

EDUBBA 8

**EXCAVATIONS IN CHOKHA
AN EARLY DYNASTIC SETTLEMENT**

SALAH SALMAN RUMAIDH

2000

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AN EARLY DYNASTIC SETTLEMENT**

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Abbreviation

Amiet, Glyptique Ant. Dept.	Amiet, P.: <i>Le glyptique mésopotamienne archaïque</i> . 1961 Department of Antiquities and Heritage- Iraq
Baqir, Introduction	Baqir, <i>Introduction to the History of Ancient Civilization</i> . 1973 (Arabic)
Basmachi,	Basmachi, F.: Engraved Stone plaques in the Iraq Museum. <i>Sumer</i> VII, 1951.
Ashmolean,	Buchanan, B.: <i>Catalogue of Ancient Near Eastern Seals in the</i> <i>Ashmolean Museum</i> . Vol.I. 1966
Delougaz, Houses	Delougaz, P.: <i>Private Houses and Graves in the Diyala Region</i> . OIP, LXXXVIII, 1964
Delougaz, Oval	Delougaz, P.: <i>The Temple Oval at Khafaje</i> . OIP, LIII, 1940
Delougaz, Pottery	Delougaz, P.: <i>Pottery from the Diyala Region</i> . OIP, LXIII, 1952.
Delougaz, Temples	Delougaz, P.; Lloyd, S.: <i>Pre-Sargonid Temples in the Diyala</i> <i>Region</i> . OIP, LVIII, 1942
Frankfort, Art	Frankfort, H.: <i>The Art and Architecture of the Ancient Orient</i> . 1954
Frankfort, Cy. S.	Frankfort, H.: <i>Cylinder Seals</i> . 1939
Frankfort, Diyala	Frankfort, H.: <i>Stratified Cylinder Seals from the Diyala Region</i> . OIP, LXII, 1955
Frankfort, Sculpture	Frankfort, H.: <i>Sculpture of the 3rd. Mill. B.C. From Tell Asmar</i> <i>and Khafaje</i> . OIP, XLIV, 1939.
Fuji, Gubba	Fuji, H.: <i>Excavations in Tell Gubba</i> . Hamrin Report 6. 1981. (Arabic)
Gibson, Uch Tepe	Gibson, Mac.: <i>Uch Tepe I</i> . 1981.
Hansen, Nippur	Hansen, D.: New Votive Plaques from Nippur. <i>JNES</i> , XXII, 1963
Kish I	Langdon, S.H.: <i>Excavations at Kish</i> . Vol.I. 1924
Lloyd, Arch.	Lloyd, S.: <i>The Archaeology of Mesopotamia</i> . 1978
A Cemetery	Mackay : <i>A Sumerian Palace and the Cemetery A at Kish</i> .
Mari II	Parrot, A.: <i>Mission archéologie de Mari II: Le palais</i> . 1956.
Moortgat, Art	Moortgat, A.: <i>The Art of Ancient Mesopotamia</i> . (Arabic Translation). 1975.
Nippur II	Macown, D.E.; Haines, R.C.; Biggs, R.: <i>Nippur II: Temple of</i> <i>Enlil, Scribal quarters, and Soundings</i> . OIP LXXVIII, 1967.
Parrot, Sumer	Parrot, A.: <i>Sumer</i> . 1961.
Porada, Corpus	Porada, E.: <i>Corpus of Ancient Near Eastern Seals in North</i> <i>American Collections I</i> , The Pierpont Morgan Library Collection. 1948
Iraq	Postgate, J. N.: Excavations at Abu Salabikh. <i>Iraq</i> . 36, 38, 39, 40
Roaf, Tell Madhhur	Roaf, M.: Tell Madhhur. <i>Sumer</i> 43, 1984.
Strommenger, Art.	<i>The Art of Mesopotamia</i> . 1964.
Ur Ex. II	Woolley, L.: <i>Ur Excavations Vol.II. The Royal Cemetery</i> . 1934
Ur Ex. I	Woolley, L.: <i>Ur Excavations Vol.IV. The Early Period</i> . 1955.

Chapter One

The Excavations

Since the fifties, the development projects in Iraq have indirectly, contributed to the expansion of our knowledge of the history, culture and civilization of ancient Iraq. Before undertaking any initial steps on any developmental project, the Department of Antiquities and Heritage would survey the areas concerned and carry out all the necessary archaeological investigations and excavations, in order to save whatever could be saved of the archaeological and cultural remains.

Accordingly, one could mention, for example, the results of the salvage-excavations on the Great Mesayab Project (Mesayab-al-Kabir)¹, the surveys and excavations in the area of the Nehrawan Project², salvage excavations in the basin of Shahrzur³ and in Dokan⁴. Other salvage operations were carried out in the areas of Highway No.1 Project⁵, Hamrin Basin Projects⁶, Qadisiyah Dam Project⁷, and Saddam Dam⁸. In all those and in others the Department of Antiquities and Heritage had undertaken investigations and excavations of the archaeological sites which lie within these areas.

Should we trace excavation works undertaken by the Department of Antiquities since the fifties down to the present time, we would find that the greater part of the work was salvage operations particularly in the regions where development projects were planned.

One such project was the railway-line, Baghdad-'Ukkashat-al-Qa'im, which led the Department of Antiquities to excavate Tell Chokha, in order to discover any significant archaeological remains that may have bearing on the history and civilization of ancient Iraq.

In addition, urban expansion necessitates similar investigations and excavations, in areas which lie just outside cities and towns. Such are the cases of Tell Qalinj

1-Department of Antiquities and Heritage, Section of Investigations, File no.138/39 on the Mesayab-l-Kabir Project.

2 - Adams, R.: *Land Behind Baghdad*. 1965, p.125.

3 - Hijara, Ismail: Excavations in Shahrzur. *Sumer* 31 & 32, 1975 & 1976: 59-80 & 375-81 (Arabic).

4 - Al-Alusi, Salim: Statistical Synopsis. *Sumer* 15, 1959, pp.114-5 (Arabic).

5 - Rumayidh, Salah Salman: Excavations in Highway No.1. *Sumer* 38, 1982, p.40 (Arabic).

6 - Abu-Soof, Bahnam: Salvage Excavations in the Hamrin Dam Basin. *Sumer*, 35, 1979, p.416, (Arabic).

7 - Al-Shukri, Sabah J: Archaeological Salvage Projects in Qadisiyah Dam Basin. *Sumer*, 42, 1986, p.9 (Arabic)

8 - Abu-Soof, Behnam: Comprehensive Salvage Excavations, in Saddam-Dam Basin. in *Researches in the Antiquities of Saddam Dam Basin and Other Researches*. 1987, p.8, (Arabic).

Agha¹ in Irbil, Tell Abu-Thar², Telul Al-Habibiyah³ and Tell Abu-Sukhair in the suburb of Dora south of Baghdad⁴.

Similarly, road-building and road-expansions have been behind other excavations in a number of archaeological tells, as for example the cases of Tell Bastki in Nineveh⁵, and Tell Mizyad near Babylon⁶.

In other words, apart from a few exceptional cases, most of the excavation work undertaken in Iraq in the last four decades was motivated by saving the sites where the lands, in which they were located, were earmarked for developmental projects⁷.

In the case of Tell Chokha, the Baghdad-Ukkashat-Qa'im Railway-line was bound to infringe on some parts of the site. Hence the Department of Antiquities and Heritage commissioned a number of its archaeologists to excavate the site, and work started at the beginning of February 1980⁸.

Chokha lies on the right side of the Euphrates about 1.50km from its current course, on the left side of the Baghdad-Anbar Highway, and about 9km. from the town of Faloujah. The area covered by the site is nearly 195x165m, and the tell 2m higher than the surrounding land.

There are a number of ancient sites in Iraq that has the name Chokha, like Choga Mami (pronounced Chokha in Arabic) and Chokha (Umma- Umm al-'Agarib). There is no explanation as to the meaning of the word, however, Al-Hamawi used the word to explain a collapsed well⁹. Its name could also be of Turkish origin (Chokha) meaning plenty, possibly referring here to the numerous number of graves on the surface, as it was the burial ground for one of the Dulaim tribes. Unfortunately, no cuneiform tablets or inscribed objects were found in Chokha to help in the identification of its ancient name.

Initially the area was surveyed, and a contour map was drawn and divided into interlinking squares, each square measuring 10x10m (fig.4). The purpose was to keep an exact record of the archaeological finds during excavations¹⁰.

At the beginning, work concentrated on Sq.6D that represents the northern summit of the site, it would have been the first to be removed by the railway construction work. In the course of scraping and digging to a depth of 30-50cm, diverse pottery

1. Abu-Sooof, Bahnam: Excavations in Qalinj-Agha. *Sumer* 25, 1969, pp.3-14, (Arabic).

2. Madhloum, Tariq: Excavations at Abu Thar. *Sumer* 15, 1959, pp.69-85, (Arabic).

3. Al-Adhami, Khalid Khalil: Excavations in Tellul Al-Habibiyah in Baghdad. *Sumer* 37, 1981, p.212, (Arabic).

4. Al-Janabi, Tariq: Tell Abu Sukhair in Dora. *Sumer*, 34, 1984, p.73, (Arabic).

5. Madhloum, Tariq: A Study of a Bronze Akkadian Statue. *Sumer* 32, 1976, p.45 (Arabic).

6. Mahdi, A.: *Ishan Mizyad, an Important Akkadian Centre*.

7. Like Tell Es-Sawwan, examples of excavations accompanying seasonal restoration and maintenance work on important ancient archaeological sites are carried out in: Ur, Babylon, Nimrud, Aqarquf, and in site which were fields of study and research by Iraqi and international academic institutions. Sippar was excavated by the college of Arts, the University of Baghdad; Warka by a German expedition; Nippur by an American expedition; Abu Salabikh by a British expedition; Larsa by a French expedition and Yarim Tepe by a Soviet expedition.

8. The expedition included the writer as director, and Riyadh Abdul-Rahman, Abdul-Hamid Hassan Akkar, Ismail Ibrahim Sherif, Sabah Mehdi and others. The excavation season covered the period between february 1980 to December 1981. In addition, the expedition was to undertake investigation, sounding and excavating the sites that fall in the path of Highway No.1.

9. Al-Hamawi, Yaqut: *M'ujam al-Buldan*, vol.2. Beirut 1956.

10. Al-Dabbagh, Taqi, Al-Jadir, Walid & Al-Fitian, Ahmed Maik: *Methods of Archaeological Excavations*. 1983 (Arabic).

examples were discovered. This point in particular had suffered from continued infringements by a recent Islamic cemetery. At a depth of about 60cm from the summit a number of burial jars, characterised by being elongated in shape and bulging at the sides were unearthed. Continued digging revealed blocks made of "libn" and mud, distributed between the graves, which we ascertained to be parts of walls belonging to a building unit above this level, as floors were observed at the bottom of the blocks. This was further confirmed when the area of excavation was extended to include Sq. 6E. There, many pottery sherds of various shapes were observed, and the graves were more numerous. The total number of graves in those two squares amounted to 68, as a result, we could consider the place a Parthian cemetery. Blocks of "libn" and sections of floors continued to appear in a number of places among the graves.

At a depth of 90-120cm in the same two squares, "libn" and mud walls appeared; They were 50-110 thick and constituted sections of rectangular rooms of various areas. The rooms were numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (fig.5).

In those rooms a large collection of archaeological finds were discovered dating to the Early Dynastic period. Underground-water, at a depth of 220cm below the surface, precluded further vertical excavation in those two squares, which turned in a pond of mud and water. As the fragments of painted pottery (particularly Scarlet Ware) were quite significant (fig.23), and as the purpose of excavation was to gather information about the nature of the settlement and its cultural and historical relations to other sites, it was decided to extend excavation to include parts of the two Sqs.5D and 5E. It is noteworthy to indicate that due to the abundance of graves in this part of the tell, the site has been subject to acts of looting and destruction. At a depth of about 90cm from the surface, the extensions of the walls of rooms 5, 8 and 9 appeared, as did parts of room 10.

Significantly, there appeared a large collection of diverse archaeological finds in the southern part of Sq.5E, at the depth of the underground water. Again excavation was impeded by the water, and work had to be extended to Sqs.5F and 6F, so that the total dimension of the area of excavation became 25x15cm. After removing the graves and digging to the depth of the underground water, sections of walls of the rooms 12, 13 and 14 appeared. One of the archaeological finds discovered here was a broken painted pottery jar (fig.22).

Due to the infringement of recent graves, the archaeological finds were more numerous, scattered particularly, below or near the graves.

Excavation included the eastern sections of Sqs. 5F and 6F, making the dimensions of the area 25x20m; with the aim of discovering structures to complete rooms 7, 14, 15 and 3. While investigating the function of the building, two walls built with plano-convex "libn" bricks were uncovered measuring 28x16x8cm.

The evidence from the bricks showed that the entire area had suffered a massive fire. As the two walls were not joined together, it was difficult to ascertain the purpose for which they were built; and as this section of the tell had no structural remains, it was thought probably a large courtyard belonging to a particular building or to room 7. The remains of another wall were uncovered; it stood along the length of the wall separating rooms 3 and 4, and extended to the length of 1.5m within the courtyard, it may have divided the courtyard into two parts. It had been destroyed, hence it was not possible to discover its remaining length. It was necessary to dig in the direction of the north to a distance of 5 meters to include the halves of Sqs.7C, 6C and 5C making the dimensions of the excavated area 20x30m. Here again, more graves appeared, which were removed, and vertical digging continued, whereupon the lengths of the walls discovered in former squares were observed. Those walls were damaged as a result of the infringement of the graves upon them. The walls

extended westward revealing rooms 8, 10, 15, 16 and 17, excavation extended westward to include 5F, 5E, 5D and 5C. The excavated area became 25x30m which perhaps comprised the entire structural area.

However, it was not possible to have a complete plan of the building units, as the north-western walls of rooms 8, 10, 11 and 16 appeared, also, parts of rooms 18, 19 and 20. They differ from the previous units by having two floors belonging to one level, and therefore may belong to a different structure. This was confirmed by later checking of the excavations in the expanded areas. It was found that the lower phase held the remains of the walls which did not exceed three rows of "libn" belonging to the same level.

Upon examining the exposed walls and floors throughout the area of excavations, which comprised a number of rooms, courts and passages, it appeared that they constituted three structural levels. The first of which was represented by the blocks of "libn" scattered among the graves that had caused the obliteration of most of their characteristics, thus eliminating structural and architectural details of this level, excepting in the case of a few remains of walls. Below this floor the walls of level II stood.

Level III was noted in more than one place that its foundations were below the level of the ground water, which leads to the assumption that other structural levels exist below this level as the evidence of pot sherds and the remains of a fire suggest. These indications appeared as the soil of the nearby tell was being removed. Digging became inconclusive as muddy waters impeded the excavations, so it was stopped. Another area which came to be known as Area Two, was excavated; it was adjacent to the first on the southern side. The main reason for excavation was to continue tracing the buildings exposed in Area One, which could have direct bearing on and shed light on the nature of the buildings. Excavation concentrated on an area measuring 15x15m, which included Sqs.8G, 8F, 7G and 7F (fig.6).

As in previous excavations the presence of recent graves posed a problem. However, as none of its parts was joined to any structural remains, it is difficult to have any information about level I (it was largely damaged by the graves). The blocks of "libn" which were scattered among the graves, on the same level as the wall did not help to give any specific indications about the extent of level I.

At a depth of 60-90cm, Level II began to be discerned. After exposing the walls, it appeared that they formed rooms of different sizes; they were numbered successively: 1, 2, 3,4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. But the extensions of some of the walls were to the north-west, hence the excavation expanded westward to an area measuring 5m, thus completing Sqs. 7G and 7F.

The level of ground water in this location again precluded continued digging (figs.12 & 13). No further expansion northwards was possible, and it was not possible to connect this area with Area One. However, the remains of two adjacent rooms (nos.10 and 11) were discovered.

The south-western section of the excavation-area did not yield any information, due to the many deep faults, which meant digging in mud and underground waters. Therefore, the area was extended northwards to include Sqs.6F and 6G, making the area 15x30m. As usual the graves appeared again, and after removing them the remains of the walls of Level II appeared at a depth of 50-80cm beneath the surface of the tell. Those walls were built with "libn" measuring 28x16x6-8cm.

Upon putting together the plans of the buildings in this part with those of the buildings exposed in Area One, it appeared that they represented building-units of varied plans and sizes, which is a characteristic of the Early Dynastic III period.

These buildings could be of help to understand the development of the architecture of the period, of which still little is known particularly in the region of the middle Euphrates.

In an effort to gather more specific and detailed information about this settlement, a sounding-pit was dug at the southern summit of the settlement, measuring 10x20m. It comprised Sqs.12Q and 13Q. The Purpose was to discover the building levels in this part of the site, and to determine whether they were similar to those found in the first summit, or whether they date to a different period (fig.7).

After removing the graves in this section and digging to a depth of 30-50cm, the beginnings of the remains of a wall began to appear. The northern part of its length was discovered; it was 1.50m long and its width varied between 20cm and 60cm. It was believed at the beginning that it was part of Level I, but it was difficult to ascertain its connection with the blocks of "libn" which were found scattered among the graves. Continued digging revealed two further structural levels dating to the same period as that of the first summit. The pottery and other building materials were the evidence upon which the date was based.

Chapter Two

The Architecture

The importance of the two areas excavated in Tell Chokha from Level II (figs 8 & 10), become more clear when the buildings are compared with finds from other Sumerian sites. These structures were similar to most of the private dwellings discovered in Khafaje¹, Kish², Nippur³ and Mari⁴. In addition, the walls in this level were observed to be thicker than usual, as the level included more than one structural unit. Clearly the difference of styles of buildings causes the difference in the shape and size of the structural unit, though the building materials are the same.

Close observation of the plastered wall, at the points where it meets with the floors, has shown that the buildings had been used for dwelling purposes in two phases, as there were two floors. Each had a different thickness, varying between 15 and 30cm. A large block was found, on top of which was placed a large kiln. In addition numerous "tanours" were found placed in the dwelling units, as the case was in Abu-Salabikh⁵, Nippur⁶ and other sites. Although the possibility that a dwelling unit could have more than one "tanour"; careful investigation was conducted to ascertain to which structure each "tanour" belonged.

The Buildings of Level II

Unit One

It lies in the north-western section of the excavated area, in Sqs. 5D. C and 6D, C. They were numbered 1, 5, 11, 16. Area 16 was larger than any room in this unit. It represented the main courtyard as the other rooms surrounded it. Room 1 and other rooms next to it stood on the south-eastern side. Rooms 5 and 11 also were on the side of the courtyard but on the lower floor. For reasons of their own, the inhabitants had narrowed the courtyard by adding a wall which was not joined to the other by cross-bound bricks. It had a 70cm wide entrance, which could have been the only entrance to the unit in the northern or eastern sections, a part which lay outside the range of the excavations. It was observed that this unit closely resembled house no.7 of level Vb in Tell Asmar⁷.

It is probable that the exposed parts of rooms 18, 19 and 20 in Sqs.5, C. E and P constitute an independent unit, but as excavations came to an end, it was not possible to discover further details. It was found that the walls were used in one dwelling phase, as no upper floor parallel to the first phase was found, although two layers of plaster were discerned. Such a phenomenon indicates that the walls had been restored. The remains of "tanours" were observed in the cross section on the excavations in area 18. The slight tilt of the walls towards the west, suggests that those walls were partitions, and may have been built at a later time [fig.10]. They were not joined with other walls near them, but were joined together within the unit.

1- Delougaz, *Houses*: pp.6-8, pl.5.

2- *Kish I*, pl.9-10

3- *Nippur I*, pp.20-21.

4- *Mari. II*, fig.4V. Also, *Vol. I, le Temple d'Ishtar*, plan 9.

5- Postgate, N.: Abu-Salabikh. In: *Fifty Years in Mesopotamian Discovery*. 1983, p.59.

6- *Nippur I*, Op. Cit.

7- Delougaz, *Houses*: pl.25.

However, there were gaps in the dividing wall between rooms 18 and 19 on the one hand and rooms 8, 10 and 11 on the other hand, those were caused by the recent graves.

Unit Two

This unit lies to the south-west of the first unit within Sqs. 5ED and 6ED and was numbered 2, 8, 9 and 10, and it appeared that it was used in two phases as there were some changes in the buildings. In one instance the inhabitants of the first phase made use of the walls from the earlier levels which belonged to the same level, by adding walls at a later time, without joining them by cross-binding in the bricks. The north-western wall had a 95cm wide entrance, and the south-western wall of room 9, were both built during the first phase. The remains of a "tanour", 80cm in diameter, were found in the middle of room 10. The north-western side of room 2 was long and had an entrance 85cm wide; it seems this room was used in both phases as a number of layers of wall-paint were observed. The wall in the middle of the room which was added did not belong to phase one, rather to the lower phase, because it stood on the lower floor, a fact which leads to the belief that it was built in the time of phase one. Such changes and additions to the building at the time of construction and at a later time occur in other sites, as in Nippur¹. The remains of a "tanour" were found (85cm in diameter and of a height averaging 2-8cm) in the large room 8. The entrance of this room was not found because its south-western and south-western walls were not higher than 60cm. Room 10 which seemed to be a courtyard in the lower phase, had become a rectangular room after the new additions in phase one (the upper phase), when the two, south-western and the north-western walls of room 9 were built. One of those walls extended towards the west into room 10. It is noteworthy that a grave rich with funerary objects was discovered near the entrance separating rooms 10 and 2, which will be discussed in a later chapter².

A detailed study of the buildings of this unit shows that they resemble others contemporary in date from sites as Abu-Salabikh³, Khafajeh⁴ and Nippur⁵.

Unit Three

It lies to the east of the two previous units within Sqs.6CDEF, and consisted of one house. Its walls did not exceed 50cm in height. It seems that the inhabitants made use of walls of an older phase, as they constructed the structures of their unit on older foundations. This was confirmed by the closure of the entrance on the south-eastern wall of room 4. It was the largest in the unit and there was evidence that it had suffered a great fire [fig.15]; the ashes and rubble made a layer 25cm thick, while the remaining walls were not more than 35cm high. A "tanour" 105cm wide was discovered at a distance of 4.20m from the western corner of courtyard 7. The remaining height of the "tanour" were 8-15cm.

Unit Four

It lies on the south-western side of Unit Three within Sqs.5E, 6E, 7E, 5F, 6F and 7F; rooms 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. It seems more complex than other units, and may have been occupied in two phases. The walls were different in each phase. For example, the two walls which separated the rooms 12 and 13 on the one hand and 14 and 15 on the other hand, did not stretch westwards when followed through, and showed no trace before the northern corner of room 13. Also, there

1- *Nippur II*:: Op.Cit., pp.17-22.

2- See the chapters on pottery and cylinder seals.

3- *Iraq* 39: p.279.

4- Delougaz, *Houses*: pl.45.

5. *Nippur I*:: p.18-20, pl.33.

were few differences between the two phases. There were walls which constituted corners of rooms in one phase but it was difficult to ascertain corresponding walls in the second phase. However, those were walls of low height, not exceeding three rows, and they stood on a thick layer of rubble. It seemed the walls of this unit were shared between the two phases on the eastern side, but not on the western side. It was also observed that the floors sloped to the west. Two locations where "tanours" had stood were found; one in room 13, near the northern corner, was 60cm in diameter, 2-3cm thick, and 8-15cm high, the other was similar but its walls were 10cm high, and stood in the eastern corner of room 6. Significantly we found that the added wall which separated rooms 14 and 15 was constructed by placing the bricks in the upright and horizontal positions (or English bond, as known today), which is the common way in most discovered buildings of the Early Dynastic period¹. Room 11 was not regular in shape (fig.13), it was similar to room 45 of house VIII, of the private dwellings in Khafajeh², as an entrance 70cm wide was found in the northern side of the room opening onto courtyard 13. However, the end of the buildings of this unit on the western side were not discovered, because the settlement sloped sharply and the recent graves were numerous making it difficult to identify the details of this courtyard. The entrance in room 11 belongs to the lower phase, while the entrance that belongs to the upper phase is placed slightly to the south, a feature similar to the houses which surround the northern temple in Nippur, Level III³.

The average remaining height of the walls in this unit was 25- 60cm. Room 11 was subject to a fire in the upper phase. A large collection of sherds, large and small jars, some with spouts, were discovered, which indicates the importance of this room, as it may have been a store-room or a kitchen.

Unit Five

It lies within Sqs. 8GF, 7GF; rooms 1,2,3 and 4⁴. It appears that the main courtyard in this unit was probably room 2 as it had more than one entrance opening onto it and as it had a "tanour" 75cm in diameter whose remaining height was 8cm .

Once more the damage that befell the western part of this unit precluded unearthing any specific details. Room 4A was the largest; it was rectangular and its south-western side had an entrance 80cm wide leading to room 4. Room 1 had an entrance in its south-western side 80cm wide, opening to courtyard 2. The floor of phase one in this yard covered the remains of a "tanour", which was exposed when the paving removed. The continuous occupation of this unit resulted in the renewal of the floors; the second is only 20cm above the first. The walls had two layers of plaster and the entrances changed location.

