

OCCASIONAL PUBLICATIONS No. 11

# BEYCESULTAN

VOL. III

Part I

*by*

SETON LLOYD

Published by  
THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AT ANKARA  
140, CROMWELL ROAD,  
LONDON SW7 4HE

1972







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LATE BRONZE AGE ARCHITECTURE

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MADE AND PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN BY WILLIAM CLOWES & SONS, LIMITED, LONDON, BECCLES AND COLCHESTER

## AUTHOR'S NOTE

The third and last volume of this report was intended to contain, within a single cover, a complete description of the Late Bronze Age levels, including architecture, pottery and small objects. Unforeseen delays have occurred, however, in the preparation of the reports on the pottery and metal objects, and as that on the architecture has been ready for several years it has been decided to publish it separately as Vol. III, Part I.

It should also be explained that the numbering and orientation of grid-squares on the plans in Figs. 2, 3 and 4 follow the arrangement of East Summit plans in Volume II, as explained and illustrated diagrammatically there on p. 3 and Fig. A.2. They are unconnected with the main grid of the site-plan (Fig. 1 of the present volume).

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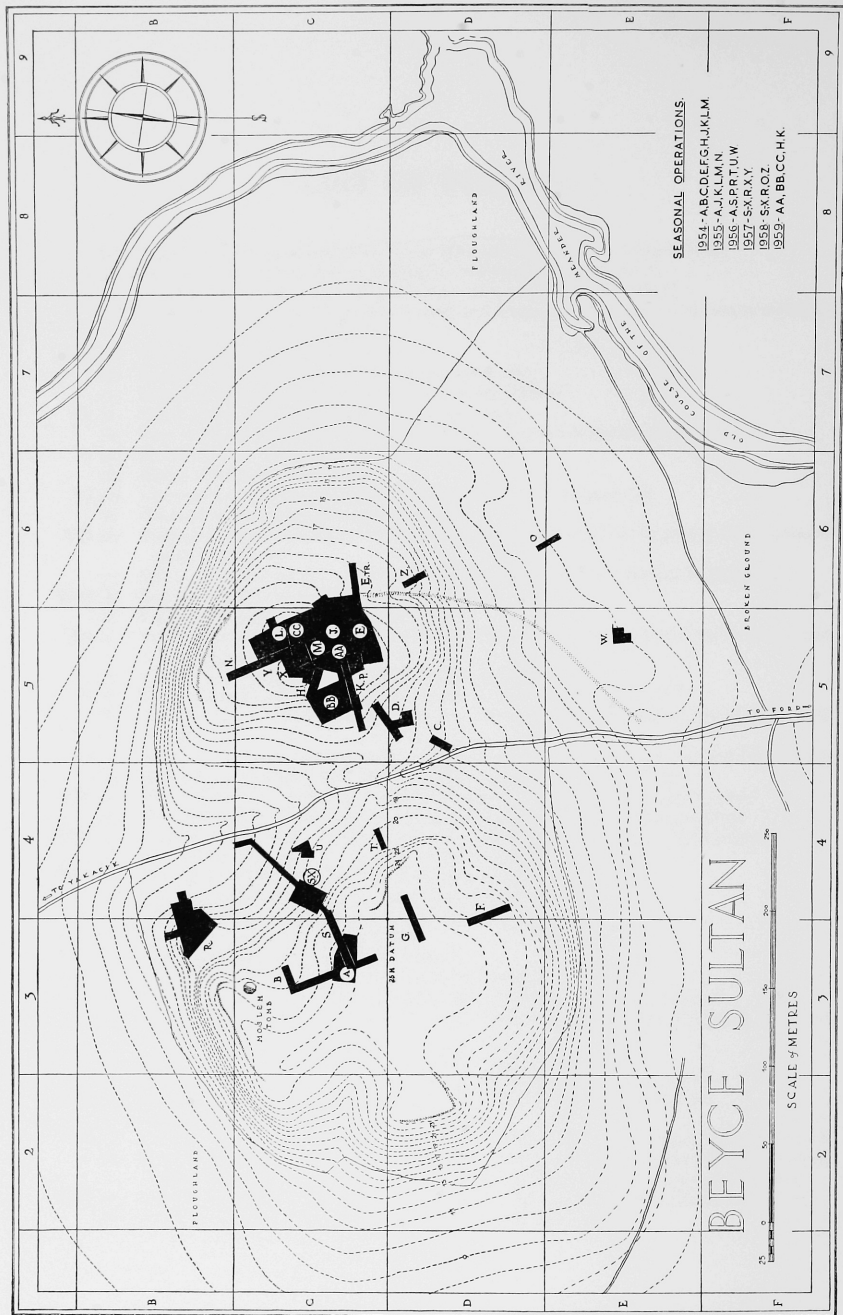


