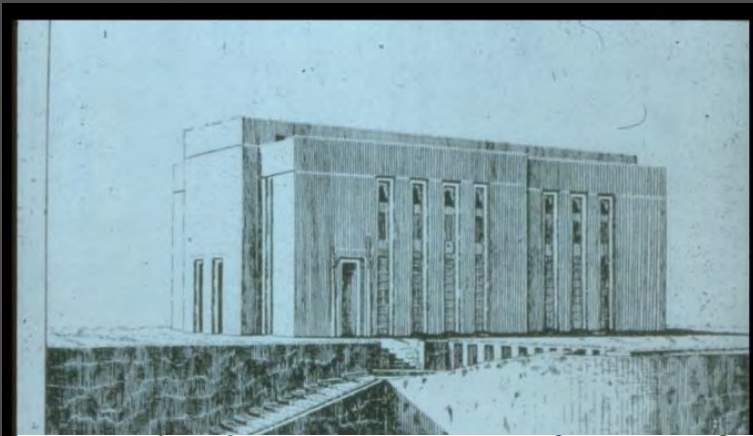
Uruk (Warka) Vase, 3300–3000 B.C.;
Late Uruk period- Excavated from the Eanna Precinct
Alabaster, carved. Iraq Museum Baghdad

uruk/warka: representations of a ruler-priest?

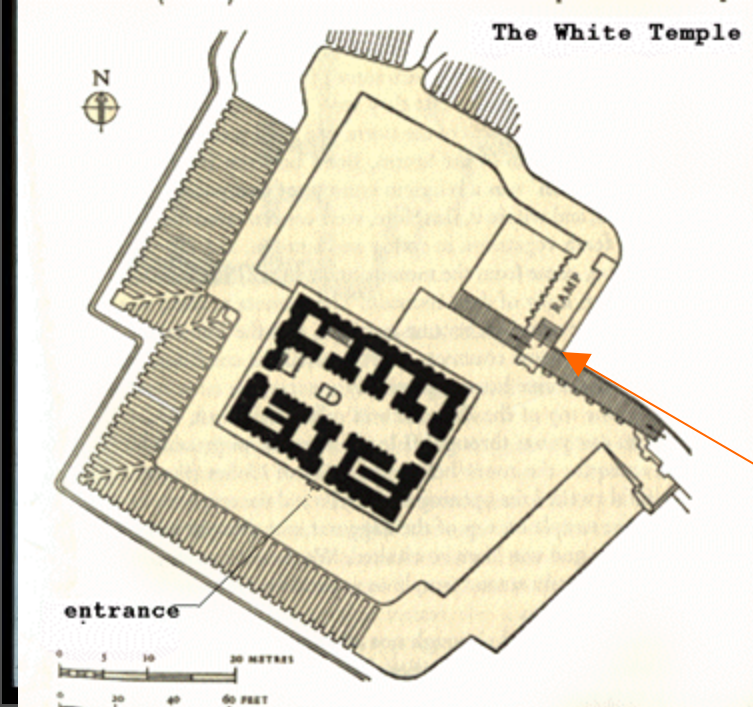




uruk/warka: boulder with the relief representation of a lion hunt



The White Temple



uruk/warka: white temple on the kullaba precinct, dedicated to anu

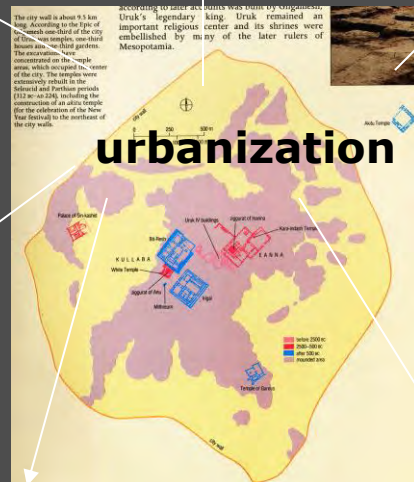
city as a result of a **landscape process** (intensification of settlement, hierarchization of settlement types and their overall spread in the geography

social evolutionary models of increasing complexity

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.



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

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

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

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

formation of the public sphere



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