Unit Six

It lies within Sqs. 8GF, to the south eastern side of the previous unit and include rooms 5, 6, 8 and 9. The largest is room 6, however, the entrance was not found, because, the remaining height of the walls did not exceed 25cm (fig.13).

Room 5 was to rectangular in plan and had an entrance in the south western side, its north western wall continued westwards disappearing towards the cross section. The south-eastern side continued to a distance of 4m from the eastern corner where at that point the wall was broken, revealing no further details. Looking at the plan of this unit, one can recognise that room 9 was the main courtyard and what con-

1. *Ur Exc.IV*: pp.36-37; Moortgat, *Art*: p.64.

2. Delougaz: *Op. Cit.*, p.16, pl.4. *Nippur I*: p.18.

3. *Ibid.*, pp.22-23, pl.22.

4. See Chapter One for the similarities in the numbers of facilities in both the first and second units,

firms this, is the presence of semi-circular pits dug in the ground, and plastered with bitumen. Their diameters averaged 35-40cm and their depth varied 28-35cm. They could have been used to store water or for other purposes.

The floor of room 8 the largest room, sloped towards the entrance which was in the south-western side and was 70cm wide. No trace of a "tanour" was found in this unit, indicating that it had a different and important function.

In conclusion the buildings of this level represent different domestic units like those found in Tell al- Sawari¹ one of the salvaged sites in the region of Qadissiyah Dam (Haditha), and those found in Abu Salabikh², Kish³, Nippur⁴ Tell Muqadiyah⁵, Khafajeh⁶, Tell Asmar⁷ and Gubba⁸ in the Hamrin Basin.

The oldest units were the ones constructed over the foundations of level III, with the exception of the last unit in which no "tanour" was found. These units are distinguished by closed or narrow rooms, and floors that sloped towards the courtyard. It is noteworthy that most of the walls of this level were built with "libn" and plastered; the "libn" measured 29x15x8x28x14x6-7.5cm. They were similar to those used in the other sites mentioned above, and date to the same period. Archaeological finds were abundant in this level.

Level III

The majority of the buildings of this level were little different from their predecessors. It was easy to remove the upper walls, and clarify some of the architectural features (figs.9 & 11).

The walls of this level were built with "libn" of nearly the same measurements as in the previous level. Most of the layers of wall plaster were identified. However the "libn" did not show finger marks as those observed in Kish⁹.

The manner of laying the bricks varied from one building to another, sometimes it was two rows of vertically placed bricks, followed by one row of horizontally placed bricks, and then a row of vertically placed bricks. Sometimes differences were noted in the manner of building the walls of one room, particularly in the case of the wall between rooms 1 and 2 (fig.14).

The remaining height of the walls of this level varied between 35 and 80 cm although mud and underground water precluded measuring the vertical depth of the walls, they were 85-110cm thick. A glance at the plan of this level reveals more than one independent structural unit (unit 11).

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1. Nadhir al-Rawi: Examples of architecture from the sites in the Qadissiyah-Dam basin. *Sumer* 42 (1986), p.13 (Arabic).
 2. Biggs, R.: *Inscriptions from Tell Abu Salabikh*. OIP XCIX, 1974. pp.5-18.
 3. *A Cemetery*: pp.93-96.
 4. *Nippur I*: pp.22-23, pl.23.
 5. Al-Amiri, Hussein Ali Hamza: Excavations in Tell Muqadiyah. *Sumer* 40 (1984), p.91 (Arabic).
 6. Delougaz, *Houses*: pp.6-11, pl.1
 7. *Ibid.*: pp.156-159, pl.26.
 8. Fuji, *Gubba*: pp.16-17.
 9. *A Cemetery*: pl.32.

However, the largest structural remains were those that fell within Sqs. 6CDEF, 7CDEF, 8F numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 22 & 23. Courtyard 5 is considered a central court of this building, because of the wide area it occupied. Although its eastern part has not been entirely exposed as it lay within the area of the cross-section yet, the extensions could be followed in the walls of rooms 22 and 23 towards the southern and eastern sides. There were two entrances overlooking this courtyard, one from room 2 which lay in the north-western section measuring 105cm, and the other was in the south-western side leading to room 6 and measured 110cm. Surrounding the courtyard were a number of long rooms, except in the case of room 3 which was a square and had two entrances leading to rooms 2 and 4. In that room a votive plaque was found (fig.74), similar to the Khafajeh plaque. Also found in that room were two cylinder seals and a collection of pottery which included jars with spouts and pieces of sea-shells. Those finds suggests the importance of the rooms, and may have served religious purposes.

The entrance to room 1 was not found, but there was an entrance connected it to room 6 measuring 90cm in width. Room 6 had an entrance leading to the courtyard and room 4 did not have one. However, there were remains that indicated that rooms 4, 22 and 23 had entrances to the courtyard, but they were not within the area of excavations. Similarly it is likely that the main entrance to this unit lay in the eastern section which was not included in the excavations. Perhaps the open courtyards which were numbered 7 and 25 each represented a yard not connected with any building, and may have been an open-space between the buildings. It was observed that there were buildings attached (adjacent) to this building on the north-western and the south western sides. It is noteworthy that the building had been subject to a great fire as a layer of rubble thicker than 40cm was observed and it contained the scattered remains of wooden beams 10-12 cm in diameter. The remains of the beams were found in rooms 6 and 1, and may have been part of the roofs.

Significantly a fragment of pottery inlaid with shells pieces in the shape of an ostrich egg, was found in one of the graves which belonged to the destroyed Level I (fig.56). This sherd was quite similar to those found in Mari¹, and Kish². Also a cylinder seal and a collection of Scarlet Ware pot sherds were discovered (fig.23).

An examination of the walls of this building revealed that the north-western section of the rooms surrounding the main courtyard were plastered with a layer of pure clay. Four layers were identified in that wall, which indicates that renovations were carried out in the building which in turn suggests the importance of this part of the building. Furthermore, no entrances in rooms 1 and 3 were found leading to the courtyard; this indicates a certain significance to those rooms; and may have been used for ritual purposes, as suggested by the presence of the votive plaque³. In addition no object of domestic nature was found, although the building generally resembles the main house in Tell Agrab⁴ and it could be considered closely similar to the Temple Oval in Khafajeh⁵. Taking into account the large size and religious significance of the latter, it too, was surrounded by small buildings. Again it could resemble the important buildings in Tell Abu-Salabikh⁶, such building units surrounded the main building in Chokha. It is probable that the building was an important centre or a station on the trade routes between the city of Mari in the west, the Diyala region in the east and Sumer in the south, especially it lies half way between

1- *Mari II*: pl.LXXI

2- *Kish. I*: pl.VII.

3- Basmachi, F.: Engraved Stone Plaques in the Iraq Museum. *Sumer* 7 (1951), pp.63-4 (Arabic).

4- Delougaz, *Houses*: pp.267-270

5- Delougaz, *Oval Temple*: p.138.

6. Postgate, N.: Abu Salabikh. in, *Fifty Years of Mesopotamian Discovery*. (1983), p.91.

Tell Aswad near Ramadi and the city of Sippar near Yusufiyah (fig.1). In the Diyala region Tell Al-Muqdadiah played a similar role in the trade routes leading to the Hamrin settlements¹.

The importance of Chokha lies in its proximity to the Euphrates. Most routes passed by the river as that was easier than taking the desert route², particularly during the Early Dynastic period, the Euphrates region enjoyed greater prominence than the sites on the banks of the Tigris³. Furthermore, the sites dating to the Early Dynastic period like Chokha, Tell Aswad and Sawari suggest that the Sumerian influence was prevalent.

There were three units surrounding the main building, two to the north-west and one to the south west. The unit in the extreme north west which fell in Sqs. 5DC and 6DC comprised a central courtyard surrounded by rooms to the south-east and the south-west which were numbered 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. No entrances were found in rooms 8 and 12 leading to the courtyard, but an entrance one meter wide was found in room 10, it had a small stone door socket; another entrance 90cm wide was found in the same room leading to room 9. while the main entrance of room 9 was not unearthed, possibly it is located in the unexcavated part of the site. The floor of this unit including that of the courtyard sloped towards the north. Two "tanours" were found next to each other one 90cm in diameter and the other 75cm in diameter. The remaining height of their walls was 12cm, both were found in the eastern part the courtyard. This unit resembles to some extent the private houses in Nippur⁴.

Unit Two shared with Unit One its north eastern wall and shared with the main building its south eastern wall. It lay within Sqs. 6DEF, 5DEF, and were numbered 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19. Courtyard 18 was considered the main yard in the unit. It was surrounded by rooms on the three sides: the north-eastern, the south-eastern, and the south-western; hence it resembles house II in Tell Asmar⁵. Because of a fault in the ground the southern corner of this unit was not excavated. Room 17 was nearly square in shape, its floor sloped towards the entrance, 95cm wide and opens onto the courtyard. A "tanour" stood in the eastern section of this unit; it was 85cm in diameter and its remaining height was 5-10cm, but the main entrance of the unit which lead to the outside was not discovered, as it lay outside the range of our excavations.

Upon an examination on the shared walls between those three units we discovered that the two structures adjacent to the building were not joined by cross bounded brick with the main building, instead they were an addition; therefore, the main building was built at an earlier period.

It is important to note the significant of this building and its massive walls were used for a long period .

Three rooms surrounded the building on the south western sides they fell within Sqs. 7GF and 8GF and were numbered 21, 24 and 25. Also there were extensions of the walls constituting those rooms to the south and to the west, but not much could be learnt about them as they fell outside the range of excavations.

1. Al-Amiri, Hussein ali Hamza: Excavations in Tell Al-Muqdadiah, *Sumer* 40 (1982), p.91.

2. Baqir, *Introduction*: pp.29 & 42 (Arabic).

3. Oppenheim, Leo: *Mesopotamia* . (Arabic translation 1986), pp.111-114.

4. *Nippur I*: pl.27.

5. Delougaz, *Houses*: pp.125 & 156-159.

The remains from the southern summit of Chokha, in the sounding pit of Sqs.13Q and 12Q (fig.7), are of similar date to that of the first summit, as the various archaeological finds and the architectural buildings date to the Early Dynastic period. The buildings of level II were parts of three rooms, where in the middle of which an entrance was found leading to the southern side, but its details were indistinct as parts of the structure were confused in this cross section of the excavations.

The walls were used in two phases, as two floors were observed; on the first an added wall was discovered, it was not joined by cross-bonded brick with other walls, but had the same plaster with them. Painted pot sherds as well as fragments of worked stone were found within those walls; they consisted of, bases and other parts of jars and vessels (fig.82 & 83).

The walls belong to level III from parts of a unit in the eastern side comprising a rectangular room which had an entrance 80cm wide in the north-western side that led to an apparently large courtyard. In the middle of the courtyard a "tanour" stood, 90cm in diameter and its remaining height was 10cm. It seemed that the small building was independent as no other structural remains were discovered next to it. It resembled the small independent homes scattered in Tell Gubba in the Hamrin Basin, which was built with plano-convex brick (29x15x6-7.5cm)¹.

A large kiln was noted in the western part of the excavation area, similar to others noted from Early Dynastic sites, like Khafajeh and Abu Salabikh.

From the description of the architectural remains of Chokha and by comparing them to other sites of that period like Kish, Abu Salabikh, Nippur, Eridu, Khafajeh, Tell Asmar, Muqdadiya, and the sites in Hamrin, also, Mari and al Sawari on the Euphrates, it is possible that the exposed buildings in level II represent dwelling homes which were occupied at times close to each other, as the evidence of the differences between the floors from one to the other unit shows, and the fact that most of them had "tanours". Significantly an independent unit comprised an open courtyard surrounded by rows of rooms².

The structural remains of the buildings of Level III reveal that the main unit represented an important administrative centre in the settlement, which was surrounded by small structures on smaller areas. It is probable that it was a trading station on the caravan route or a station where goods were traded. The great size of the building suggest its importance and prominence in the life of the settlement, but as it was subject to great fire the role and importance of this settlement dwindled and it was reduced to the presence of a few houses. A review of the other settlements in Khafajeh, Mari, Kish and Abu Salabikh which correspond in date to Chokha, reveals that they too were subject to a great fire. Andre Parrot ascribed the fire which destroyed the temple of Ishtar in Mari to the same historical period. He also ascribed the fire which destroyed the Temple of Sin in the ninth phase in Khafajeh to the invasion of King Eannatum of Lagash known for his internal and external wars³.

Tell Chokha had been subject to many invasions due to many disputes between the Sumarian cities seeking to control water sources and expand their agricultural territories or to dominate the main trading stations which are important to the life of the city state.

1. Fuji, *Gubba*: p.17.

2. Delougaz, *Houses*: p.275

3. Moon: *Iraq* 44, p.66. See also, Baqir: *Introduction*, vol.I (1973), p.265.

Thus we could imagine the settlement of Chokha as the first Sumarian trading station on the caravan route on the Euphrates if it were not a suburb of the city of Rabiqum. Future excavations in the other sites on the banks of the river might provide us with important findings in this connection.

Chapter Three

The Pottery

Chokha yielded a very rich collection of pottery; the types and forms known from other sites of Mesopotamia in the Early Dynastic III period, except for a very few pieces which date to Early Dynastic I (figs.30 & 33). Many were decorated with incised geometrical motifs or painted (figs.40 & 45:3-5-10), sometimes incisions were made with the finger nails on the shoulders of the vessels¹.

The craftsmanship of the pottery was of high quality, most of the pieces were made on the wheel. They were smooth with a thin slip of the same clay from which the vessels were made²; on some the slip was of different clay as the colour was different. The colours of the clay varied between ochre and red, with sand grains appearing as white granules when the pottery was broken. The laboratory analysis³ of some of the pottery fragments from this site revealed that the clay contained volcanic residues as well as iron sediments and quantities of quartz crystals⁴ and it was found that it contained a high quality of pyroxina⁵.

Hence, this type of pottery contained a large quantity of coarse angular crystals and it seems that some of it had been well fired which caused black spots to appear on the surface. The black spots were organic materials found in the clay. It was found that 35% of the pottery vessels showed such black spots⁶.

In the light of the above, we conclude that the pottery vessels of the Early Dynastic period were on the whole locally made and the similarities with pottery from other places suggest the prevalence of the habit of exchanging goods at that time⁷.

Chokha was close to the river and had a strategic significance hence its pottery vessels shared all the characteristics of other sites in the upper Euphrates (fig.24), and were similar to examples found in the Diyala region (figs.22 & 23)⁸. Also, pottery types from the main Sumerian cities in the south, have their parallel at Chokha; again confirming the importance of this settlement and its significant role in trade⁹.

The rims and bases vary in shape, some have round high bevelled rims (figs.51:50-53 and 49:41 and 42), or flaring types (Fig.41:52 and 55) or just plain round mouths (figs.45:3, 5, 6 and 10).

The bodies vary according to the size and shape of the jar, with some fundamental changes in the general form. Some jars are characterised by high shoulder bending sharply at the point of meeting with the body of the jar (figs.20, 40 & 45:1, 5, 6,

1- Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: p.76.

2- Basmachi, F.: A Study in Pottery. *Sumer* 4, (1948), pp.26-7 (Arabic).

3- Al-Qaisi, B.; Maynoris, P.: Analysis of the Pottery of the Early Dynastic Period. In, *Researches in the Antiquities of Saddam Dam Basin and Other Researches*. (1987), p.323.

4- *Ibid.*, pp.340-1.

5- *Ibid.*, p.337.

6- *Ibid.*, p.340.

7- *Ibid.*

8- Delougaz, *Pottery*: pp.52-59

9- *Nippur I*: pls.45-36. See Also, Postgate: Iraq, 38.

7, 10 and 11), a characteristic feature of the Early Dynastic period¹. Some jars have spherical shaped bodies and have no bases (figs.28, 29 & 46:17; fig. 50:49; fig.51:51 & 57; Fig.53:67, 68 and 70).

Another type of jars are oval (figs.45:12; Figs.61 & 62:148, & 150). Others are pear shaped with different kinds of bases, some with ring like bases, and others are round (figs.20,21,24, 25, 36, 45,46, 49, 51, 52, & 54). The various forms of the pottery vessels have been classified as follows:

- 1) Jars
- 2) Bowls and Goblets.
- 3) Fruit Stands.

1: Jars

The Jars varied in forms and are here sub-classified as follows:

- A) Large jars
- B) Medium sized jars
- C) Small jars
- D) Spouted Jars

A) Large Jars

There was a substantial number of those in different shapes and designs and made of different types of clay. They were 33 in number, there are pear shaped jars with wide mouths and without necks; with incised decorations mainly in the shape of triangles, and wavy lines on the shoulders. Their mouths were round with flared rims (figs.45:5 & 10; fig.46:16). Their colours were ochre and red. Some had upright handles (figs.20:A, 34:A, 26; fig.45:1, 6, 7, 11; fig.44:36; 51, 52 & 57). They resemble examples from Kish², Khafajeh³, Abu Salabikh⁴ and the Hamrin sites like Gubba⁵, Uch Tepe⁶ and Tell Modhhur⁷. Minor differences were observed in the shape of the upright handles and in the incised decorations from one site to another. Some of the large jars were either round or pear-shaped with mouths less wide than those of the former group and with very short necks and flaring rims, while few had pronounced shoulders (figs.45:7, 11, 13; fig.46:16, 19, 22). The ringed bases were either concave or convex at the centre.

It appears that most of the jars had loose ended handles connected at the upper end. The decorations consisted of incised wavy lines; a ring usually circled each jar at the shoulder, or where the shoulder met with the body of the jar. However, some jars were plain and without handles (fig.46:17).

The pottery was characterised by excellent craftsmanship some items had coloured decorations in red black and orange (figs.45:1 & 6; fig.49:38; also figs.22, 23, 24 and 25). The large jars discovered in Chokha resemble others discovered in each of

1. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pp.27-52. Also, Lloyd, *Arch.*: pp.155-6.

2. Moon, *Iraq*: 44, pp.29-43.

3. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.84a, 181 & 193.

4. Moon, *Iraq*: 43, pp.47-52.

5. Fujii, *Gubba*: fig.21, no.5; pl.11, no.3

6. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.98:9 & 10.

7. Roaf, *Sumer* 43: fig.12:4.

Khafajeh¹, Tell Asmar², Gubba³, Uch Tepe⁴, Modhhur⁵, Kish⁶ and Abu Salabikh⁷.

B) Medium sized Jars

This group numbered ninety jars, they vary in colour and degree of firing. Generally they had round bodies, with medium height necks, round bevelled rims and circular ringed bases (fig.46:14, 15, 18, 21; fig.49:35, 40, 41; fig.50:47, 48; fig.51:54). Few vessels were pear-shaped, with wide mouths and bevelled rims; some had between three to five incised relief bands with the finger nail decoration round the shoulders and bodies of the jars (figs.45:3, 4, 8, 9; fig.51:58); while on the upper parts of other jars, were bands painted in red (fig.24:A; and 50:48).

These types of pottery could be compared with what had been discovered in other sites like Khafajeh⁸, Tell Asmar⁹, the sites of Hamrin, as Gubba¹⁰, Uch Tepe¹¹, Modhhur¹², and in the south, Abu Salabikh¹³ and Uqair¹⁴.

All those jars except one were made of red clay. One was made with ochre coloured clay and was painted with red (fig.24). It resembled the pottery jars discovered in the regions of the upper Euphrates¹⁵, which had wide mouths, outward slanting rims, short necks and spherical bodies. There were medium sized jars without bases, others with ringed bases, some with wide mouths and bevelled rims and others with a raised band round the mouth. However, the majority were either round or pear shaped (figs.50:47 & 48; fig.51:56). Jars similar to those were found in Khafajeh¹⁶ in graves 117 and 167¹⁷. Among this group was a pear shaped jar with a short neck; it had four pierced lugs on the shoulder, possibly for hanging (fig.25)¹⁸.

Noteworthy an unusual and rare pottery jar was found (fig.27)¹⁹, medium sized and oval in shape with a somewhat wide mouth, flaring rim, and a flat base which helps the body to stand on a surface. The lower part of the body is somewhat sloped on the sides to help create the flat base making it resemble a 'tanour'. The craftsmanship is rough and the jar is thought to have been used for cooking pur-

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1. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.pl.184, nos.C526-371B, nos.C555-320; pl.193; nos.D526-370; pl.66; nos.270-524.
 2. *Ibid.*, pl.184, nos.555-510.
 3. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.21:2.
 4. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.99:2.
 5. Roaf, *Sumer*: 43, pl.12:4; pl.13:1A2.
 6. Mackay, *A Cemetery*: pl.4, no.XIII.
 7. Postgate, *Iraq*: 39; fig.5:6.
 8. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.175, nos.545-370, C505-370c; pl.180, no.C526-460; pl.99, no.ec655-460; pl.nos.e545-340, C545-340
 9. *Ibid.*, pl.193, no.525-370; pl.192, no.515-340, pl.161, no.574-240.
 10. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.21:3, 6 & 8.
 11. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.98:2 & 9.
 12. Roaf, *Sumer*, 43: pl.12:6; fig.B:24, IA1, IA2.
 13. Moon, *Iraq*: 43, p.50, pl.6:26.
 14. Lloyd, L.; Safar, S.: Tell Uqair. *JNES*, II (1943), p.135.
 15. Conversation with McGuire Gibson in 1987. This jar was found in Sq.71, on the floor of Rm.22, Level III.
 16. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.183, no.545e-340b; 545c-340A.
 17. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pp.132-3.
 18. This jar was found in Sq.5F, unit 4, room 12 in the fill, Level II.
 19. This jar was found in Sq.8G, courtyard 9, on the floor, Level II.

poses. As it is unique one could pose questions, like why was it made in this manner? What was it used for? Why were not other similar jars found elsewhere?

We may be unable to answer such questions, possibly, special circumstance in the settlement could have necessitated the manufacture of such a jar, such as a sudden illness requiring its usage for medicinal purposes, or it could have been made for a special recipe, or it could have been used in connection with the semi spherical basins dug in the floors of the last unit of level II¹.

C) Small Jars

About ninety five small jars of different shapes and variable quality of craftsmanship, were found (figs.28, 29 & 42). A certain number of those jars were pear shaped with small mouths, round flaring rims and flat bases (fig.50:45; fig.51:50 & 53; fig.53:65, 66, 69; fig.54:71, 75, 76; fig.57:93, 95, 99, 100, 101). There were some round jars with no bases, large mouths and round flaring ringed rims, and on the whole ochre coloured. Few were red in colour and only one was grey (fig.51:51, 57; fig.39:67, 68, 70). The grey jar, coarsely made by hand, was pear-shaped with large mouth, flaring rim and a round ring base (fig.57:92 & 94). There were other pear-shaped types with flat bases (fig.50:45; fig.51:52, 53, 55; fig.57:91, 96, 98, 100), those had wide mouths and round upward flaring rims with brown bands on the shoulders of the body (fig.57:75).

By comparing the pottery of this site with other sites we found similarities between them and those of Khafajeh² Tell Asmar³, Kish⁴ Mari⁵ Abu Salabikh⁶, Gubba⁷, Uch Tepe⁸, Abqa⁹ and Madhur¹⁰.

Also found were two jars (fig.29:B) one flat base and pear-shaped and with two adjacent mouths connected by a hole between them; they were ochre in colour (fig.50:44). Similar jars were found in Sawari¹¹, Qadissiyah Dam Project, as well as in Khafajeh¹², Uch Tepe¹³, Kish¹⁴ and Ur¹⁵.

The second jar was round in shape with a large mouth, no rim, and with two small round handles opposite each other (fig.50:49). Similar jars were found in Khafajeh¹⁶.

1. See the chapter on architecture.

2. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.98, no.545B-220C; pl.165, no.675B-220A; pl.165, no.655B-520; pl.98, C & K; pl.103, A, C & D.

3. *Ibid.*: pl.163, nos.645B-220.

4. *A Cemetery*: pl.15:19.

5. Parrot, A.: *Mari. Syria*, vol.XIX, pl.11:4.

6. Postgate, *Iraq* 39: fig.5, no.2. Also, *Iraq*, 38 (1976), fig.8, no.21 & 23.

7. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.19:4.

8. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.73:10, 14; pl.74:2, 4.

9. Trumplemann: *Abqa. Sumer* 38, p.47, fig.12.

10. Roaf, *Sumer* 43: fig.12:8; fig.14:6.

11. Jerjis, Muhammed 'Ajaj: Excavations in al-Sawari Site; The Qadissiyah Dam Project. Unpublished Excavations Report, Dpt. Ant.

12. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.161, no.225P-575-B, p.92

13. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.74:7

14. *A Cemetery*: p.32-34, pl.XV:15.

15. *Ur Exc. II*: Type 253.

16. Delougaz, *Pottery*: p.98, pl.147, nos.043-503

D) Spouted Jars

A fairly sizeable collection of those jars was found, some were oval in shape with different types of bases; some had ring bases (fig.47:34 and 61:142, 145, 246; fig.62); others had flat bases (fig.61:143, 144, 147); the mouths of most of these vessels were rather large, with protruding circular rims, some jutting to the outside (figs.36:A, 41 and 47:23, 25, 27, 28; fig.48:29, 31). Those jars had spouts on the shoulder, with the exception of one jar, most had very short spouts (fig.48:30; fig.61:146; fig.62:150). The unusual jar had a long spout (fig.61:147), to which similar specimens were found at Abqa (Hamrin Basin); however, the bases were visibly different, the jar from Chokha had a flat base, whereas the jars from Abqa has ring bases, redish in colour, while others made of ochre colour clay. Other spouted jars had pear-shaped body (fig.61:143 & 144; fig.62:148). A pear-shaped vessel had no neck and a large mouth with a small spout and was ringed and convex, its diameter was greater than its height (fig.62:156). This type had parallels from other sites such as Khafajeh¹, Tell Asmar², Abu Salabikh³, Uch Tepe⁴, Madhhur⁵, Abqa⁶, Ur⁷, Kish⁸ and Ubaid⁹.