Fig. 1. Site-plan

## CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

In the preceding volumes of this work, our archaeological discoveries in the mound called Beycesultan have been dealt with in chronological order from the earliest remains upwards. Volume I was concerned almost exclusively with the finds made in the deep sounding on the inner flank of the western hill, which penetrated the Early Bronze Age and Chalcolithic settlements, while Volume II covered the greatly extended occupation of the entire site in the Middle Bronze Age. Since it now remains for us to describe the more modest, but perhaps equally interesting installations of the Late Bronze Age, it will be understood that these reports have, in a sense, appeared in the reverse order to that in which the finds were made. Many of the discoveries with which we are now to be concerned were made during the earlier seasons of the excavation, when we were working near the surface and were announced originally in the preliminary reports of 1954 and 1955. It may therefore be well here, very briefly, to recapitulate the earlier history of the settlement, in so far as its vicissitudes were responsible for the creation and shaping of the mound, as it must have appeared when adopted as a place of residence by a people of the Late Bronze Age in about the fifteenth century B.C. (Fig. 1).

From an argument set forth at some length in Volume I, it was concluded that the earliest settlement at the site in the latter part of the Chalcolithic period, consisted of an unpretentious group of houses on the north bank of a river, at the point where it was crossed by an important highway. From the beginning the buildings seem likely to have formed separate clusters on either side of the road, so that the mound created by their occupational debris acquired a dual aspect; twin elevations with the road passing over a saddle between them. As the settlement gained in importance and increased in size, the town extended northwards and westwards, but the mound retained the same general shape until, in the nineteenth century B.C., it became a walled city, with the ruler's palace covering the east summit and public buildings on the broader elevation to the west. Though the position of the river-bed had receded eastward and southward, the road appears still to have passed across the centre of the town. After the great disaster, sometime in the middle of the eighteenth century, when the city was destroyed and its palace burnt to the ground, the mound must have remained unoccupied until a remnant of the original inhabitants returned to live as squatters among the ruins. Their houses, which at first occupied hastily levelled sites among the

still-standing ruins of earlier buildings, have been described in Volume II (Level IVb). When these ceased to be serviceable, on the eastern summit at least some attempt was made at a general levelling of the site before rebuilding (Level IVa). But no traces were found of a properly arranged civic layout until Level III, by which time the traces we found of changes in the pottery and small objects suggested that a transition had taken place in the cultural identity of the inhabitants. This we have ourselves associated with the opening of a period conventionally referred to as the Late Bronze Age, and it is here that, for the purpose of the present volume, our story begins. For, after a faltering attempt at replanning both summit areas in Level III, in the next occupation-level (Level II), a new epoch was reached in the history of the site, when large parts of the town appear to have been rebuilt in a more orderly manner, including a wide area on the east summit, with well-designed houses served by parallel streets and enclosed by a substantial retaining-wall. The cultural change which we had observed in Level III was now well established and the little town had acquired strongly individual characteristics combined with symptoms of considerable prosperity. It was itself indeed eventually destroyed by fire, but its culture appears to have survived with only minor changes throughout the two final occupations of the site (Levels Ib and Ia), and the details of it here recorded are of some significance, since they may serve as an archaeological criterion for this province of S.W. Anatolia during the period of the Hittite Empire.

Let us then summarize the exposures on both summits of the mound from which our knowledge of the Late Bronze Age town is derived. Our first intimation of its existence came in the first weeks of the excavation, at the beginning of the 1954 season, when 5 m. trenches ("A", "B", "G" and "F") were cut across the flat top of the west summit. Trench A was the most productive of the four. First, it enabled us to recognize and study the remains of a Byzantine settlement which must have covered this part of the mound for a period of several generations during the tenth and eleventh centuries A.D.<sup>1</sup> Two weeks were spent in penetrating and recording the three principal building-levels of this settlement, before reaching the remains of the latest Bronze Age occupation at a depth of about 2.50 m. beneath the surface. The trench was then enlarged and an important group of private houses exposed. They had been destroyed by fire and could subsequently be equated in time with the Level II settlement on the eastern summit, to which our attention was now transferred.

Early in the 1954 season, when the first trenches ("E" and "J") were cut in the eastern summit, it became clear that there were no building remains of the Byzantine period on this part of the mound. It had, however, been used as a graveyard, and the latest Bronze Age remains beneath the surface were found to be much damaged by the intrusion of early Christian burials. In spite of the difficulties thus presented, good progress was made during the 1954 season in ascertaining the character of the Late Bronze Age settlement. A range of buildings on its southern edge, dating from the Level

<sup>1</sup> A separate study of the Early Christian remains at Beycesultan is at present in preparation.