2) Bowls and Goblets

The Chokha Settlement has provided us with large quantities of goblets and bowls, which comprised 36% of the total unearthened archaeological finds. These goblets had an incomplete cone-shaped body, with wide mouths, round rims, and flat string cut bases (figs.37, 43 and 44). Doubtless those vessels were used most commonly as drinking vessels (figs.58, 59, 75 and 76)¹⁰. It was noted that some were deep, the diameter of the mouths were smaller than the wider type. The bases of some were round and ringed (fig.58:102, 103, 106, 107; fig.59:116, 117; fig.60:140), while some had no bases (fig.59:120).

The goblets were of various types, a number were pear-shaped (fig.52:59, 60, 64) with slightly flaring rims; others had plain rims, and few had bands just below the rims (fig.52:64). Most of the goblets had bases.

A number of goblets were cylindrical with flat bases (fig.52:62 & 63), others were bell shape (fig.52:61). The colour was either red or ochre. Parallels could be found from other sites like Khafajeh¹¹, Tell Asmar¹² and Gubba¹³, Uch Tepe¹⁴ Abu

1. Ibid., p.52, pl.180, no.526C-266B; pl.182,nos.527-362; pl.190, no.ec527-362; pl.182, nos.C526-362b, nos.DC626-362b.

2. Ibid.: p.52-78, pl.182, no.C544-312; pl.180, nos.E526-262C

3. Postgate, *Iraq* 38: fig.7:8.

4. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*:p.96, no.2; pl.98, no.1 pl.99, no.5.

5. Roaf: *Sumer* 43, fig.12:5.

6. Trumplemann: Abqa. *Sumer*, 38, p.45, fig.6.

7. Ur Exc. II: pl.263:212.

8. *A Cemetery*: pl.23; Moorey, R.: Cemetery A at Kish , Groups and Chronology. *Iraq* 32 (1970), p.90, fig.1.

9. *Ur Exc. I*: pl.187, pl.LIII.

10. Delougaz, *Pottery*: p.94.

11. Ibid.: pl.96, A & E; pl.146, nos.016-200, B001-200A, B002-220A, B003-700; pl.149, nos.B084-210B, b083-210A, b084-210c, B082-210c.

12. Ibid.: pl.146, no.B032-200B, B032-200A, B003-200B, B001-200A, B002-200A; pl.148, B072-200, B063-200B; pl.149, no.B-005-210; pl.151, no.165-220

13. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.9:3,7, & 9; fig.20:2.

14. Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pl.9:7 & 9; pl.20:2.

Salabikh¹, Kish², Madhhur³, Abqa⁴, Sippar⁵, Ur⁶ and Al Ubaid⁷. The similarities among the specimens which are wide spread across Mesopotamia, and continued to the Early Dynastic period, suggest the predominant use of those types of vessels⁸.

3) Fruit-Stands

This type of pottery is characterised by being cylindrical in form with a wide base, wide mouthed for the support of a large vessel (fig.55). It is noted that the upper and outer part of most of the fruit-stands have decorative bands possibly made with finger nail incisions (fig.55:78, 79, 80). Most had round flaring rims (figs.5:77, 79, 80); however, some had round collar rims (fig.55:78). Like the variation in size and form, the bases also varied in type, some were round with a slight flare (fig.55:77), or they had reinforced rings which circled the slightly concave bases (fig.55:78, 79, 80). The body is occasionally decorated with raised bands with incised wavy lines on them; near the base there are round holes, possibly for holding the stand (fig.38:A).

Eight fruit-stands were discovered at Chokha, which were either ochre or buff in colour, with a slip of the same type of clay. There was one stone fruit-stand (fig.86:A) which resembled the fruit-stand from Ur⁹.

Other similar examples were found in the sites of Khafajeh¹⁰, Kish¹¹, Abu Salabikh¹², Ur¹³, Gubba¹⁴, Tell Asmar¹⁵, Tell Agrab¹⁶ and Tell al Willaya¹⁷.

Four painted jars were found along with a collection of sherds of pottery of Scarlet Ware (figs.22, 23 and 36:B); each jar had its distinct type of decoration. On one jar (fig.35:38) the painted decoration showed a large tree in red and black; however, the jar was not intact and other details of the tree could not be discerned (fig.34), and it probable that only one side was painted. The motif on this jar resembled that on jar no. C545-542 discovered in Tell Asmar¹⁸.

The jar shown in (figs.22; & 45:1) was painted in light red with triangle and diamond motifs similar to the geometrical decoration on a jar from Khafajeh¹⁹.

1. Postgate, *Iraq*, 39: fig.5:1 & 9.

2. *A Cemetery*: pl.XVI: 31, 32 & 34.

3. Roaf, *Sumer* 43: fig.14:1, 3 & 5.

4. Trumplemann, Abqa, *Sumer* 38: fig.11

5. Al-Jadir, W.: Excavations in Sippar; in: *Researches in the Antiquities of Saddam Dam Basin and Other Researches*. 1987, fig.16:7 & fig.31. (Arabic).

6. *Ur Exc. II*: pl.251:4a & 5Ab.

7. *Ur Exc. I*: type VIII.

8. Delougaz, *Pottery*: p.58-9.

9. Woolley: *Ur Exc. II*, pl.239, 250:101.

10. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.174:363C-810A; 364C-810B

11. *A Cemetery*: pl.XI:1, pl.XLIX:9.

12. Postgate, *Iraq* 39: fig.5:12; also, *Iraq* 38, fig.7:5.

13. *Ur Exc. II*: pl.180, type 243.

14. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.21:1.

15. Delougaz, *Pottery*: p.33-4.

16. Delougaz, *Pre-Sargonid Temples*.

17. Madhloum, Tell al-Wilaya, *Sumer* 16 (1960): pp.62-69. (Arabic).

18. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.30.

19. *Ibid.*: pl.35.

The two other jars showed geometrical designs in red and black (fig.45:6); they were similar to those discovered in Tell Gubba¹ and Khafajeh².

Other fragments of painted pottery, in red and black, were found; they showed geometrical forms also. One fragment was the upper part of a man's body (fig.25). Noteworthy, a rim fragment from a jar inlaid with pieces of shell in bitumen, was discovered at Chokha. It will be discussed in detail further below.

Another piece was a pottery disk which had two holes on its "upper" section³. It is probable that it was a loom weight (fig.31)⁴.

Also found, were two fragments representing the lower parts of conical solid footed goblets (fig 30)⁵. Similar fragments were found in several other sites, like Khafajeh⁶, Abu Salabikh⁷, Kish⁸ and Ubaid⁹.

The upper part of a fragmentary jar is one of the unusual finds at Chokha (fig 46)¹⁰. It has a bevelled rim, upright handle and the shoulders, resembling others found at Kish¹¹, Abu Salabikh¹² and Khafajeh¹³. This jar had triangular incised decorations within interlinking circles, only one slightly similar jar was noted in Kish¹⁴. However, the Kish example had only one row of triangles. Another difference is the incised decoration on the handle of the Chokha vase suggest a palm frond motif, while the Kish one had applied dots.

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1. Fuji, *Gubba*: fig.14:1; fig.21:5
 2. Delougaz: Op. Cit.; pl.54:514-370b.
 3. Discovered in Sq.6G, in the fill of Rm.2, unit 2, Level II.
 4. Conversation with Prof. Mc. Gibson in 1987.
 5. The fragments of those goblets were found in Sq.BJ, in the second alley, courtyard 9, Level II,
 6. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.148:Bo76-700.
 7. Postgate, *Iraq* 40: fig.3:4, 5.
 8. *A Cemetery*: pl.XVI:4.
 9. *Ur Exc. I*: type VII.
 10. Discovered in Sq.8j, unit 6, Rm.8, Level II.
 11. *A Cemetery*: pl.XLVIII:2.
 12. Postgate, *Iraq* 36.
 13. Delougaz, *Pottery*: pl.87.
 14. Moon, *Iraq* 44: (1982), pl42, fig.2:6.

Chapter Four

Cylinder Seals, Votive Plaques & Miscellaneous Objects

Cylinder Seals

Nine Cylinder Seals and one seal impression were unearthed at Chokha. They have varied repertoire depicting combat scenes between wild and domesticated animals such as lions and gazelles, scenes of banquets with drinking figures, or boat scenes. The whole scenes are sometimes engraved on the seals in two registers, thus expanding the area in the depiction of a subject. All can safely be dated to the Early Dynastic period, with the exception of one, which may belong to the end of the Jamdat Nasr or Early Dynastic I.

Description of the Seals

1) IM 87833 (fig.63)

Sq. 6D in the south western section of room 2, on the floor. Marble. 2.1x1.2 cm.

Worn seal showing animals fighting. All the figures can be identified, a lion stands upright on its hindlegs; in front of it stands a hero who is protecting two crossed domestic animals: a goat and a gazelle, as the rear of the goat and the horns of the gazelle can be discerned. Another animal standing on its hind legs could be seen behind the goat. Traces of a figure standing behind this latter animal could be noted; it seems from the shape of the head to be a composite human figure. On the whole, the scene on this seal does not seem to be very clear as the figures stand out in very low relief. The heads of all the figures in the scene stand at the same height which was a characteristic of Early Dynastic II glyptic. Seals with similar subjects were found in Kish¹, and Fara².

2) IM 87834 (fig.64)

Sq. 6E Level II room 5 on the floor. Marble. 3.2x2cm.

The seal shows one main scene and two secondary ones in two registers. The main scene shows two crossed lions, standing upright on their hind legs, their heads pointing in opposite directions. To the left a composite horned creature stands upright facing one of the lions and holding its main.

The upper register of the secondary scenes, shows a contest scene of a hero standing in the centre, on his right and left are two crossed domestic animals. The lower register is depicted with five figures: one composite creature hurrying to save a domestic animal attacked by a lion which is standing upright on its hindlegs, followed by an animal pursued and being attacked by a lion which also stands upright on its

1- *Ashmolean*: pl.10, no.131.

2- *Porada, Corpus*: p.15, pl.48.

hindlegs. Such a theme is common in the Early Dynastic II-III seals¹. Seals resembling this one were found in Abu Salabikh², and in Kish³.

3) IM 87835 (fig.65)

Sq. 6D, room 4 in the fill part of level II. Marble. 2.5x1.1cm.

The upper part of the seal is broken; the scenes depicted are in two registers separated by two parallel lines. Most of the upper register is missing because of the break, but what remains suggests that it consisted of a drinking or a banquet scene. A seated figure on a chair could be observed facing right, in front of him are two figures also seated on chairs and facing left, dressed in ankle length garments with tasselled fringes.

The lower register shows two crossed lions standing upright on their hindlegs in the centre of the scene, and each is attacking and holding the rear of two horned animals. This scene closely resembles one found on a seal from Kish⁴. The terminal is a dagger placed vertically.

The style and subject of the seal place it within the transitional period towards Early Dynastic III. Seals with similar scenes to those in the lower section were noted in Kish⁵, and Fara⁶.

4) IM 87836 (fig.66)

Sq.5E, level II, room 5 on the floor. Shell. 3.6x1.1.

Banqueting scene in two registers, separated by two parallel lines. The scenes on both registers are almost identical with variation only in the actual engraving. The banquet scene consists of two seated figures -possibly male and female- the female had long hair falling down her back. They both wear long fleeced garments and are seated on crossed legged stools. They are drinking from a central vessel on a stand, through "straw" tubes. It is unusual to depict the banqueting scene twice in one seal⁷. Similar seals were found in Khafajeh⁸, Kish⁹, and Mari¹⁰.

5) IM 89991 (fig.67)

Sq.6D, Level II, room 3 on the floor. Clay seal impression 3.2x2cm

Fighting scene; bull-man holding the mane of a lion that crosses with a bull, who in turn is pursuing a goat, which turns its head to look at the bull; part of a fourth animal is visible. All animals stand on their hind legs.

Scenes similar to the one depicted on this impression were found in Abu Salabikh¹¹, and a similar impression was found in Kish¹².

1- Frankfort, Cy. S.: p.62.

2- Postgate, *Iraq* 38: p.298, pl.XXXIV:C.

3- *Ashmolean*: p.30, pl. 12: 144; also, Ravn, O.: *Oriental Cylinder Seals and Impressions*. (1966), p.16, no.7.

4- *Ashmolean*: pl.10, no.132.

5- *Ibid.*:p.26, no.115; also, Porada, *Corpus*: pl.19:118

6- *Ibid.*: pl.45, no.874.

7- Porada, *Corpus*: pls.XVII-XVIII

8- Frankfort, *Diyala*: p.33-36, no.334; also, Amiet, *Glyptique*: p.18.

9- *Ashmolean*: p.45, pl.19, no.232; also, Porada, *Corpus*: p.18.

10- *Mari II*: p.152, pl.XL.

11- Postgate, *Iraq* p.297-9, pl.39:e & g.

12- *Ashmolean*: p.11, no.281.

6) IM 89992 (fig.68)

Sq.6D, Level II, Unit Three, room 4, in the fill. Alabaster. 3.4x2.2cm.

Fighting and mythological scene. Horned human figure wearing belt, who is in the centre of the composition with crossed animals on either side. He is holding a bull that crosses with a lion; who in his turn is attacking another bull. On the other side, the hero is holding a lion who is crossed with a second lion; the latter is attacking a bull. Between the two bulls is a monster figure, or possibly a stylised rendering of the nude hero with upturned curly hair. Similar seals were found in Khafajeh¹, Ur² and Mari³. However, in style this seal belongs to the "Fara" group⁴. One seal in the Iraq Museum is very similar in the manner of cutting the figures, that it could be the work of one seal cutter⁵.

7) IM 87993 (fig.69)

Sq.7 C, level III, room 4 in the fill. Granite. 3x1.5cm

Badly worn seal, it is difficult to discern some of the details of the scene. But it seems that there are seven figures which cannot be identified to be human or animal. It is probable that the engraving is unfinished and that the work was not of a high degree of accomplishment, with an extensive use of the drill. Such technique in the execution of Early Dynastic seals was common.

8) IM 87994 (fig.70)

Sq.6D, level II, room 2, in the fill. Ivory. 2.5x1.5cm

Animal fighting scene; two groups of combatants. Lion crossed with gazelle, and at the same time, subduing an ibex by holding it in reverse. The second group of combatants depicts a second lion crossed with a stag and it is subduing a second stag with elaborate horns. A seal with a similar scene was found in Khafajeh⁶.

9) IM 87995 (fig.71)

Sq.6G, level II, room 3, in the fill. Alabaster. 2.8x1.3 cm

Boat scene. Crudely cut seal showing a boat scene; the prow ends with a god figure holding a punting pole, his horned crown is very distorted. The body of the boat is serrated at the bottom. Inside the boat are two seated figures with a vessel between them, possibly representing a drinking scene. Seals with similar subject occur in both the Early Dynastic and later the Akkadian periods, and discovered in most of the ancient sites; the best examples came from Khafajeh (in the Temple Oval and in private houses)⁷.

10) IM 87997 (fig.72)

Sq.6G, level II, room 3, in the fill. Marble. 2.4x1.2cm

1. Frankfort, *Cy. S.*: pl.X:A; also, Porada, *Corpus*: pl.68.

2. *Ur Exc.II*: pl.146:47.

3. *Mari I*: pp.187-95, pl.LXV.

4. Amiet, *Glyptique*: pls. 71-73.

5. Hansen, *Nippur*: pl.II:B.

6. Frankfort, *Diyala*: pl.32:320.

7. Frankfort, *Cy.S.*: p.36, pl.27:270; pl.32:325.

A stylised spread winged eagle fill the surface of the seal. The two serrated semi-circular lines below the eagle may represent a stylised boat; however, similar seals were found in Khafajeh¹ and Fara².

Votive Plaques

Excavations in Chokha have provided us with two plaques. They were different in form and in the kind of stone of which they were made.

The first plaque³, was almost rectangular, 23cm long, 16cm wide and 3.5cm thick. It was made of a blackish grey stone⁴; and it had a round hole in the centre about 2cm in diameter.

This plaque was free from relief expect for a shallow groove around the edge 0.2-0.3cm deep and 0.5-0.7cm wide, which originally may have had inlay decoration of geometrical motifs made with shell or mother of pearl in bitumen. It was broken in half when it was discovered and a few fragments were missing. One similar plaque was discovered in the northern Temple in Nippur. It too had a groove around the edge⁵.

The second plaque is square, 29cm long and 3cm thick⁶. It is made of white alabaster, it is broken into pieces with some missing, however, the subject of the relief is similar to the votive plaques found in Khafajeh and Ur (fig 74)⁷.

The relief is divided into three registers. The upper shows a seated figure on a chair at the right end. His face and head are shaven his massive shoulders are broad and straight, and he carries in his left hand a tree frond which touches his clothes, while his right hand is raised possibly holding a cup (the relief is damaged here). He is bare chested, wearing a broad belt and a long tasselled kilt. Two figures are facing the seated figure, both have their hands clasped to their chests; they are beardless with their hair in locks falling down their shoulders, they wear long kilts with tasselled fringe⁸.

The second field consist of two parts, on either side of the central round hole. It shows a cow with long horns that curve front wards; it has a long tail that reaches down to the ground. It is similar to the cows in the milking scene from Tell Al-'Ubad⁹.

The cow is in a quiet mood its suckling calf has bent its front and its hindlegs in such a way as to be able to suck its mothers milk. The scene is repeated in the other section of the field, but in a reversed direction.

1- Frankfort, *Diyala*: pp.12-30, pl.27:269; pl.37:384; also, Porada, *Corpus*: p.15.

2. Amiet, *Glyptique*: pl.98:1246.

3. The plaque was found in room 3, Sq.76D. Level II, in the fill, excavation no.305, IM.117274

4. Possibly slate, like the examples from Nippur, Hansen, *Nippur*: p.47.

5. Hansen, *Nippur*: pl.47, pl.1:A & B.

6. This plaque was found in room 3, Sq.76C, Level III, in the fill. IM 87989.

7. Moortgat, *Art*: p.89, pl.42 & 43.

8. Rumaydh, S.S.: Analytical Study of the Votive Plaques. in, *Reasearches in the antiquities of Saddam Dam Basin and Other Researches*, p.243.

9. Moortgat, *Art*: p.150, pl.123.

The subject of this second field of the plaque has corresponding similar subjects in plaques from Nippur (Temple of Enanna)¹, Khafajeh (Temple of Sin, level VIII)², and Tell Asmar (Temple of Abu)³.

In the lower third register a figure precedes a chariot; he wears a knotted belt that hangs down on the right of a long tasselled kilt. He holds a long staff in front of him with the right hand and his left hand is folded to his chest; he is bareheaded and has long locks of hair which fall down the sides of his face to his chest. He is followed by the animals (onagers) that pull a chariot. The skill of the artist is demonstrated in the parallel lines of forelegs and heads as the sequence of four animal are shown to be running beside each other. The front of the chariot survives showing the pole springing from the top of the body in a high curve and then descending to the yoke, with the quivers rising in front indicating that it is a war chariot. On the whole, it is possible to compare this scene with plaques found in Ur⁴, and with a plaque found in Khafajeh in the Temple Oval⁵.

Miscellaneous Objects

The finds from the excavations are not limited to architectural remains, pottery, clay tablets and cylinder seals. They include other diverse materials and objects which contribute in a significant way to give a clearer picture of the site. The excavations in the Chokha settlement have provided us with the following:

- 1) A number of clay model chariots and few wheels.
- 2) Fragments of various stone vessels.
- 3) A piece of pottery inlaid with shell pieces, and an ostrich egg.
- 4) A bead with incised signs.
- 5) Flint and obsidian tools and implements.

The Clay Chariots

Almost all Sumerian sites have offered examples of model of chariots made of clay of different shapes, size and styles (fig.75 & 76), their significance is yet to be determined; but the most probable explanations suggest that they may have been toys, or used for votive purposes⁶.

The first example of a clay chariot has an upright back (fig.75)⁷. It is relatively long and the upper end is almost triangular. The front of the chariot is covered with something like a ledge which is solid, and had a semi circular end. The front protrudes 2cm beyond the frontal axis. The rear axis is behind the base. The wheels are missing (fig.75). Similar examples were found in Kish⁸, Ur⁹, Chagar Bazar¹⁰, and Tell Aswad near Ramadi¹¹.

1- Hansen, *Nippur*: pl.VI.

2- Frankfort, *Sculpture*: pl.108.

3- *Ibid.*: pl.106.

4- *Ur Exc. II*: p.376, pl.181B.

5- Frankfort, *Sculpture*: pl.107.

6- Moorey, P.R.: *Kish Excavations*: 1923-1933. 1976, p.62

7- It was found among the finds in a child's grave in square 5C, room 17 of Level II. Its measurements are: length, 13.2cm, width 7cm, height 14cm. IM 87944.

8- *A Cemetery*: 66-67; also, Moorey, P.R.: *Kish Excavations* 1923-1933. 1976, p.64.

9- *Ur Exc. II*: p.389, pl.188.

10- Mallowan, *Op. Cit.*: p.215.

11- Ant. Dept. archive, File: Tell aswad no.39/85, Al-Anbar.

The second example is a small zoomorphic chariot; it is intact (fig.76)¹, and cylindrical in shape. The diameter at the end is slightly greater than it is in front, the rear tapers to a pointed end, the head of a ram with twisted horns is in the front.

The protrusion below the neck with a hole through it, was probably for a string to pull with; also, a hole runs through the back of the ram. The chariot has two axis, one at the front and one at the rear; with solid clay wheels. The two front wheels are larger than the two rear ones (fig.76). Other similar specimens of this chariot were found in Ur², Nippur³, Khafajeh⁴, Tell Asmar⁵ and Chagar Bazar⁶.

The third chariot model is also a zoomorphic one, it is incomplete with the wheels and head missing the fore and hindlegs were exchanged for axis in order to hold the wheels⁷. The craftsmanship of the wagon is coarse. A few slanting lines at a protrusion which stands at the backbone of the animal's body. The entire body is a solid piece and thus it is different from the former two examples (fig.77).

In addition to the chariot models, a number of solid clay wheels were unearthed in different locations, in the course of excavations (fig.56); they were of different shapes and sizes, and were generally made from reddish clay. The quality; of the craftsmanship varied. The wheels were characterised by having a thick central part: to the distance of up to one centimetre from the centre of the hole. That part was nearly twice as thick as the rest of the wheel (fig.89).

It is rare to find an archaeological site that represents a historical period extending from Warka to late periods which does not have parts of such wheels. In other words, small chariots or parts thereof are found in sites like Kish, Ur, Nippur, Khafajeh, Abu Salabikh, Sippar and Mari.

Stone Vessels

Several stone vessels and fragments of stone cups were found at Chokha. One (fig.80-81)⁸, is a small soft stone shallow square-shaped resptacle with a thick rim, the outer side of the rim is square, and the cup is a round semi-spherical depression, the base is flat and square. Each corner of the rim has a geometrical decoration consisting of a dot in circle motif and round the mouth are two incised lines; just below the rim is a band of hatched incisions (fig.81). No similar stone "cup" has been found in other sites, but the cup's material and the geometrical decoration of dot in circle belong to group of soft stone "steatite" vessels that had a wide distribution in Mesopotamia and the Gulf and Iran during the Early Dynastic period. Perhaps the nearest example to the Chokha find are a group of vessels from Mari⁹. The dot and circle were a popular motif in the Gulf region and even appear on the back of the Dilmun type stamp seals¹⁰

1. This specimen was found in Sq.5D, room 8, Level II, Unit Two. It was one of the finds of child's grave. Its measurement are: Length 17.5cm, average diameter 9.4cm, diameter of front wheel 7.7cm, diameter of rear wheel 7.4cm. IM 87942.

2. *Ur Exc. II*: p.384, pl.188.

3. *Nippur I*: p.94.

4. Delougaz, Pottery: p.85, pl.94.

5. *Ibid.*: p.687, pl.94.

6. Mallowan, M.: Excavations at Tell Brak and Chagar Bazar. *Iraq* Vol.IX, p.215, pl.LIX.

7. This specimen was found in Sq.6E, Level III, room 4 on the floor. Measurement: remaining length, 9.6cm, average thickness 4.8cm. IM 91626.

8. This vessel was found in Sq.6F, Level II, Unit II. Measurements: height 2.6cm, length at the top 7.5cm, length at the base 3.1cm. IM 87982.

9. Parrot, A.: *Mission Archeologique de Mari*. Vol.I, 1956, le temple d'Ishtar. pl.LII.

10. Pott, D.: *The arabian Gulf in Antiquity*. 1990 (Oxford), p.249; also, Crawford, H.: *Dilmun and its Gulf Neighbours*. 1998 (Cambridge), p.96.

Another stone vessel was a roughly worked fruit stand¹, of which only the lower part remains (fig.86), and it is similar to the fruit stand found in Ur².

In addition a number of stone fragments, some were parts of bases, others from the sides and rims of the vessels; they were on the whole made of vained marble (fig.83), closely resembling those found in Ur³ and Kish⁴. On the whole it could be said that the collection of the stone fragments of those vessels resembled the conical bowls, in so far as the forms of the base and the upper part suggested. Few had holes on them possibly for purposes of restoration. Mending stone vessels in ancient Mesopotamia was a regular practice, best seen on the votive vase from Warka⁵, and the restored vessel found in Suleimeh, one of the largest sites in the Hamrin Basin⁶.

Noteworthy, is that most of those objects were found in the fill of room 4, Unit Three of Level II at Chokha, adding credence to the suggestion that this building was of special importance.

A pottery rim inlaid with pieces of shell and an ostrich egg⁷. The pottery object formed the upper part of a rim and the neck to be placed over the ostrich egg which formed the body (fig.84 & 85). On the flat side of the rim shell triangles are inlaid with bitumen forming inter-linked diamonds geometrical design, the same motifs are repeated below the rim round the neck.

The ostrich egg had one section cut and the inlaid pottery neck-rim was placed over. The edge by the opening was painted brown.

It should be noted that this remarkable find was found like the stone vessels in room 4. It also falls with similar objects discovered on sites located on the Euphrates, such as Kish⁸, Ur⁹, Nippur¹⁰, and Mari¹¹.

A spherical shaped vained onyx bead (blue grey with white veins)¹². Four cuneiform signs, two on either side of the pierced hole that ran through the bead. Unfortunately the signs are illegible, but may have served magical purposes or symbols of certain deities (figs.78 & 79)¹³.

Stone tools and Implements

A collection of flint tools in the form of brown scrapers and knives (some light coloured and some dark) were found. They had well shaped ends and on the whole did not exceed 10cm in length. There were knives and saws, some made of black

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1. It was found in Sq.6D, room 4, Level II, in the fill. Its measurements : remaining height 16cm, diameter at base 15.5cm; IM. 117271.
 2. *Ur Exc. II*: pl.250:101.
 3. *Ibid.*: pl.242:15 A & B, 16B
 4. Moorey: *Op. Cit.*, p.71, p.102.
 5. Oates, D. & Oates, J.: *The Rise of Civilization*. 1976, p.115 & p.134.
 6. Rumaydh, S.S.: Excavations in Tell Suleimeh. *Sumer* XL, 1984, p.49, pl.8, no.2. (Arabic).
 7. This was found in Sq.6D, room 4, Level II, in Unit Three. Its measurement: height 15, diameter of mouth 7.8cm. IM 87999.
 8. *A Cemetery*: pp.66-67, pl.VII:1.
 9. *Ur Exc. II*: p.283, pl.283.
 10. *Nippur I*: p.156, pl.163.
 11. *Mari I*: pl.XXI.
 12. The bead was found in the sounding pit which was dug in the southern summit of the settlement, in Sq.12Q, 1.9cm diameter, Excavation no.398 Chokha.
 13. The piece was shown to Dr. Farouq Al-Rawi so that he may read the signs do not have a specific meaning, and could have been improvised signs.

obsidian and some of white stone (figs.87 & 96). Some of those tools resembles others discovered in Kish¹, Abu Salabikh², Sippar³, Uch Tepe⁴ and Gubba⁵.

A number of shell were found in graves and in the fill. Most of them had traces of "kohl" which supports the prevalent notions that they were used as containers for cosmetic material (fig.88)⁶.

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- 1- Moorey, P.R.: *Kish Excavations*. 1976,
 2. Postgate, *Iraq* 39: pp.271-275.
 - 3- Al-Jadir, W.: Excavations in Sippar, the Sixth Season. in: *Researches in the Antiquities of Saddam Dam Salvage and other Researches*. 1987, pp.203-204 (Arabic).
 - 4- Gibson, *Uch Tepe*: pp.90-91, pls.56-60.
 - 5- Fuji, *Gubba*: fig. 57.
 - 6- Conversation with both Prof. Nicholas Postgate and Prof. Macguire Gibson.

Tell Chokha: Early Dynastic III Pottery from Level II

Abbreviation: IM: Iraq Museum. Ex.: Excavation. MB: Main Building. c.: clay. pr.: pear-shaped. Sq.: Square. rm.: room. h.: ht. r.: rim dia.. b. body dia. of vessel. th.:thickness; hl.:hole; bs.: base. For the comparative types, the site is first mentioned then the publication. For the Diyala sites, Khafajeh, Asmar: Delougaz, *Pottery*. Tell Gubba: Fuji, *Gubba*. Uch Tepe: Gibson, *Uch Tepe*. Madhhour: Roaf, *Sumer*. Abu Salabikh: Postgate, *Iraq*.

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measearments cm	Comparative Pottery Types
1	91638	125	Red painted jar with upright handle.	Two	Sq.5D, Courtyard 10, in fill	h.32, r.13, b.27.3, bs.10.5	Khafajeh. pl.193:526-370
2		190	Reddish pear-shaod, wide rimmed jar.	=	Sq.5F, Rm.17, in fill	h.13.8, r.16, b.10.5	
3		211	buff clay small round jar	One	Sq.5D, Rm.5, in fill	h.11.5, r.4, b.9.8, bs.5.2	
4	87941	213	buff clay round jar, geometrical deco.	=	= = = = =	h.17, r.12.5, b.18.2, bs.8	Gubba. fig.21:8
5	87957	246	Large pear-shaped jar, broken & Repair ed	Four	Sq.5F, Rm.12, N. sec. in fill	h.29, r.23.3, b.36, bs.12	Uch Tepe. pl.98:9
6	87959	250	Red c., pr. painted red & Black, upright handle	Four	= = = = =	h.21.4, r.12, b.19, bs.7.8	Gubba. Fig.21:5; Uch Tepe, pl.98:10
7	87969	294	Red c., pr. broken & repaired.	Six	Sq.8G, Rm.9, on floor	h.29.5, r.13.2, b.24.8, bs.9.8	
8	87973	311	Buff c., oval small jar	Four	Sq.7F, Rm.11, in fill	h.13, r.10, b.14.7cm	
9	87977	328	= = = = =	=	Sq.7F, Rm.11, in fill	h.17.2, r.10.6, b.14.1, bs.7.5	Khafajeh. pl.175:C505-370
10	87978	329	buff c., pr. large jar	Five	Sq.7G, courtyard 2, in fill	h.28.5, r.19.3, b.33, bs.14.4	
11		331	Buuf c. medium oval jar	Six	Sq.8G, Rm.5, in fill	h.25.1, r.13.7, b.22.4, bs.9.6	Khafajeh. pl.181:C526-371
12		332	Buff c. large long jar	=	= = = = =	h.32.8, r.11.8, b.19.5, bs.10	Asmar. pl.176:C467-350
13		336	Red c. pr. large vessel, broken	Five	Sq.7G, Rm.3, on floor	h.25, r.12, b.27, bs.12	Khafajeh. pl.66:e524-370
14	91609	15	Buff c. pr. medium jar	Two	Sq.6D, Rm.2, on floor	h.13.8, r.12.8, b.16.5, bs.7.1	
15	91611	19	= round = =	Three	Sq.6D, Rm.4, on floor	h.14.5, r.12.9, b.17.5, bs.7.8	Gubba. fig.21:3; Uch Tepe. pl.98:9; Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.13:1A1
16	91621	50	Red c. = large jar	=	= = = = , in fill	h.28, r.17, b.27, bs.12.5	Uch Tepe. pl.99:2; Madhhour. Sumer 34, fig.12:4
17	91622	51	Greenish c. round large vessel	Two	= = = = =	h.36, r.13.3, b.31	Asmar. pl.184:C555-510
18		113	Red c. pr. medium jar	=	Sq.5E, Rm.9, in fill	h.16.8, r.13, b.18, bs.8	Khafajeh. pl.180:C526-460
19		120	Buff c. oval medium jar	=	Sq. 5E, Rm.9, on floor	h.26.7, r.17, b.24, bs.10.5	Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.13:1A2
20	91637	123	= pr. large vessel	=	= = = = =	h.30.7, r.22.2, b.34, bs.15	Gubba. pl.2:3
21		130	Red c. pr. medium jar	=	Sq.5E, Rm.5, on floor	h.22.1, r.17.8, b.25, bs.11	
22		131	Buff c. oval medium jar	=	= = = = =	h.26, r.12, b.21, bs.9	Khafajeh. pl.184:C555-320
23	91664	190	= long spouted medium jar	=	Sq.5D, Rm.8, on floor	h.22.9, r.11.4, b.15.5, bs.7	
24		254	= = = = =	Four	Sq.7F, Rm.11, in fill	h.24, r.10, b.13.5, bs.7.6	Khafajeh. pl.180:C525-2621
25		280	= oval = = = =	Four	Sq.8F, courtyard 7, in fill	h.19, r.9.8, b.13.2, bs.6.5	
26		309	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.9, in fill	h.21.4, r.10, b.13.5, bs.6	Uch Tepe, pl.96:8

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measearments cm	Comparative Pottery Types
27		316	= = = = =	Four	= = = = =	h. 23, r.11, b.14.5,	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:3, p.290
28	116999	317	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.23.5, r.11, b.15.4, bs.5	Khafajeh. pl.90:e.C526-362; Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:3
29		52	= long = = =	Three	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.24.5, r.11.5, b.14.7, bs. 6.3	Khafajeh. pl.90:C523-362
30	91623	54	= oval = = =	=	= = = = =	h.25.6, r.9.9, b.15.8, bs.7.5	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:8 Khafajeh. pl.90:C526-3635; Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:3
31		55	= long = = =, repaired	=	= = = = =	h.24.5, r.11.5, b.13.8, bs.6.5	Khafajeh. pl.182:C567-362
32	91624	56	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.27.7, r.10.5, b.12.7, bs.7.7	= pl.90:C526-362
33		65	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.10, in fill	h.29, r.12, b.15, bs.8.6	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:3
34		95	Red c. = = = = =	Four	Sq.6E, Rm6, on floor	h.26.5, r.11, b.14.5, bs.6.7	= = = 38, fig.7:8
35	91610	16	= pr. medium jar	Three	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.19, r.10.7, b.15, bs.6.8	Madhhour. Sumer 34, fig.12:6
36	91620	49	= pr. large jar with upright handle	=	= = = = =	h.36, r.16, b.32, bs.13.5	
37		95	= long medium jar	Four	Sq.6E, Rm.6, on floor	h.26.5, r.11, b.14.5, bs.6.7	Khafajeh. pl.193:D526-371
38	91636	122	= medium jar, red and black paint with upright handle, base missing	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.9, on floor	h.23.5, r.12.5, b.23.5	Gubba. fig.21:2
40		166	Red c. round medium jar	Four	Sq.5E, Rm.5, in fill	b.19.4, r.10.8, b.22, bs.9	Asmar. pl.193:D525-370; Gubba, fig.20:6; Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.13:2A
41		169	Red c. pr. medium jar	=	Sq.7F, Rm.15, in fill	h.19.5, r.12.6, b.18, bs.9	Asmar. pl.192:D151-370
42		170	= = = = =, Broken & repaired	=	= = = = =	h.20, r.13, b.18, bs.9	Uch Tepe. pl.98:2
43	91656	171	= = large = = =	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.8, in fill	h.30.5, r.13.7, b.27.5, bs.9.2	
44	91625	63	Red c. pr. small jar with double mouths	=	Sq.5E, = 9 =	h.9.9, r. b.8.9, bs.3.7	Khafajeh. pl.161:B575:225; Uch Tepe. pl.74:7; Kish
45		152	= = = = =	=	= = = 5 =	h.9.3, r.3.1, b.8.2, bs.3.5	Khafajeh. ol.165:B675-220
47		165	= round medium jar	Four	Sq.6E, in Grave, 6F, Rm.11 in fill	h.14.5, b.14.5, r.4.6	Khafajeh. Delougaz, Houses; pl.183:C545-340
48		168	= = = = =	=	Sq.7F, in grave, Rm.15, in fill	h.6, r.10.4, b.14.5, bs.4	Khafajeh. Delougaz, Houses; pl.183:C545-340
49	91660	175	Buff c. round shallow bowl with four lugs	Three	Sq.6D, Rm.4, in fill	h.7.5, r.7.2, b.8	Khafajeh. pl.147:B043-503
50	91600	1	Red c. pr. small jar		Surface find	h.9.7, r.3.1, b.9, bs.4.3	
51	91617	44	Grey c. round small jar	Three	Sq.6E, Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.9.3, r.6.7, b.9	Madhhour. Sumer , 43, fig:6; Abu Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:2
52		60	Red c. onion shaped small jar	Two	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.10.1, r.9.2, b.10.8, bs.4.9	Abu Salabikh. 38, fig.8:23
53		61	Red c. pr. small jar	=	= 5E = 9 =	h.11.3, r.4.2, b.10.2, bs.5.5	Asmar. pl.163:B645-220
54		67	Red c. round medium jar	=	Sq.5D, Rm.8, on floor	h.20, r.13.7, b.19.5, bs.9.6	= pl.161:B574-240

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measurements cm	Comparative Pottery Types
55	91632	82	Red c. pr. small jar	One	Sq.5D, Rm.15, in fill	h.9, r.8.2, b.10.2, bs.4.6	Abg'a. Sumer 38, p.47, fig.12
56		111	= = = =	Two	= 5E = 9 =	h.11.4, r.7.4, b.10, bs.3.3	
57		116	= round small jar	=	= = = = =	h.10.7, r.7.5, b.10	
58	91635	121	Buff c. round medium jar	=	= = = = =	h.22.2, r.14.6, 21.5, bs.10.3	Mari. Syria 19, pl.11:4 Khafajeh. pl.99:e.C655-460; Gubba. fig.21:9
59	91601	2	= pr. roughly made small jar		Surface find	h.8.3, r.5.8, b.7.4, bs.6	
60	91602	4	Red c. medium size cup		= =	h.9.4, r.6.6, bs.5.3	Asmar. pl.151:B165-220
61	91628	97	Red c. cylindrical cup, broken & mended	Four	Sq. 6F, Rm.6, on floor	h.9.5, r.11.7, bs.6.2	Khafajeh. pl.146:B16-200
62	91642	149	Red c. small cylindrical cup	=	Sq.7F, Rm.15, on floor	h.7.8, r.6.6, bs.4.3	
63	91643	150	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.3, r.7.8, bs.3.8	Asmar. pl.149:B65-210
64	91659	174	Buff c. pr. small jar	Three	Sq.7C, Rm.17, in fill	h.11, r.9, b.10.6, bs.4.2	Abqa. Sumer 38, p.47, fig.11
65		14	Red c. round small jar	One	Sq.6D, Rm.1, in fill	h.7.5, r.5.2, b.7.5, bs.3.8	Uch Tepe. pl.73:10
66		17	= = = =	Three	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.8.9, r.6.1, b.8, bs.4.1	Khafajeh. pl.98:eB576-220 Abu salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.8:21
67		22	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8.2, r.6.8, b.8.5	Khafajeh. pl.103:755-520 Uch Tepe. pl.74:2B & D
68	91616	43	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8, r.5.4, b.8.3	Khafajeh. pl.103:AB545-540 Gubba. fig.19:4; Uch Tepe. pl.74:4
69		62	= = = =	Two	Sq.5E, Rm9, in fill	h.8, r.6.9, b.9, bs.3.6	Khafajeh. pl.98:KB184-220C
70		64	= = = = , broken & mended	=	Sq.5D, courtyard 10, in fill	h.6.4, r.5.5, b.6.9	Khafajeh. pl.103:CB655-520
71		18	= = = = = =	Three	Sq.6D, Rm4, on floor	h.8.4, r.3.8, b.8.5, bs.4	= pl.98:bD-545-220c; Uch Tepe. pl.73:10
72		45	Red C. pr. small jar	=	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.9.5 b.8.8,bs.3.5	
73		99	= = = =	Four	Sq.6F, Rm.6, on floor	h.8.5, r.3.6, b.6.6, bs.3.6	
74	91629	100	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.9, r.2.6, b.6, bs.2.2	Khafajeh.pl.98:bB545-220C
75		119	Buff c. = = =	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.9, on floor	h.9.5, r.5.2, b.8.2, bs.4.2	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.8:23
76		132	Red c. = = =	Four	Sq.5F, Rm.6, in fill	h.9, r.3.2, b.7.5, bs.3.5	
77		21	Red c. small fruit stand, parts missing	Three	Sq.6E, Rm.4, on floor	h.11.5, body: upper dia.11.8 middle dia. 4 lower dia. 12	Khafajeh. pl.174:C363-810 Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:12; Iraq 44, fig.4:15
78	91619	48	Red c. Large fruit stand, mended	=	Sqs.6D,E, Rm.4, in fill	h.22.8, body: upper dia.23 middle dia. 7 lower dia. 20	Khafajeh. pl.174:C364-810
79	91627	80	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.10, on floor	h.23, body: upper dia.26 middle dia.7.5 lower dia.24.8	Gubba. fig.21:1 Abu Salabikh. Iraq 38, fig.7:5
80		115	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.9, on floor	h.24.8, body: upper dia.23.5 middle dia. 7; lower dia.22.6	Khafajeh. pl.174:C365-810 Asmar. p.33-34

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measearments cm	Comparative Pottery Types
81	91603	3	Buff c. chariot wheel	Three	Sq.6D, Courtyard 7, in fill	dia.6.4, th.3.3, dia. hl.0.4	
82		6	= = =	=	Sq.6D, Rm.3, on floor	dia.6.7, th.3.4, dia. hl.0.4	
83		8	Red c. = = =	=	= = = = =	dia.6.4, th.3.2, dia. hl.0.3	
84		9	= = = =	=	= = = = =	dia.6.9, th.3.2, dia. hl.0.4	
85		68	Buff c. = = =	=	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	dia.7.1, th.2.6, dia. hl.0.3	
86		70	= = = =	=	= = = = =	dia.4.1, th.2.3, dia. hl.0.3	
87		83	= = = =	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.8, in fill	dia.5.9, th.2.7, dia. hl.0.4	
88		84	Red c. = = =	=	= = = = =	dia.4.4, th.2, dia. hl.0.4	
89		109	= = = =	Four	Sq.5E, Rm.9, in fill	dia.5.6, th.2.8, dia. hl.0.5	
90		193	Red c. round small jar, broken & repaired	Two	Sq.5F, Rm.6, in fill	h.9.4, r.3.5, b.8, bs.4.5	
91	87938	194	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.9, r.8, b.10, bs.4	
92		196	Buff c. oval = = =	One	Sq.5C, Rm.16, in fill	h.8.5, r.3, b.6.6, bs.4.1	
93		205	= pr. = = =	Four	Sq.5F, in fill	h.10.5, r.3.4, b.8.6, bs.4.8	
94		206	= = = = , broken & repaired	One	Sq.5C, Rm.17, in fill	h.8.6, r.3.1, b.7.9	
95		87945	211	= = = =	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.8, in fill	h.11.5, r.4, b.9.8, bs.5.2
96	219		Red c. = = = =	One	Sq.5C, Rm.17, in fill	h.9.9, r.8, b.10.5, bs.4.1	
97	229		Buff c. = = = =	Four	Sq.5F, floor of courtyard	h.9.8, r.3.6, b.8.7, bs.3.7	
98	87954	242	Red c. = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.10.2, r.10, b.12.4, bs.4.5	
99		243	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.9.9, r.2.9, b.8.4, bs.3.9	
100		285	Buff c. = = = =	Six	Sq.8G, Rm.9, in fill	h.9, r.8, b.9, bs.5	
101	117274	312	= = = =	Four	Sq.7F, Rm.11, in fill	h.10, r.3.2, b.8.6, bs.3.8	
102		191	Red c. semi-conical pot	=	Sq.5E, Rm.6, in fill	h.7.3, r.11.5, bs.3.2	
103	87939	192	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.6.4, r.11.2, bs.4.3	
104		208	= = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.2, r.12.5, bs.4.6	
105		209	= = = = broken & repaired	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.10, in fill	h.7.7, r.18.1, bs.5.4	
106		212	Buff c. = = = =	=	= = = = 8 =	h.6.5, r.14.6, bs.4.7	
107	117274	230	Red c. = = = = =	One	Sq.5C, Rm.17, in fill	h.6.5, r.12.6, bs.4.1	
108		238	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5F, in fill	h.8.3, r.15.7, bs.5.4	
109		268	Buff c. = = = = =	Five	Sq.7F, Rm.1, on floor	h.8.1, r.15, bs.4.2	
110		270	Red c. = = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.7, r.15, bs.4.5	

Uch Tepe. pl.73:14; Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.12:8

Abq'a. Sumer 38, p.47, fig.12

Abu Salabikh. Iraq 38, fig.8:23;

Abq'a. Sumer 38, p.47, fig.12

Uch Tepe. pl.73:14
Asmar. pl.148:B63-200d; Gubba. fig.19:7

Asmar. pl.148:B63-200d;

Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.14:1

Khafajeh. pl.146:B001-200A

Khafajeh. pl.96:EB82-200

Khafajeh. pl.96:AB002-200A; Uch Tepe. pl.61:1

Asmar. pl.146:B032-200

Khafajeh. pl.146:B002-200A

Asmar. pl.146:B001-200A

Asmar. pl.146:B002-200A

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measurements cm	Comparative Pottery Types
111		272	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8.5, r.15, bs.4	Sippar. Al-Jadir. Excavations at Sippar. In. Researches in the Gubba. Fig.20:2
112	117272	273	Buff c. = = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.6.5, r.14.4, bs.5	Asmar. pl.146:B032-200d
113		281	Red c. = = = = =	Six	Sq.8F, Rm.6, on floor	h.8, r.14.8, bs.4	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 38, fig.8:12; Gubba. fig.20:2; Uch Tepe. pl.61:8
114	117270	223	Buff c. = = = = =	One	Sq.6C, Rm.16, in fill	h.7.5, r.16.4, bs.5.4	Khafajeh. pl.146:b032-200A; Gubba. fig.19:9
115		251	= = = = =	Six	Sq.8F, Rm. 6, on floor	h.8.3, r.17, bs.4.6	Asmar. pl.146:B32-200b
116		252	= = = = =	Four	Sq.7F, Rm.11, in fill	h.8.5, r.16.5, bs.5	Asmar. pl.148:B63-200b
117		267	Red c. = = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.6, r.16.2, bs.3.4	Asmar. pl.146:B32-200A; Ur. Exc. II, pl.251:4A, %A & B
118		269	= = = = =	=	Sq.7F, Rm.10, on floor	h.6, r.13.8, bs.5	Khafajeh. pl.146:B002-220A
119		271	Buff c. = = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.5, r.16.7, bs.4.2	Khafajeh. pl.146:B002-220A;
120		303	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.5.4, r.16, bs.4.8	Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.14:5
121		308	= = = = =	=	= = = = =, in fill	h.9.5, r.16, bs.5.7	
122		313	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8, r.12, bs.5	Khafajeh. pl.148:B84-210
123		314	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8, r.10, bs.4.5	= pl.149:B83-210A
124		315	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.5, r.9.7, bs.4.4	= pl.149:B83-210C
125	87986	363	Red. C. = = = = =	South trench	Sq.12Q, in fill	h.11.5, r.30	
134		71	Buff c. = = = = =	One	Sq.6D, Rm.1, in fill	h.8.5, r.16, bs.4.5	Uch Tepe. pl.61:3
145	87950	235	= pr. large spouted jar.	Four	Sq.5F, Rm.12, in fill	h.29.5, r.12.4, bs.12	Asmar. pl.180:C526-262C
147	87966	288	= round medium spouted jar	Six	Sq.8G, Rm.8, on floor	h.17.5, r.10, b.11.8, bs.3.2	Abq'a. Sumer 38, p.45, fig.6
148		23	= long = = =	Two	Sq.6D, Rm.2, in fill	h.18.3, r.11, b.14.2, bs.5.8	Khafajeh. pl.180:C526-262b; Uch Tepe. pl.99:5; Asmar. pl.C526-362b
149		55	= = = = =	Three	Sq.6E, Rm.4, in fill	h.24.5, r.11.5, b.13.8, bs.6.5	Uch Tepe. pl.89:5

Early Dynastic III Pottery from Level III

No.	IM No.	Ex.No.	Description	Unit	Location	Measearments cm	Comparative Pottery Types
126		33	Red c. semi-conical pot, broken & repair]red	MB	Sq.6E, Rm.1, on floor	h.7.9, r.17.3, bs.4	Asmar. pl.146:B32-200A
127		34	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8, r.16.3, bs.4.2	
128		35	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.10.2, r.18.5, bs.5	Gubba. fig.20:2
129		36	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.8, r.16.5, bs.4	
130		37	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.7, r.17, bs.5.5	Asmar. pl.146:B003-200d; Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:9
131		38	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8, r.16.8, bs.4.6	
132		39	Buff c. = = = = =	Two	Sq.6D, Rm.16, in fill	h.8.4, r.15.8, bs.4	Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.8:12
133		40	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.7.5, r.16, bs.4.5	
135		72	Red c. = = = = , traces of fire	MB	= = = 2 on floor	h.8.5, r.16, bs.4.5	
136		73	Buff c. = = = = broken & repaired	Two	Sq.5D, Courtyard 18, in fill	h.8.1, r.15.3, bs.4	Uch Tepe. pl.61:3
137		74	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.9.9, r.13.8, bs.3.7	Khafajeh. pl.146:B003-700
138		75	Red C. = = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.8.3, r.14.3, bs.4	Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.14:31; Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.5:1
139		76	= = = = =	MB	Sq.6E, Rm.6, on floor	h.7.5, r.14.4, bs.4.5	
140		77	= = = = =	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.7, in fill	h.6.8, r.6.6, bs.5.6	Asmar. pl.146:B001-200A
141		78	= = = = =	One	Sq.5C, courtyard 16, in fill	h.10, r.14.4, bs.4.4	Khafajeh. pl.146:B003-700; Gubba. fig.20:2; Uch Tepe. pl.63:7; Abu Salabikh. Iraq 39, fig.39:5
142		189	Red c. long, spouted large jar	Two	Sq.5D, Rm.15, on floor	h.30, r.11, b.18.5, bs.8.3	Khafajeh. pl.180:C526-262b
143	91666	199	Buff c. pr. medium spouted jar	=	Sq.5D,courtyard 15, on floor	h.15.6, r.9.9, b.18.5, bs.5.2	Madhhour. Sumer 43, fig.12:5
144	91667	200	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.19, r.10.3, b.14.6, bs.5.4	
146		255	= oval = = = =	MB	Sq.7F, Rm.23, on floor	h.24.8, r.9.5, b.12.8, bs.6.8	Khafajeh. pl.90:d,C526-362b
147	87966	288	= round = = = =	Six	Sq.8G, Rm.8, on floor	h.17.5, r.10, b.11.8, bs.3.2	Abu'a. Sumer 38, p.45, fig.6
150		57	Red c. oval = = = =	MB	Sq.6D, Rm.1, on floor	h.24.5, r.10.5, b.16.5, bs.8.7	Khafajeh. pl.180:C562-362b
151		58	= = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.23, r.10.7, b.13.8, bs.7.5	Ur. Ur Exc.II, Type 253
152		59	= long = = = =	=	= = = = =	h.22, r.10, b.12.3, bs.7.8	Abu Salbikh. Iraq 38, fig.7:8
153		94	Buff c. = = = =	=	Sq.6E, Rm.6, in fill	h.23, r.9.5, b.15.2, bs.7.4	Abu Salbikh. Iraq 38, fig.7:8
154		114	Red c. conical small spouted jar	Two	Sq.5E, Rm.17, in fill	h.17.5, r.9.7, b.13, bs.5.4	Iraq 39, Fig.5:8
				155		167	Khafajeh. pl.90:eC527-362
				=	Sq.5D, Rm.16, in fill	h.23.3, r.10.5, b.14, bs.6.7	Buff c. long medium spouted jar
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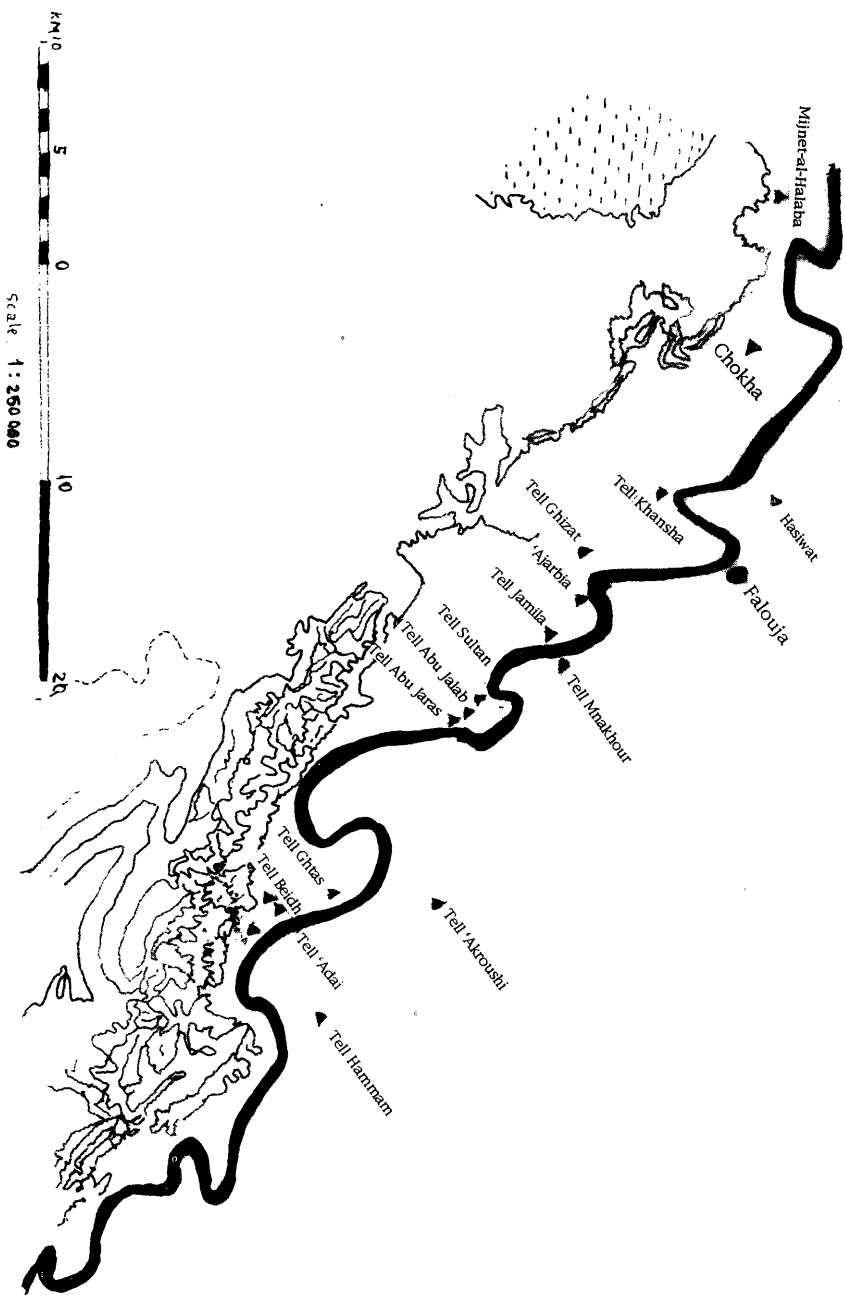
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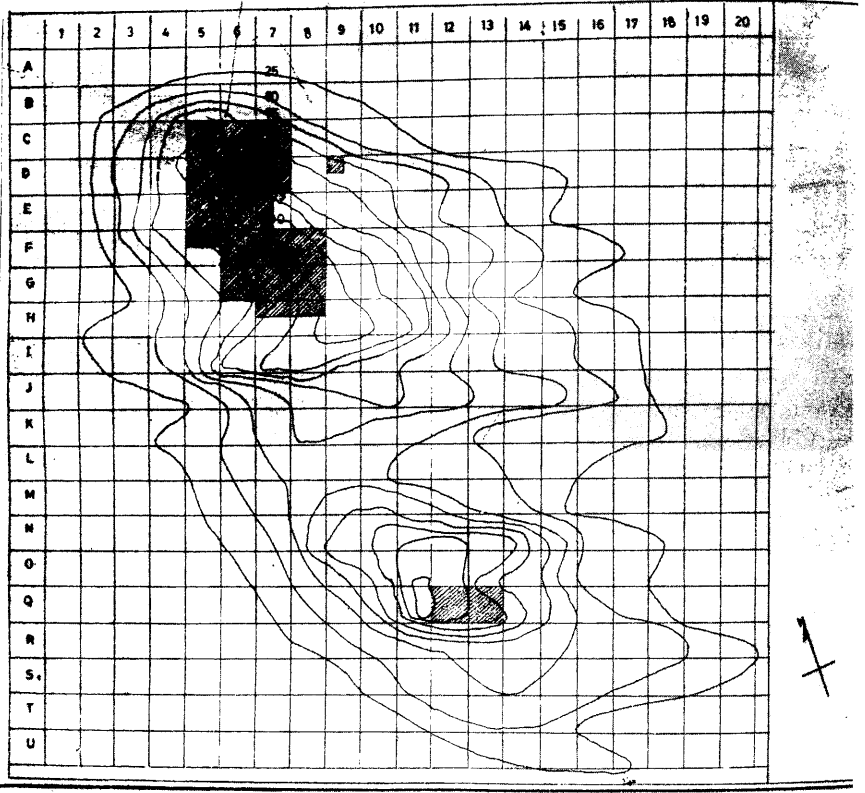
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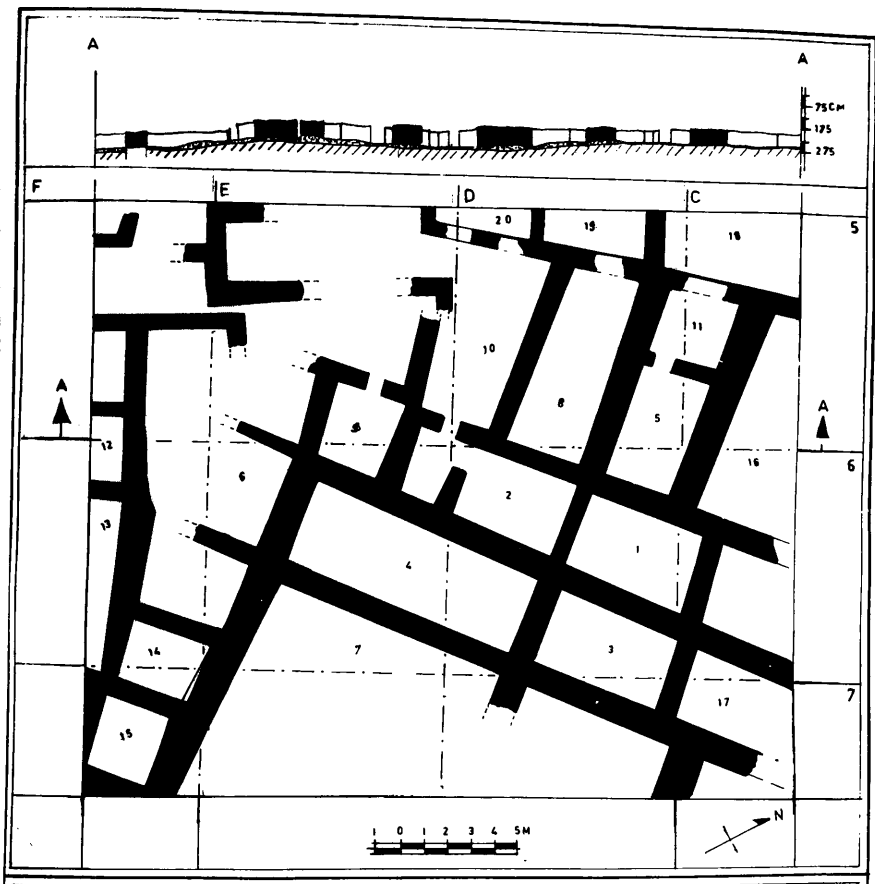
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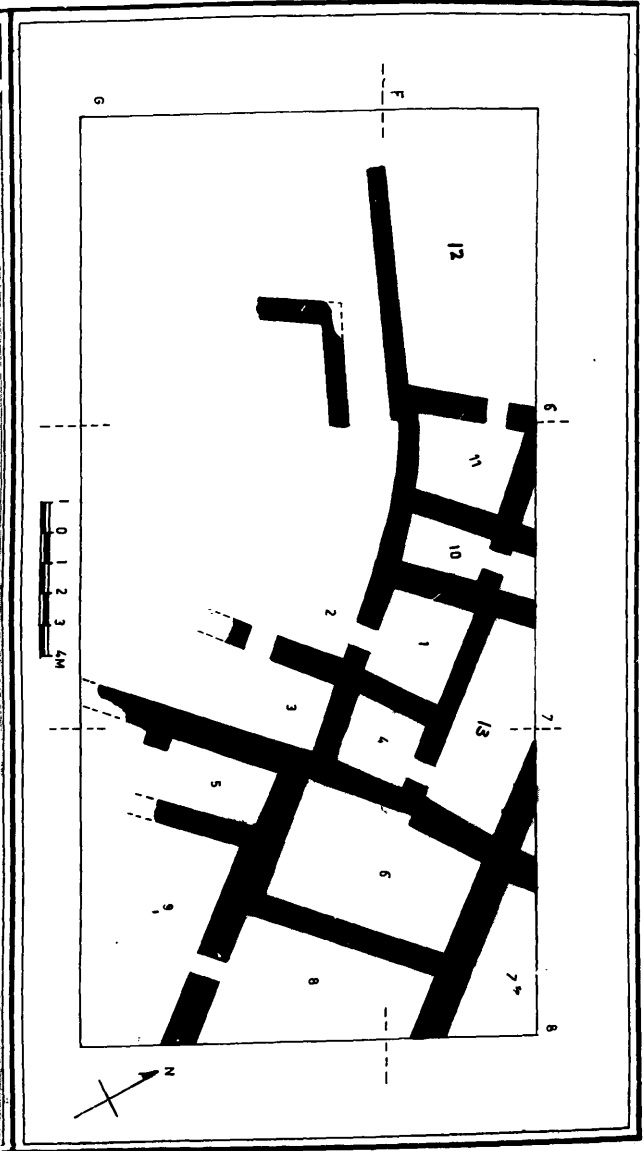
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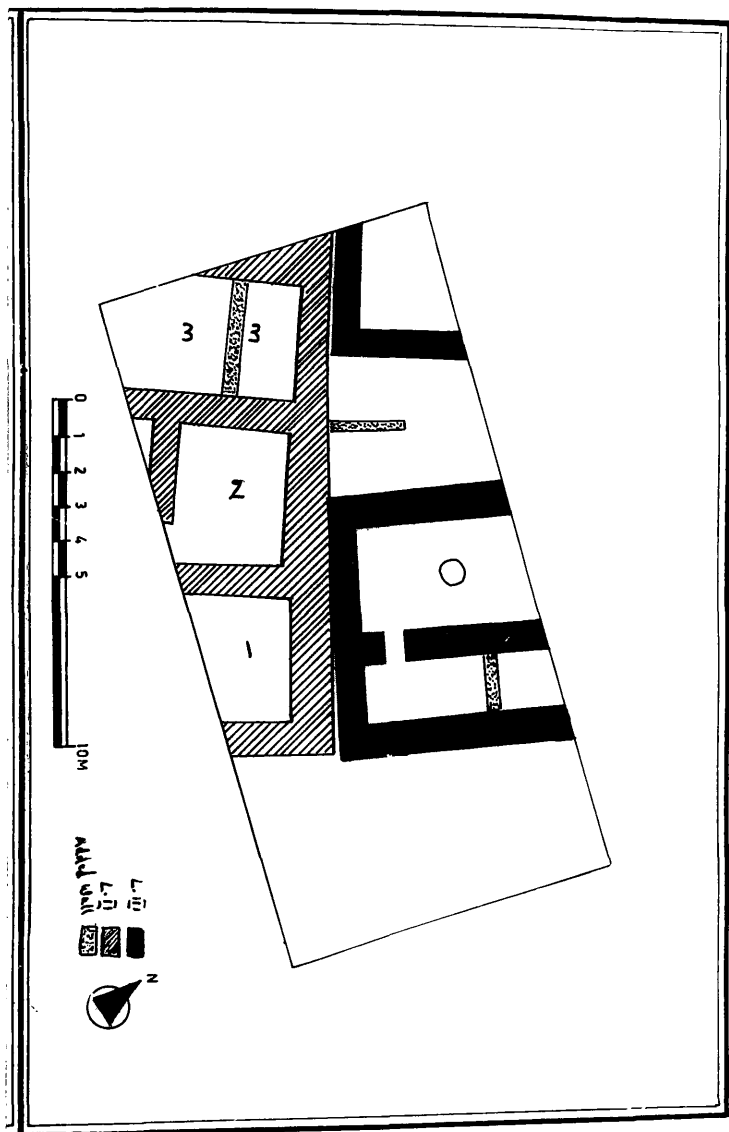


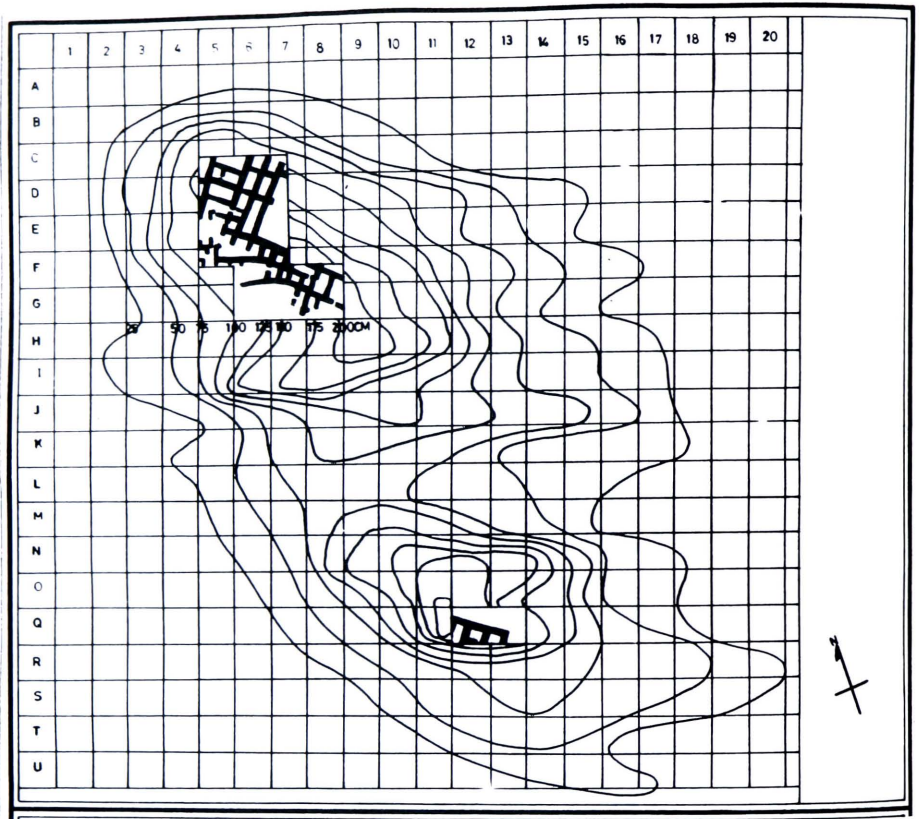


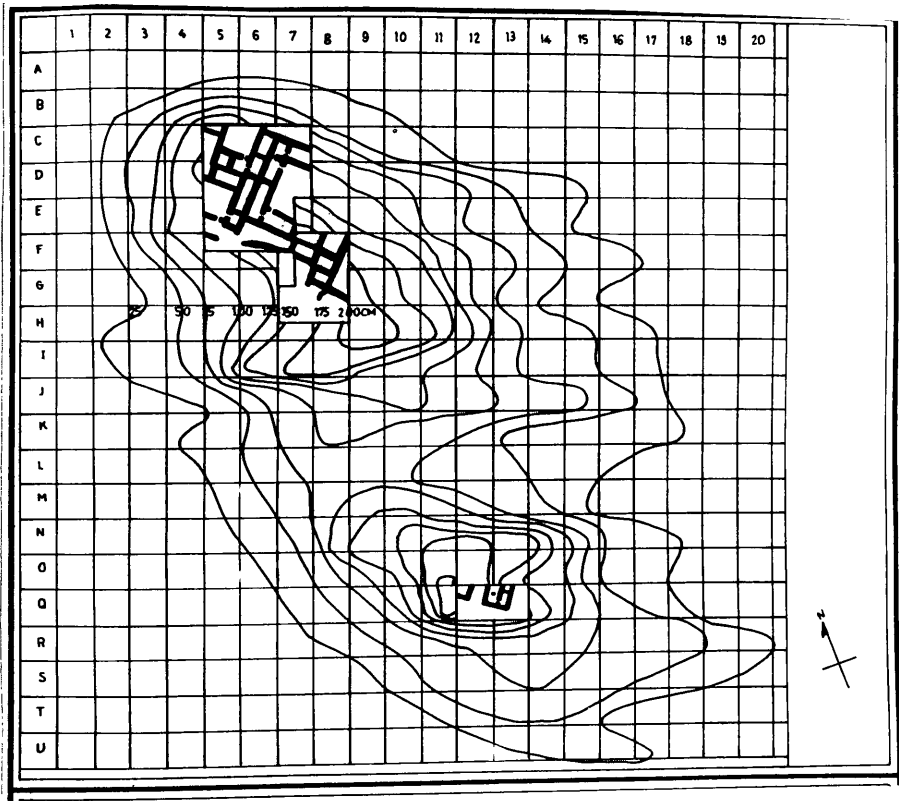


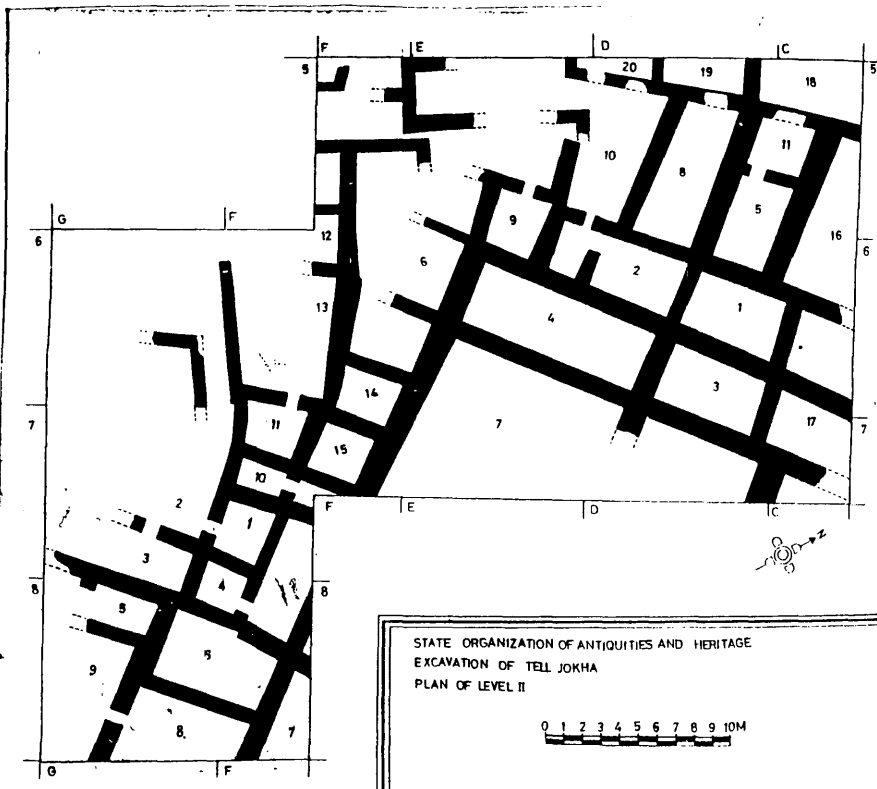






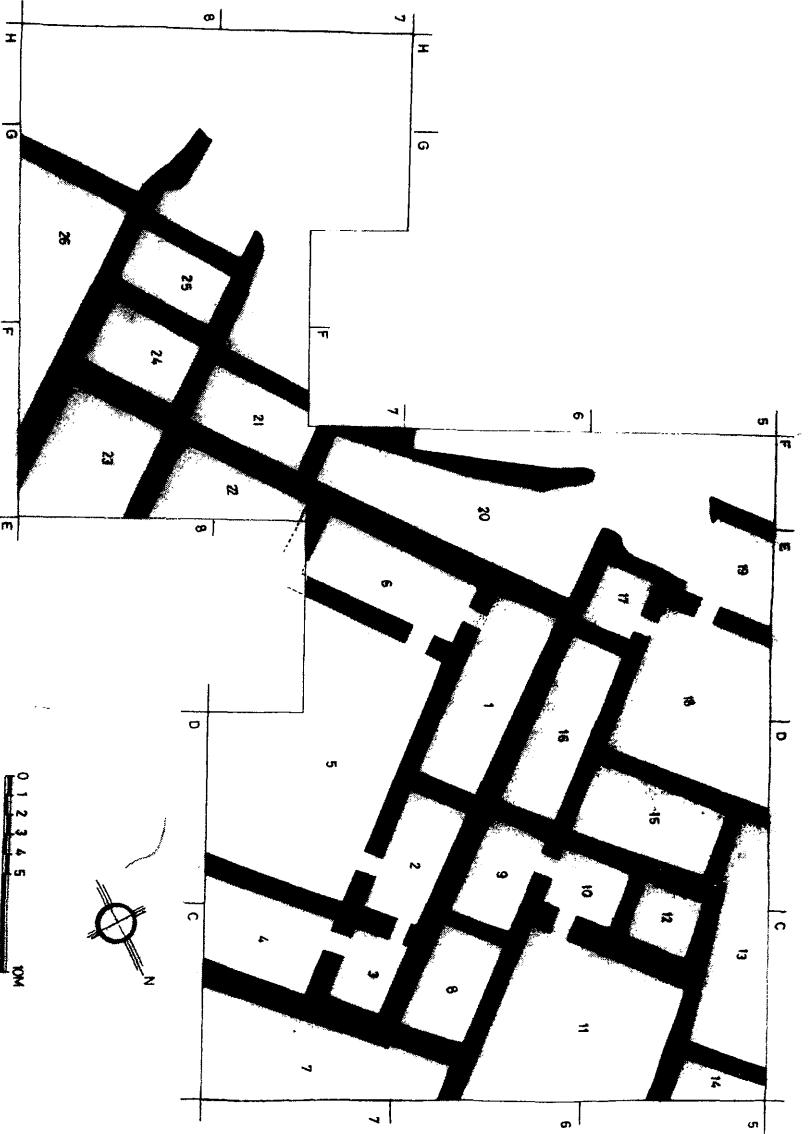


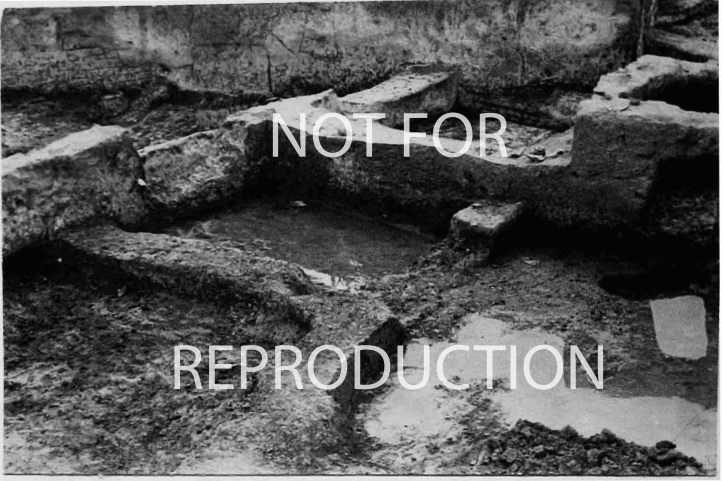




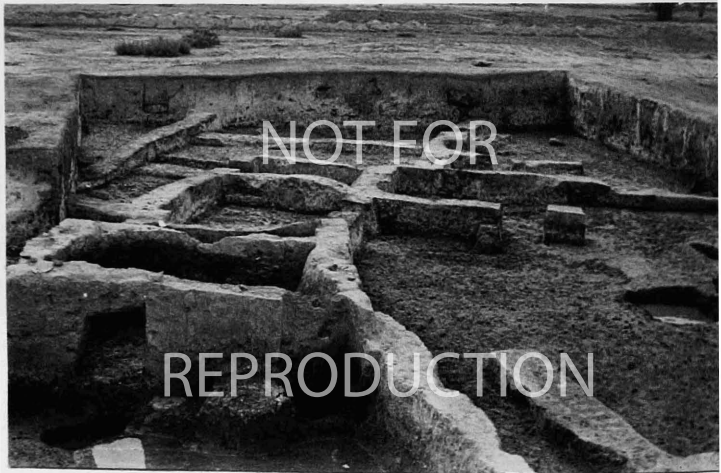
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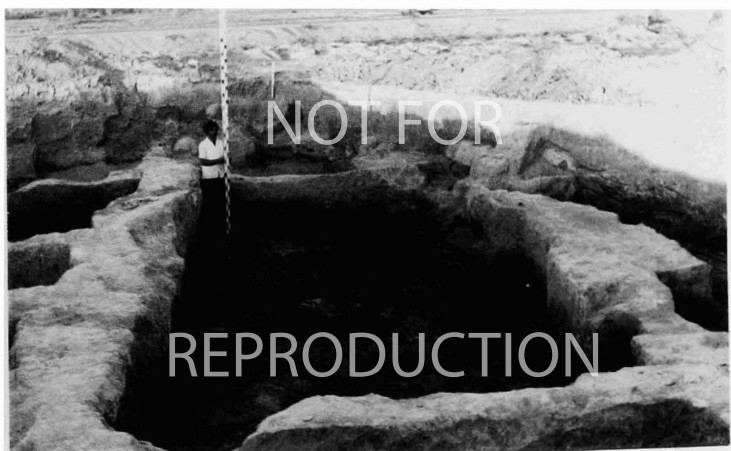
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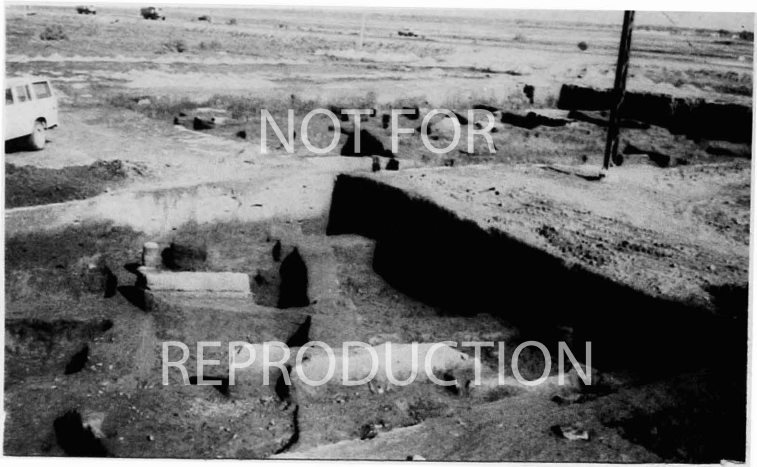
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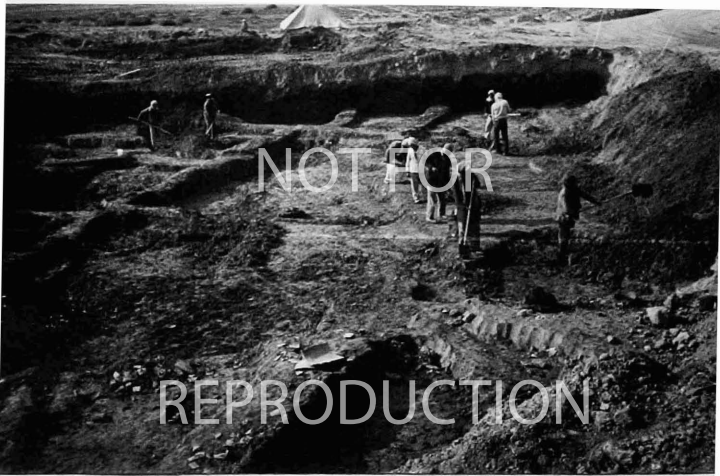
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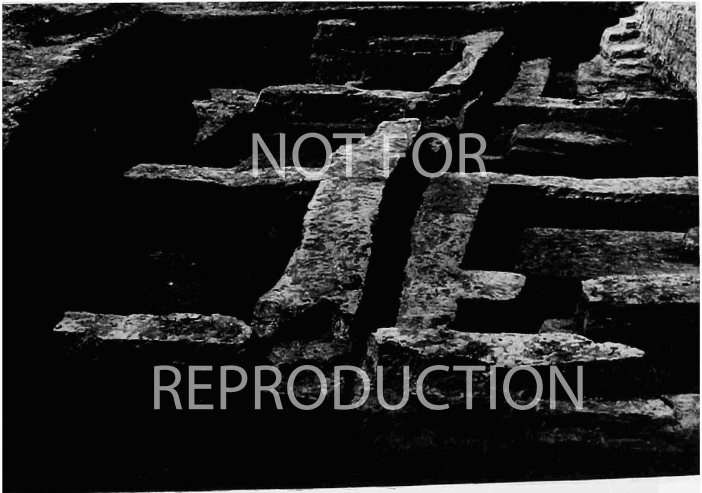
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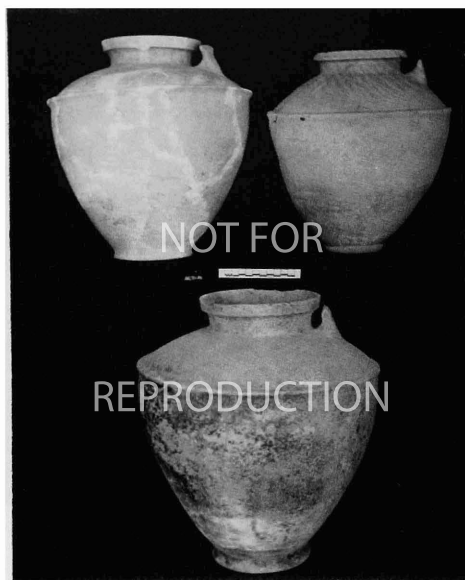
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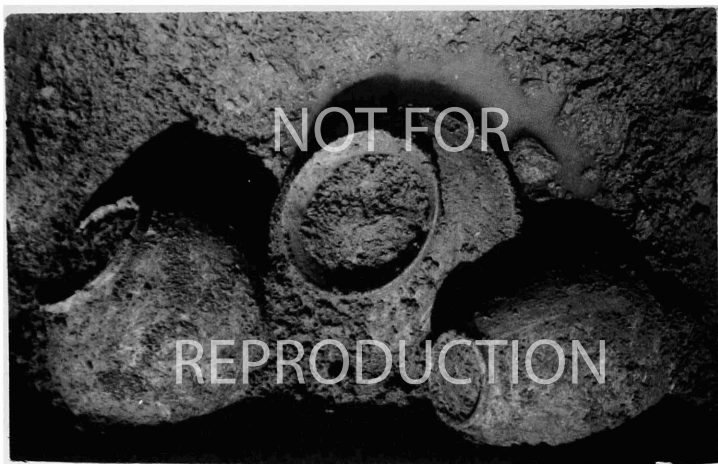
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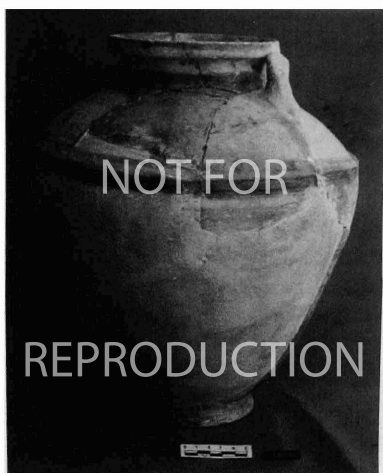
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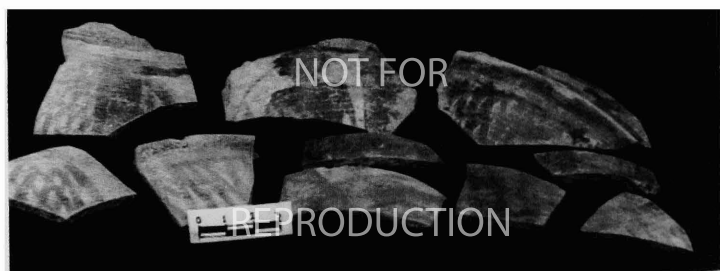
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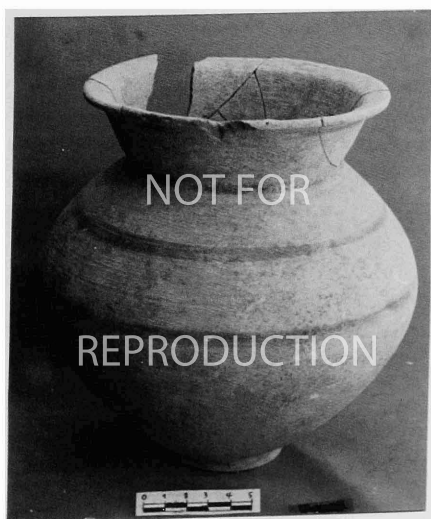
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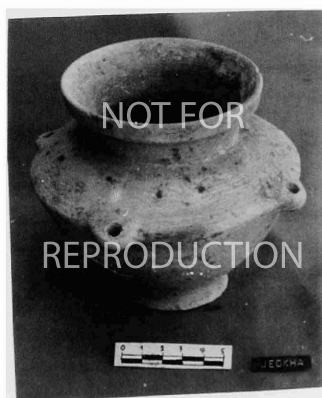
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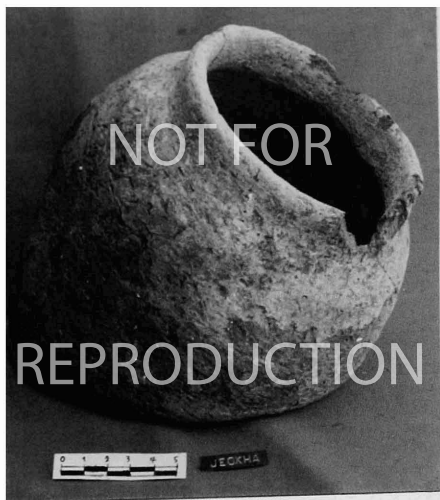
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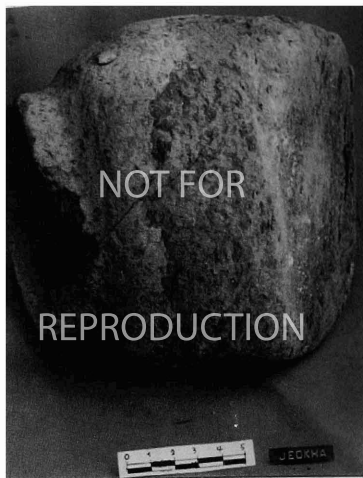
24



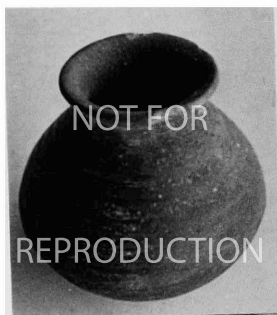
25



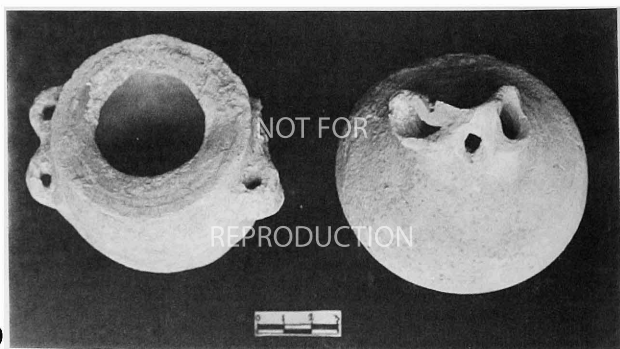
26



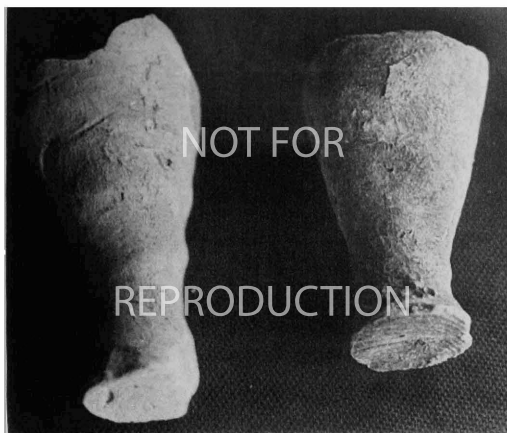
27



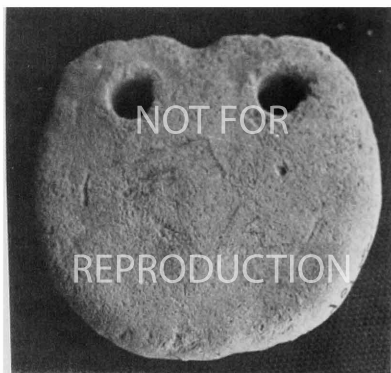
28



29



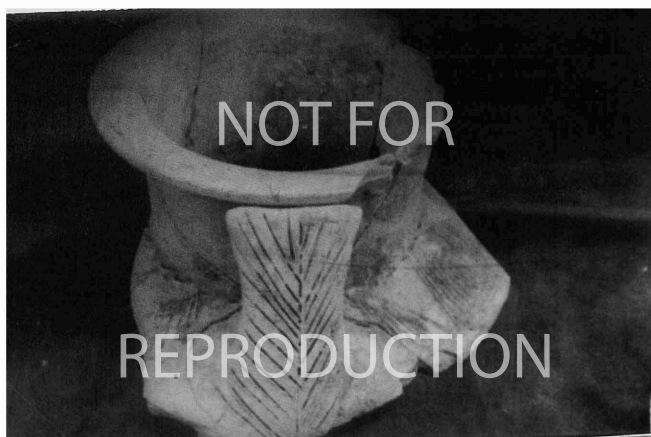
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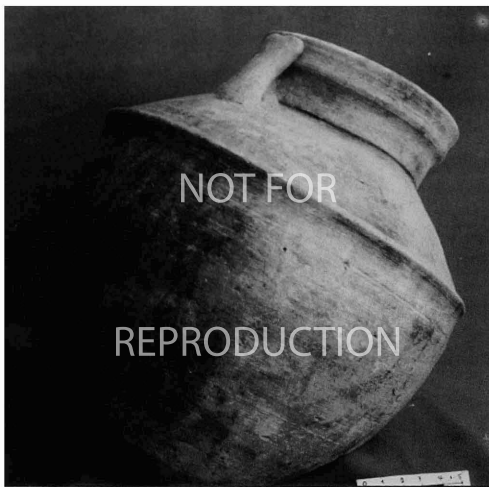
31



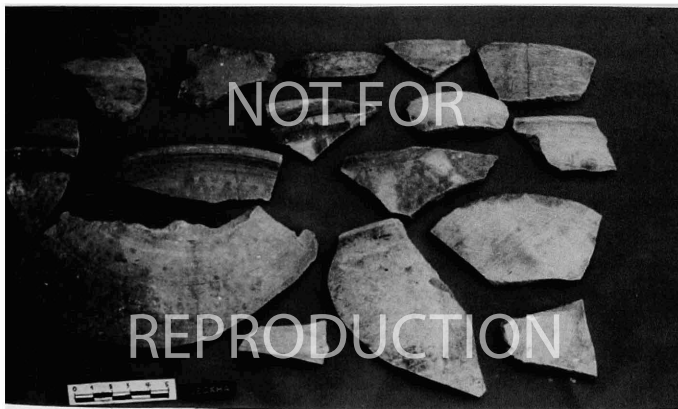
32



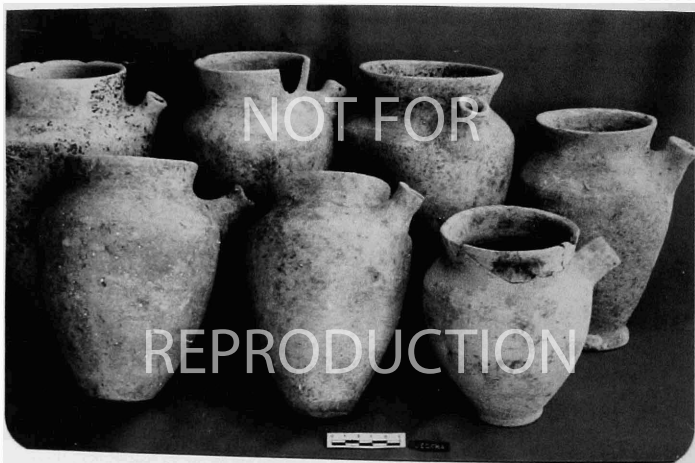
33



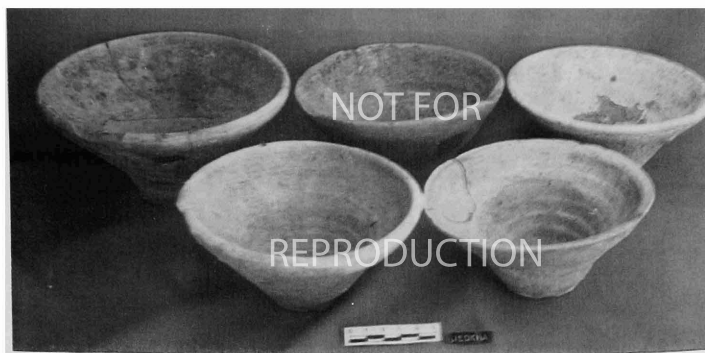
34



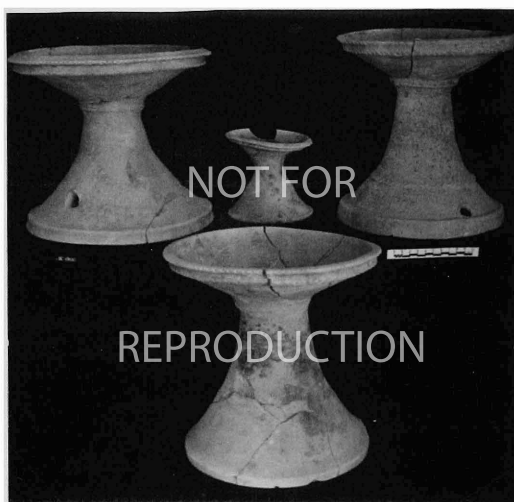
35



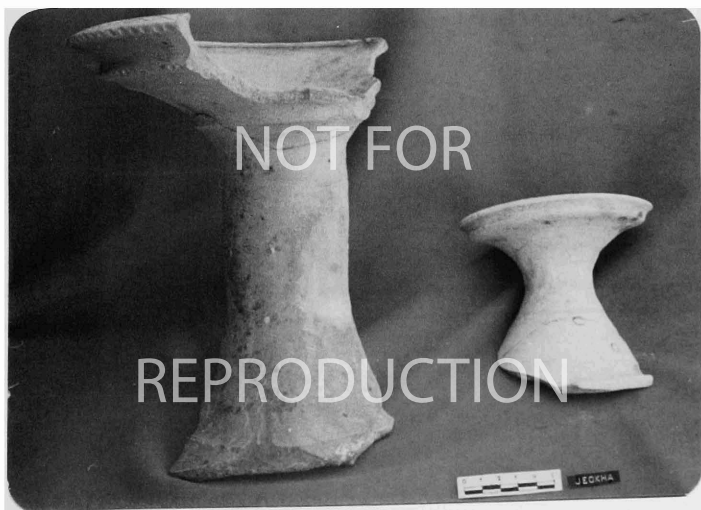
36



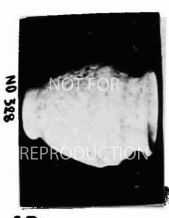
37



38



19



NO 335

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

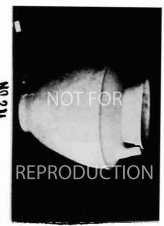
9



NO 336

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

13



NO 211

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

11



NO 300

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

8



NO 185

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

2



NO 392

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

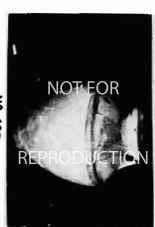
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NO 813

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

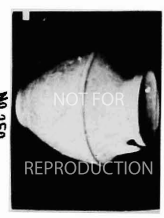
4



NO 125

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

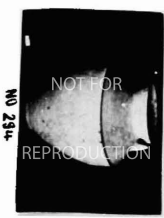
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NO 250

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

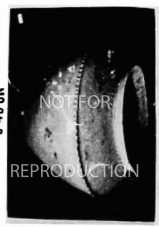
6



NO 294

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

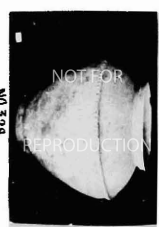
7



NO 248

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

5



NO 329

NOT FOR REPRODUCTION

10



NO 95

34



NO 85

33



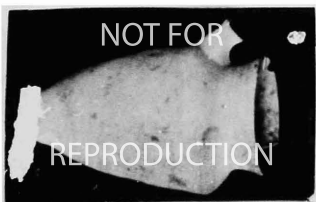
NO 55

31



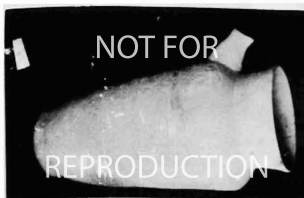
NO 54

30



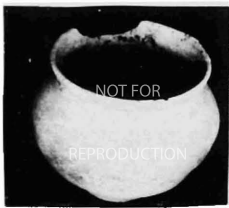
NO 52

29



NO 56

32



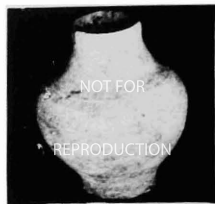
NO. 242

98



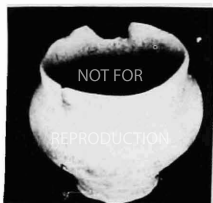
NO. 219

96



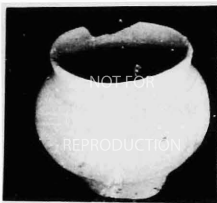
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95



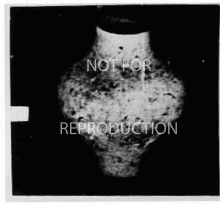
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100



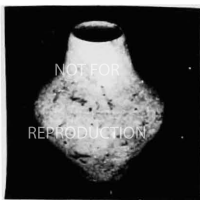
NO. 194

91



NO. 243

99



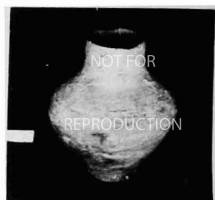
NO. 312

101



NO. 193

90



NO. 229

97



NO. 206

94



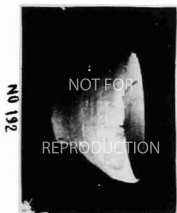
NO. 196

92



NO. 205

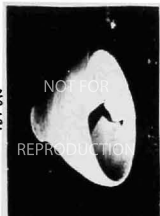
93



NO 192

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

103



NO 191

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

102



NO 230

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

107



NO 212

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

106



NO 208

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

104



NO 268

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

109



NO 270

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

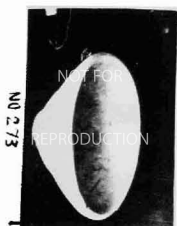
110



NO 209

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

105



NO 273

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

112



NO 238

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

108



NO 281

NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

113



NO 272

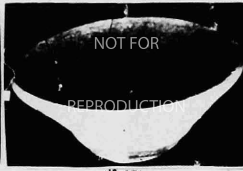
NOT FOR
REPRODUCTION

111



NO. 273

114



NO. 251

115



NO. 257

117



NO. 308

121



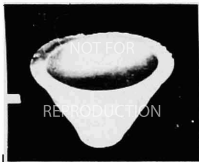
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116



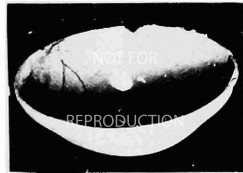
NO. 271

119



NO. 263

125



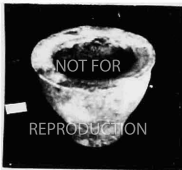
NO. 303

120



NO. 313

122



NO. 314

123



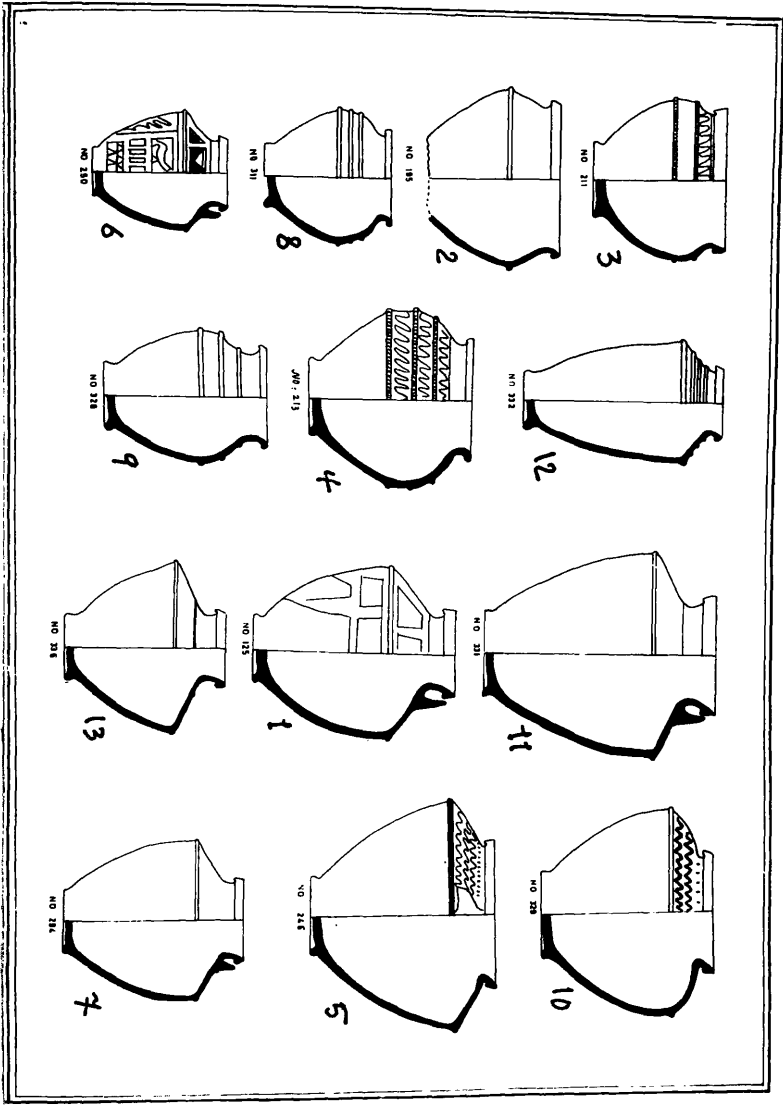
NO. 315

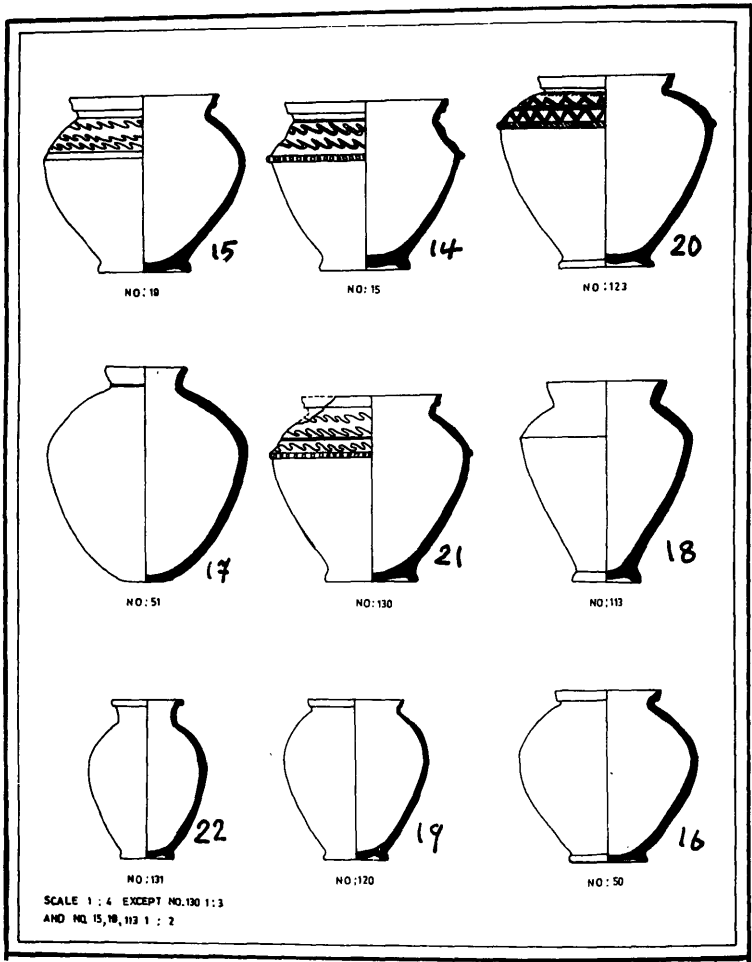
124



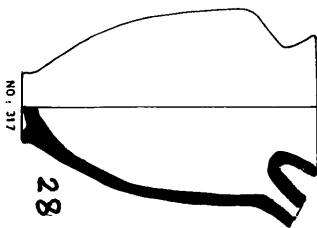
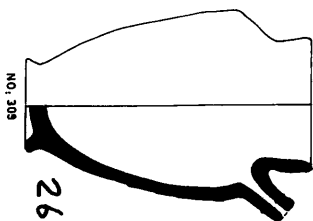
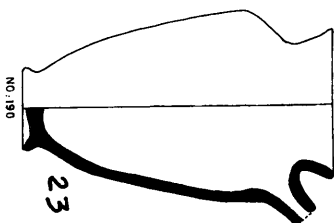
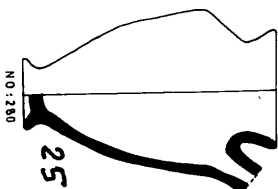
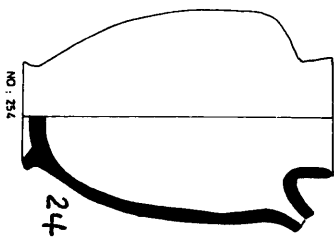
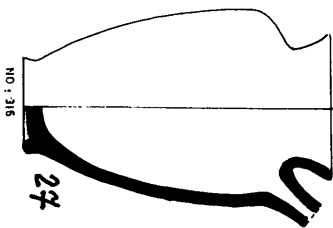
NO. 269

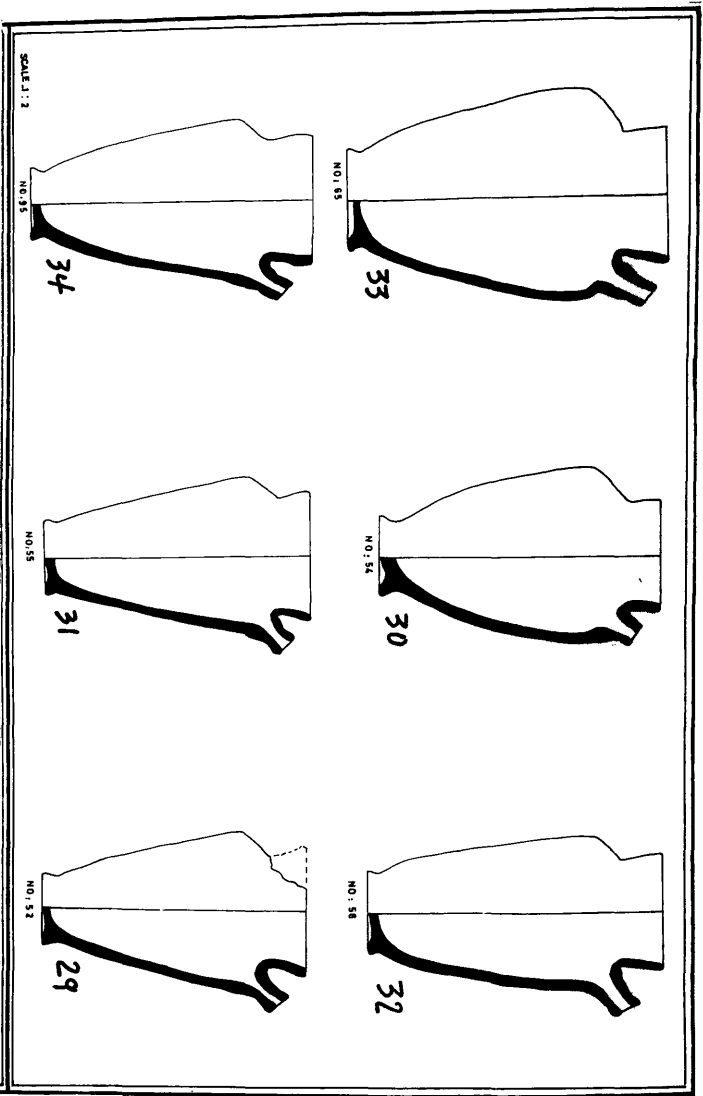
118

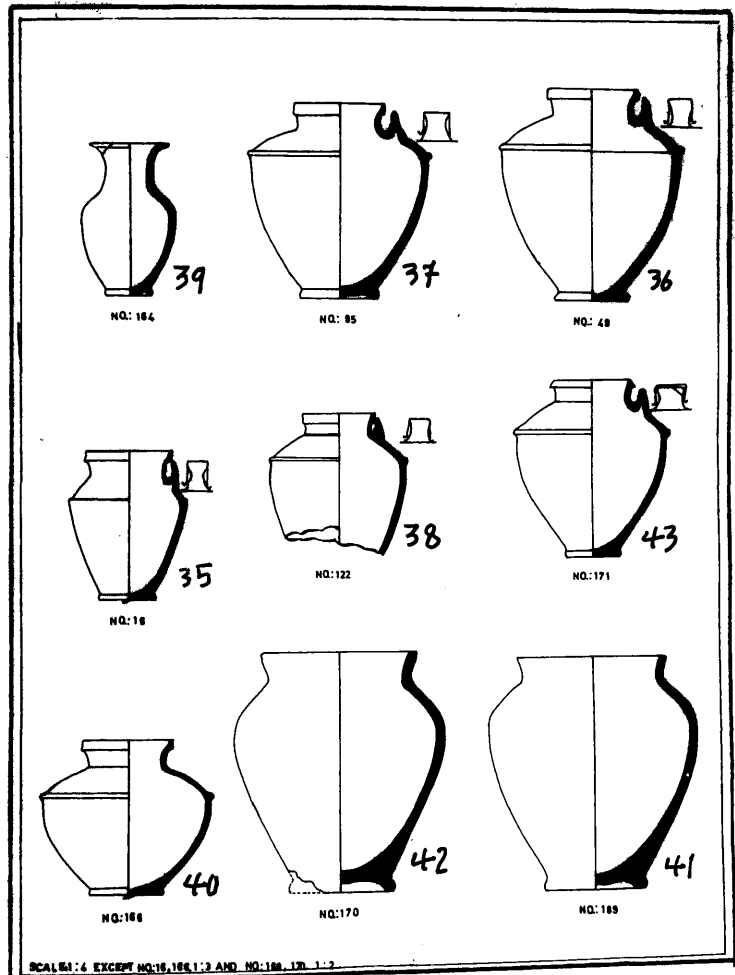


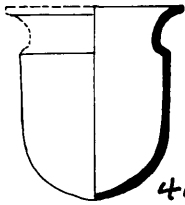


SCALE 1-2



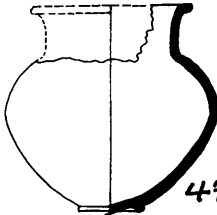






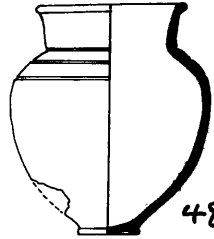
NO 163

46



NO 165

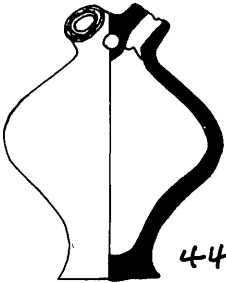
47



NO 168

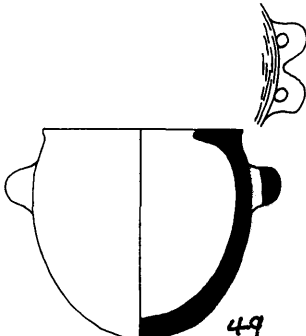
48

SCALE 1:2



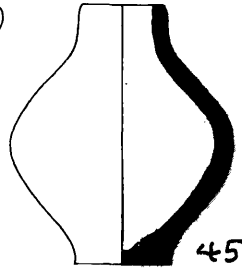
NO 63

44



NO 175

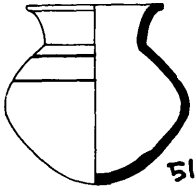
49



NO 152

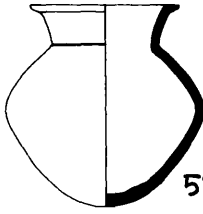
45

SCALE 1:1



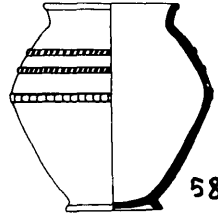
51

NO: 44



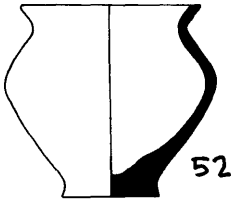
57

NO: 118



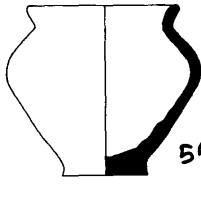
58

NO: 121



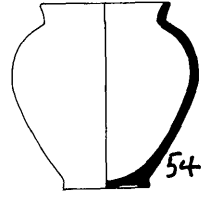
52

NO: 80



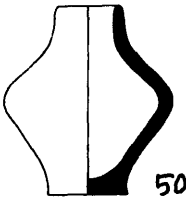
55

NO: 87



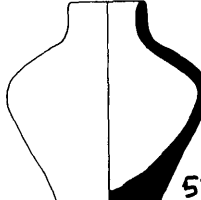
54

NO: 87



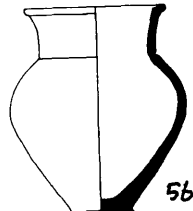
50

NO: 1



53

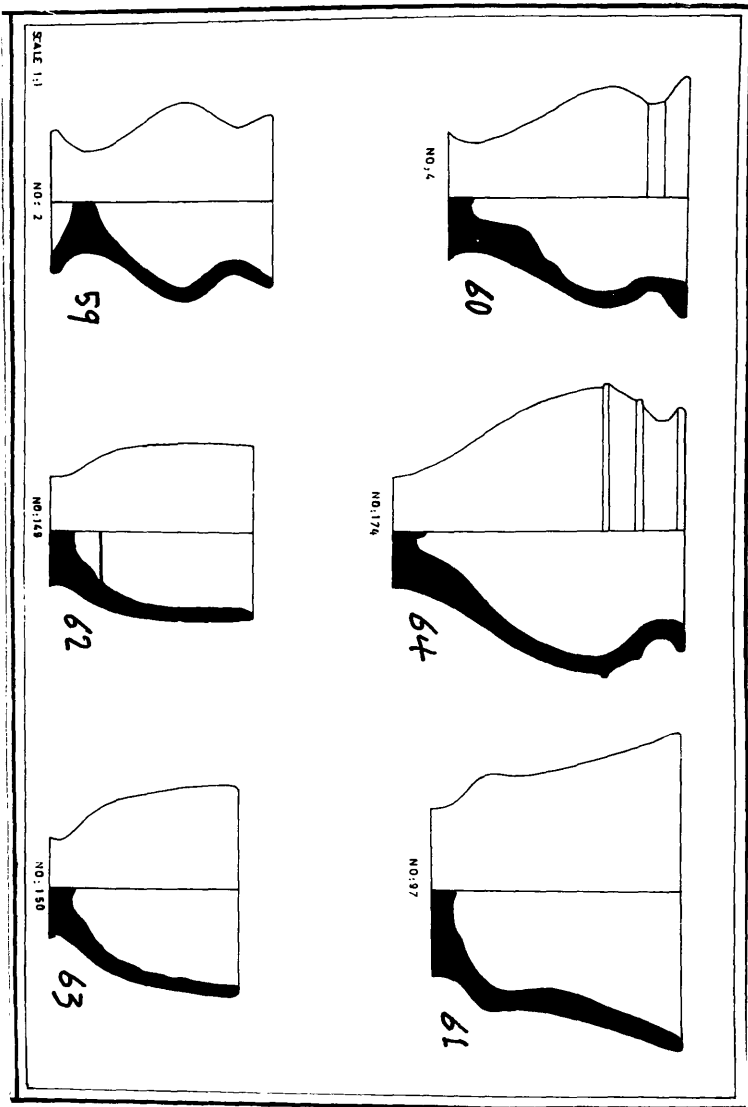
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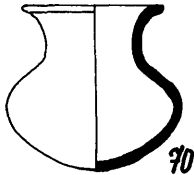


56

NO: 8

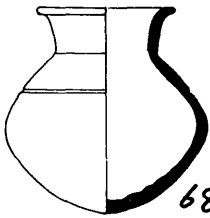
SCALE 1:1 EXCEPT NO.121,87 1:2





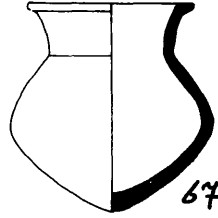
NO: 64

70



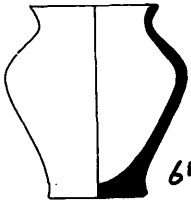
NO: 43

68



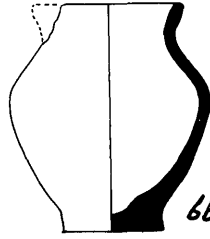
NO: 22

67



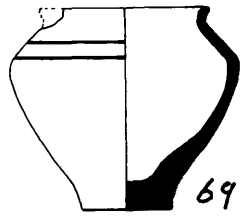
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65



NO: 17

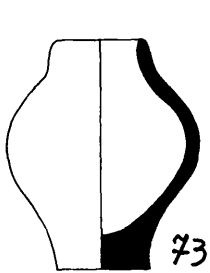
66



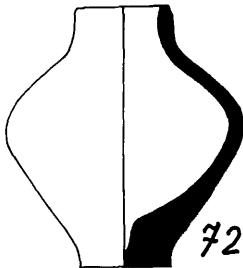
NO: 82

69

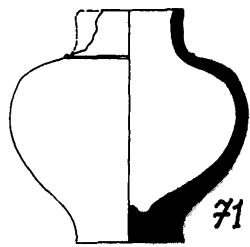
SCALE 1:1



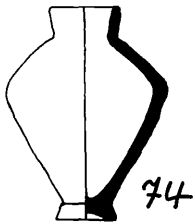
NO: 89



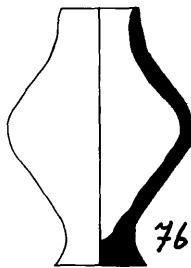
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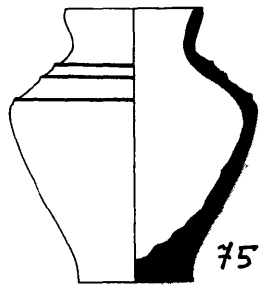
NO: 18



NO: 100

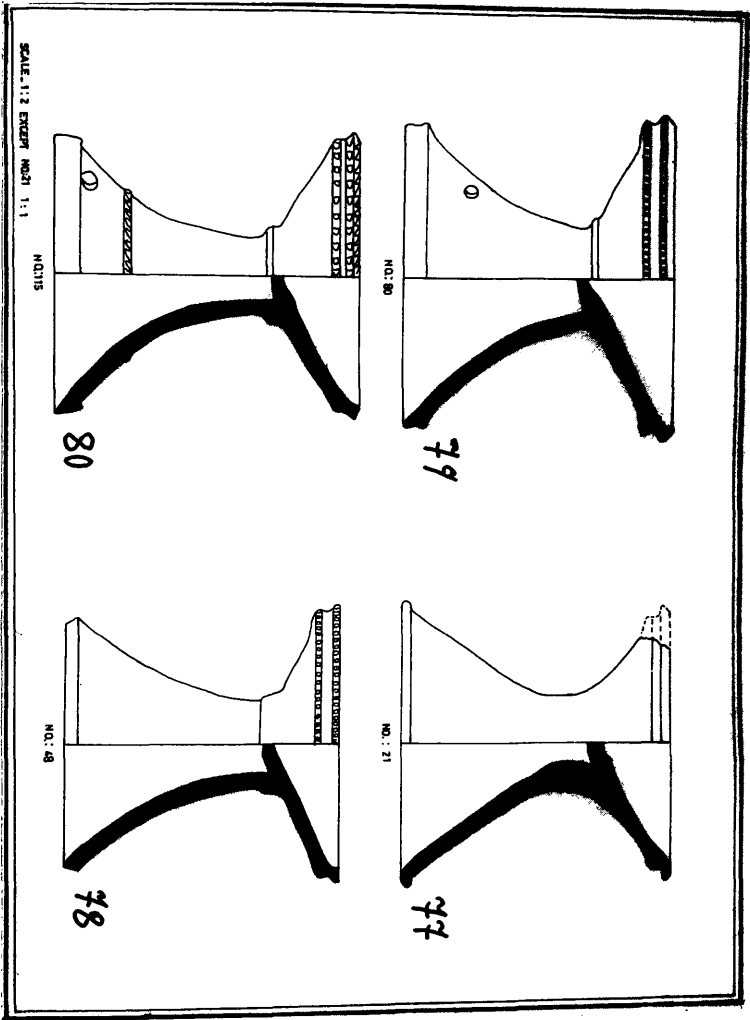


NO: 132



NO: 119

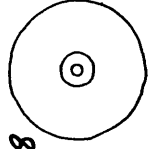
SCALE. 1 : 1



SCALE: 1:1



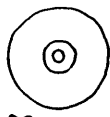
NO. 87



87



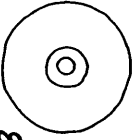
NO. 88



88



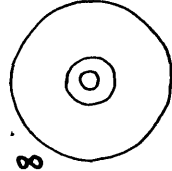
NO. 89



89



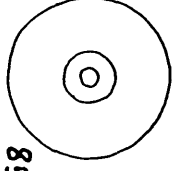
NO. 84



84



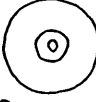
NO. 85



85



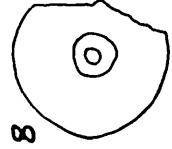
NO. 86



86



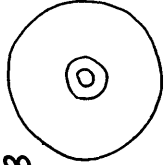
NO. 81



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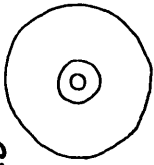
NO. 82



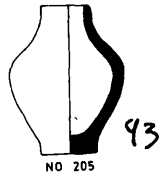
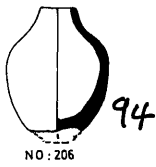
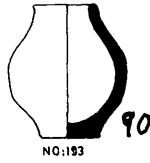
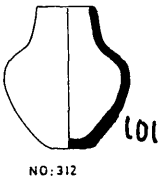
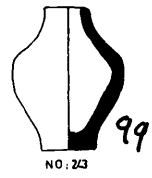
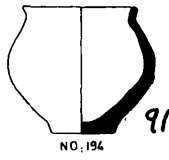
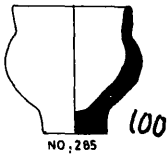
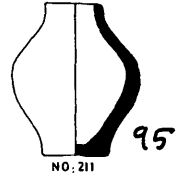
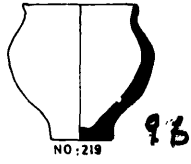
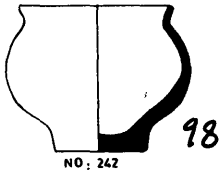
82



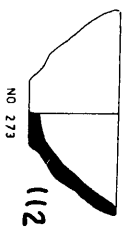
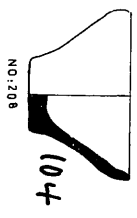
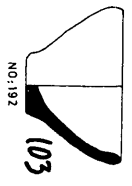
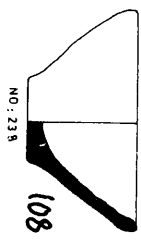
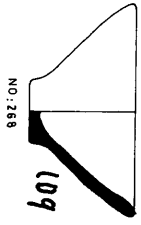
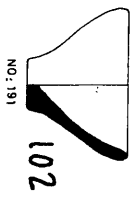
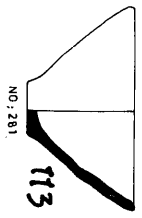
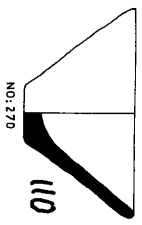
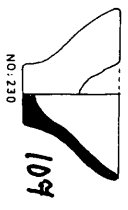
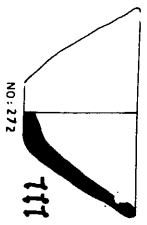
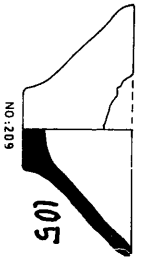
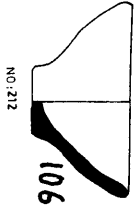
NO. 83



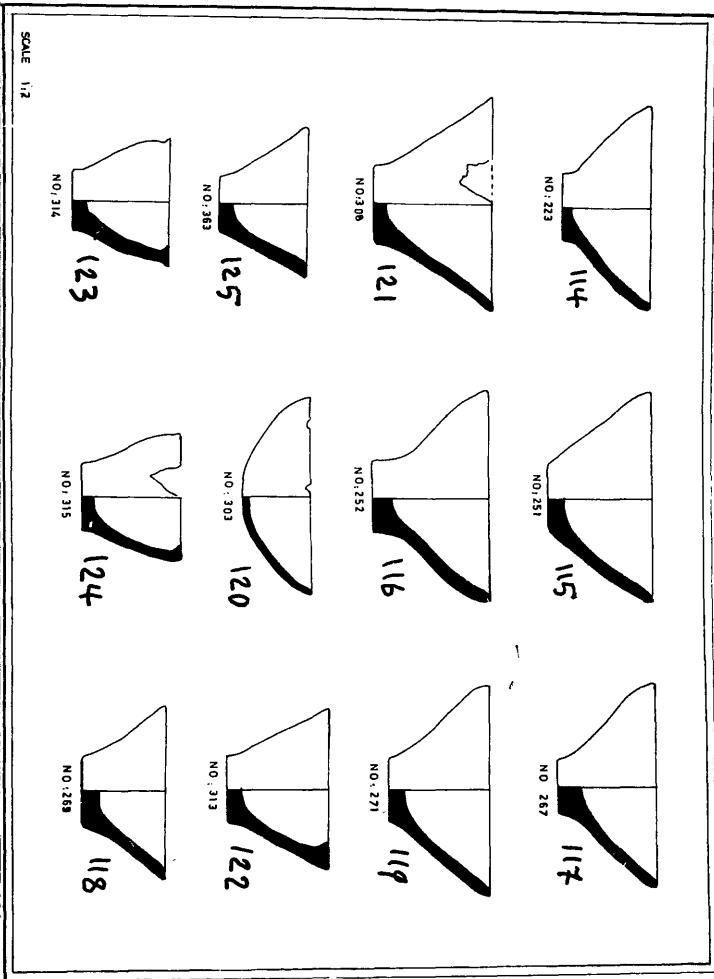
83

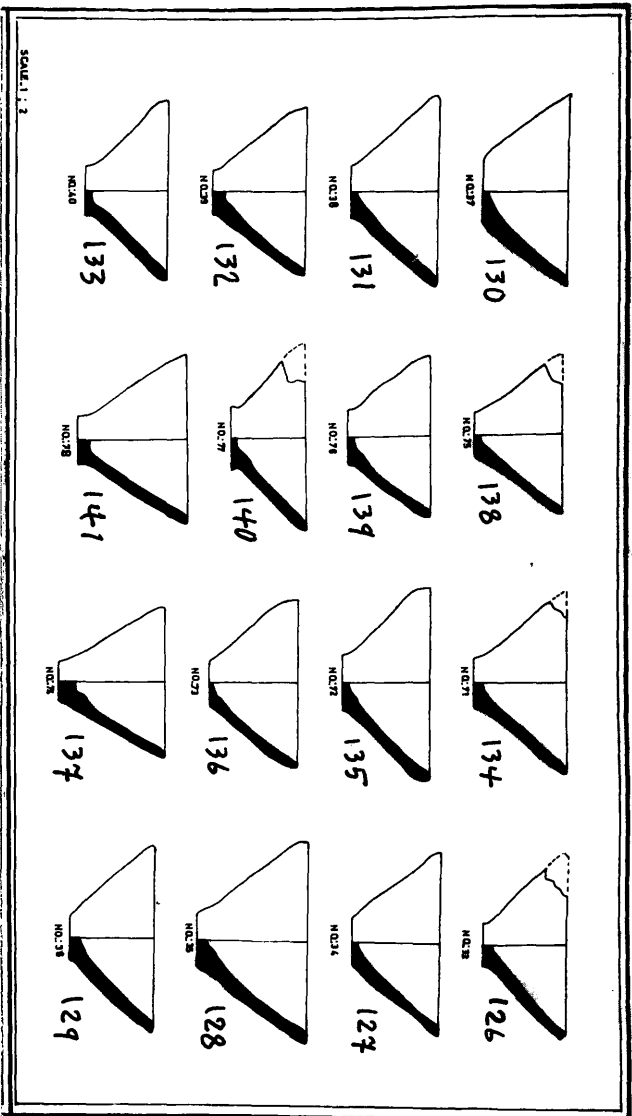


SCALE 1-2

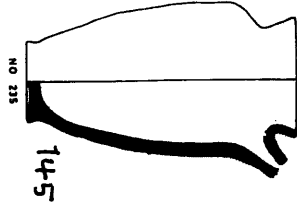
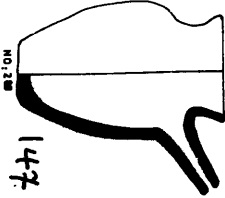
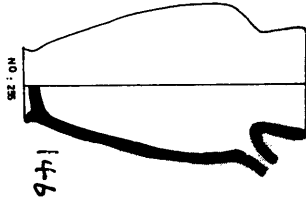
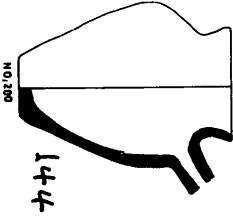
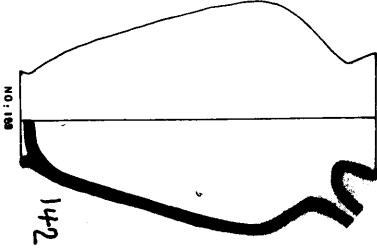
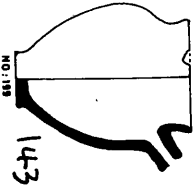


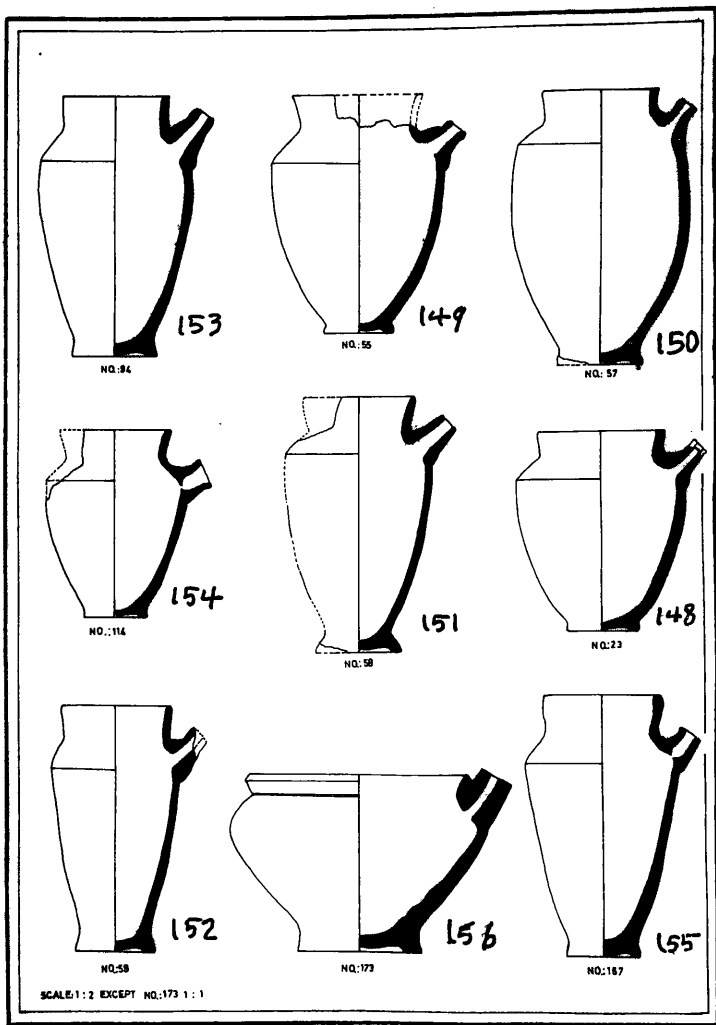
SCALE 1:2

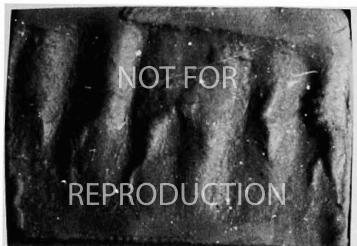




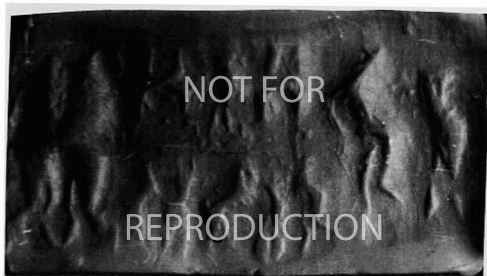
SCALE 1:2



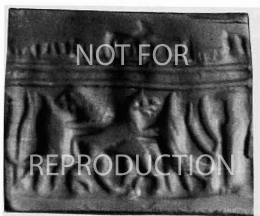




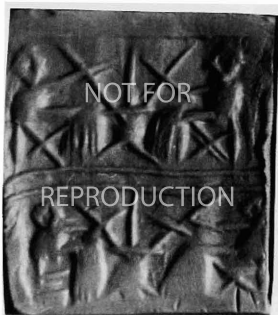
63



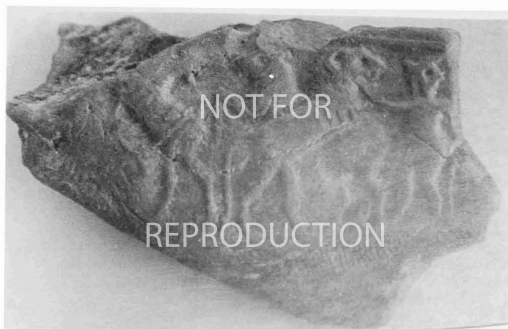
64



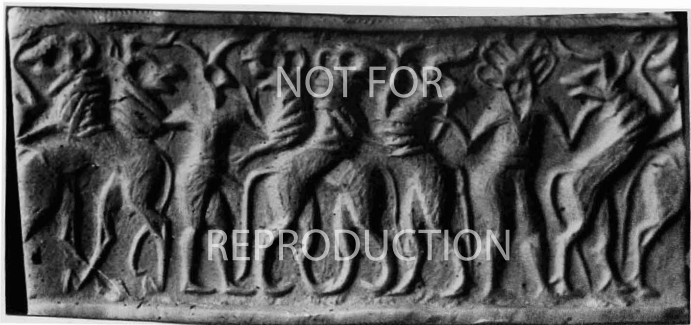
65



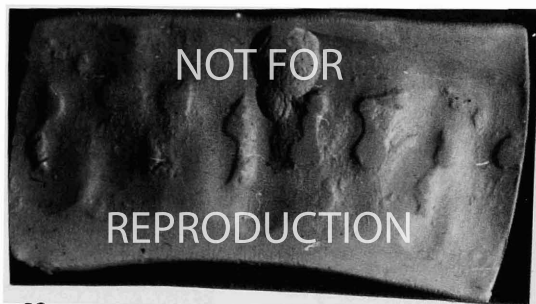
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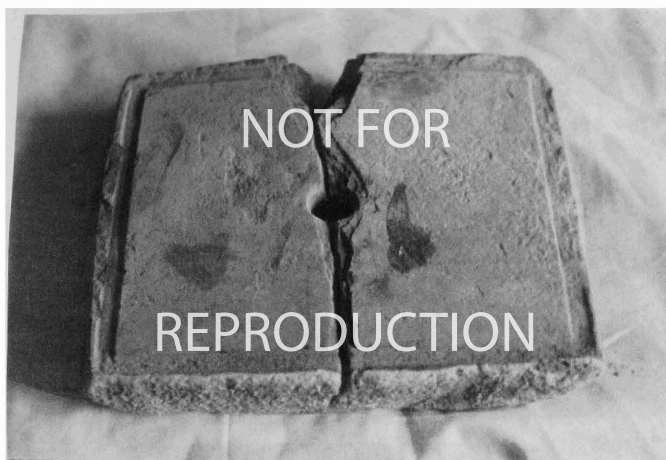
70



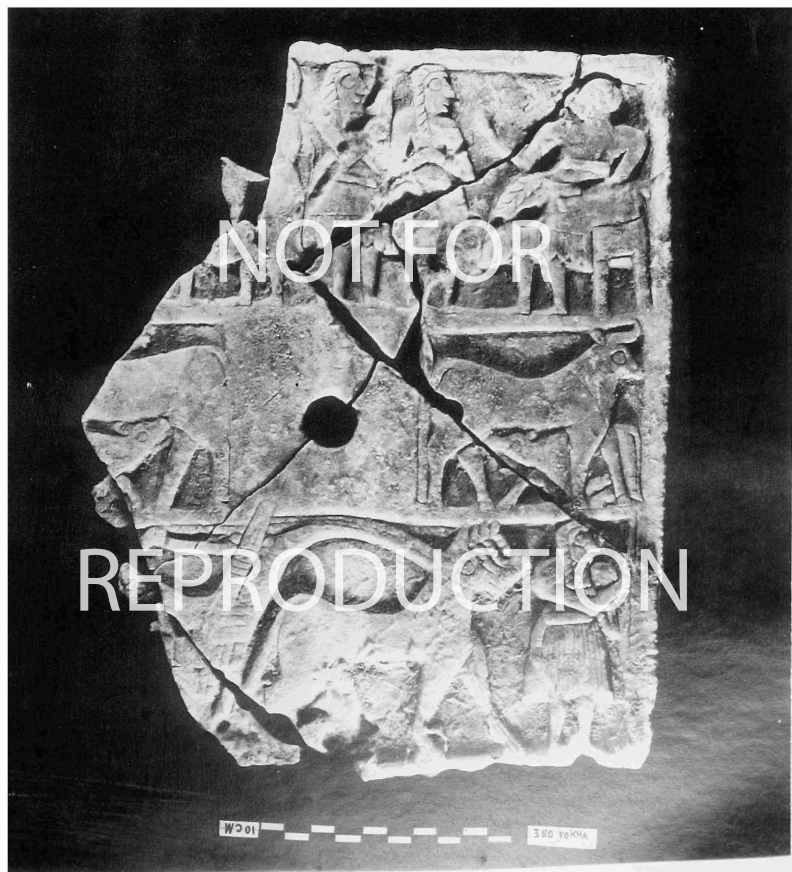
71



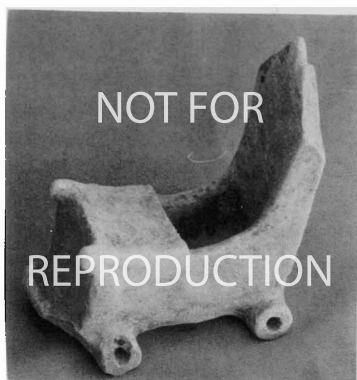
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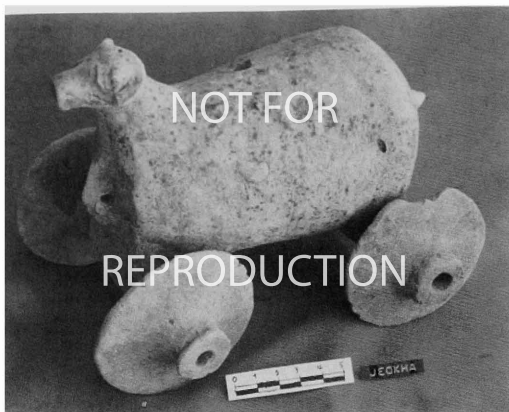
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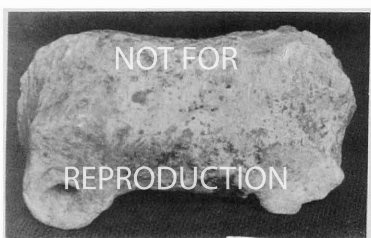
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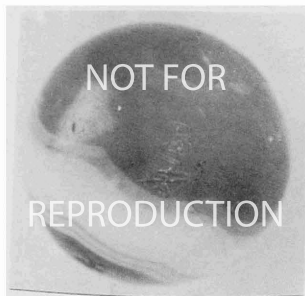
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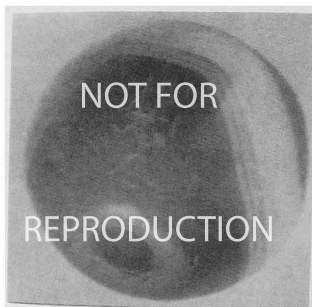
76



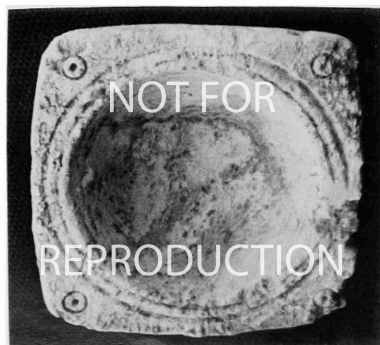
77



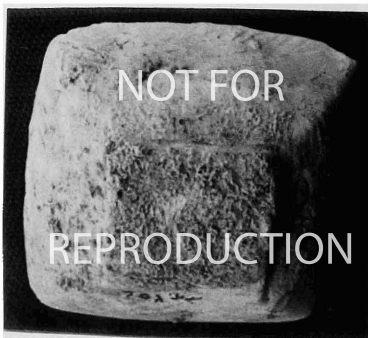
78



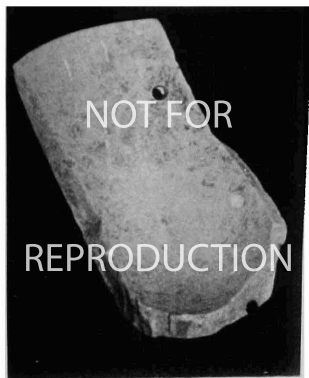
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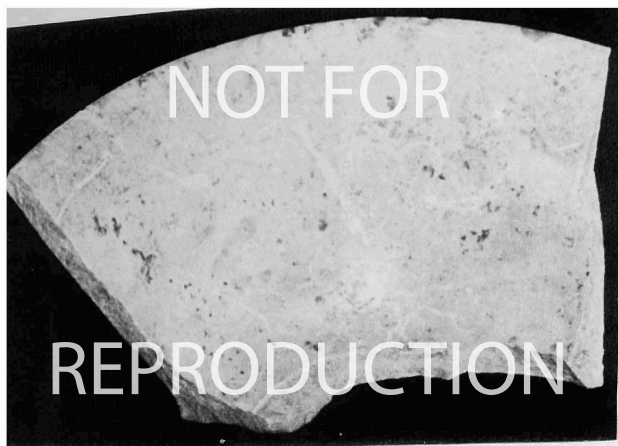
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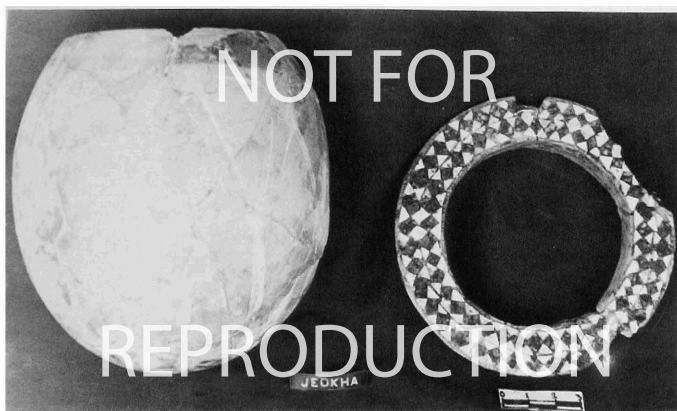
82



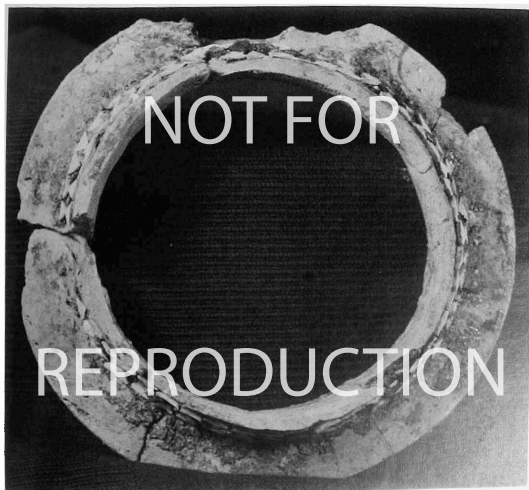
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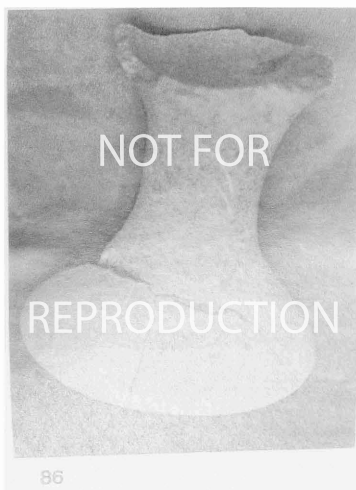
83



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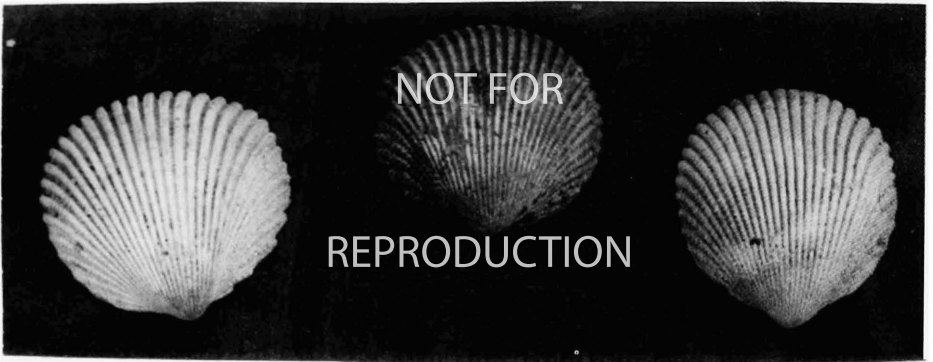
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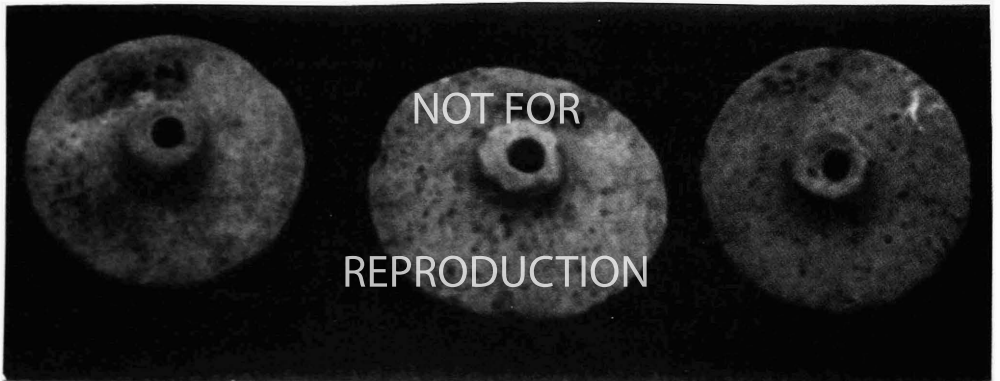
86



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SCALE 1:1