II occupation, were cleared and came temporarily to be known as the "Little Palace" (to distinguish it from the "Burnt Palace", dating from the Middle Bronze Age, which we had by now discovered, projecting from beneath it on the south side). Other trenches extended northward led to the discovery and excavation of the two "shops", with their rich content of pottery and objects, also described in the first preliminary report of 1954 (*AS*, V, 1955). During subsequent seasons, further extensions of the surface excavations were made in this area, as required by the process of penetrating to the "Burnt Palace" beneath, so that the planning and recording of this walled settlement came to be extended over a wide proportion of its total area, while stratigraphically its history could be studied in detail. Two trenches ("N" and "K"), extended to the north and west respectively, had encountered the enclosing wall around it, and it could now be seen to have occupied the greater part of the eastern summit. On the western summit, however, the meaning of the architectural remains of this period was less clear. The line of houses which had been exposed in Area A, seemed to occupy some sort of terrace, overlooking a shallow escarpment on its north side (exposed by Trench B). Trench G had encountered only fragmentary walls of the Level II period, while Trench F revealed no more than a deep deposit of rubble, evidently deposited there in the XIth century A.D. to create an extended emplacement for the Byzantine town. It was therefore concluded that in the Late Bronze Age little attention had been paid to planning on this side of the mound, and that it had been covered only by irregular clusters of houses. It was not until the season of 1957 that a more interesting and significant group of buildings was discovered, occupying a site due north of Area A, on the periphery of the old Middle Bronze Age city. This was in Area R, where a pair of buildings, identified as religious shrines, had been built in Level III and again rebuilt in Level II. Like the houses in Area A and the walled settlement on the east summit, these too had eventually been destroyed by fire.

We shall then, in the following pages, be dealing with three main areas in which exposures of the Late Bronze Age occupation have been made. First and foremost comes the walled settlement on the east summit; the only area in which the full range of occupation levels during this period could be stratigraphically studied. Here, Level III is represented by the original layout of rather poorly planned houses, already served by two parallel streets. In Level II we reach a period of maximum prosperity, during which the whole settlement is rebuilt; major buildings conforming to what are evidently contemporary architectural conventions and giving some indication of the purpose for which they were used. With the position of the enclosure wall suggesting an area of almost 100 m. in diameter, the settlement at this period might well represent the political or administrative centre of some small principality. There was, in any case, ample evidence to suggest that it had been destroyed deliberately by fire, and the two subsequent building levels indicate a notable decline in the fortunes of its inhabitants. In Level Ib, a part only of the settlement is rebuilt, using where possible the stumps of earlier walls as foundations for new but carelessly improvised dwellings. In

Level Ia, which preceded the final abandonment of the site, it had dwindled to a group of outhouses arranged around a single large dwelling house of the *megaron* type.

The next area for study is Area A; the smaller group of dwelling houses on the west summit. Here, in Level III, only a single house appears to have stood, and it was not until Level II that the "terrace" complex, described in some detail in our first preliminary report, came to be built. This too was destroyed by fire and only the most rudimentary attempts were made to rebuild it, in a period which must correspond to Level Ib. The third and last area is Area R, on the north-western periphery of the mound. Here our pair of supposed religious shrines were originally built in Level III; rebuilt and destroyed by fire in Level II, after which the site appears to have been abandoned.



## CHAPTER 2

## SECULAR BUILDINGS

## A. WALLED SETTLEMENT ON EASTERN SUMMIT

The earliest buildings of this settlement, dating from the Late Bronze Age appear in our plan of *Level III* (Fig. 2). It will be seen that only a limited area, measuring approximately 30 m. square, was exposed, but it proves sufficient to illustrate the still rather impoverished character of the place at this period. The actual summit of the hill at this time must have been located a little to the west of the area excavated; so that the two parallel streets, each about 3 m. wide, sloped upwards at an inclination of about 1:40 from approaches on the eastern flank of the mound. Between and beside these streets the dwellings are laid out with little or no regard for formal architectural planning (Pl. 1a). The walls seldom exceed 50 cm. in thickness and they are of sun-dried brick, standing as usual upon a substructure of undressed stone. Occasionally, as in the north-west corner of the plan, rooms or open courts (e.g. Nos. 1, 3 and 4) group themselves in a form which can be recognized as a single detached house. Elsewhere their disposal appears to be completely haphazard. Nor are their internal furnishings in any way distinctive. They are, in fact, of the sort which one has come to expect at any period from the Chalcolithic onwards. Shapeless bins, probably intended to hold grain or fuel, are built against the walls in clay or plastered stonework. There are the usual domestic hearths, sometimes enclosed by a clay curb with various excrescences and pottery vessels built into them for convenience in cooking. One also observes the untidy habit of digging a circular pit nearby for the disposal of surplus ashes and other rubbish. One feature only, of which two examples occur among these houses (Rooms 3 and 18), are of some interest, though already recorded in earlier levels (e.g. Vol. II, Pl. XXIVb). This is the horse-shoe shaped contrivance for supporting a cooking pot over a fire; and in both cases it is now provided with some rather elementary decoration on its projecting faces. That in Room 3 is perhaps the best example, having a maximum dimension of 48 cm. (Pl. 1b). It stood among the ashes on a slightly raised platform supporting a roughly rectangular baking oven, broken but able to be reconstructed. Its decoration consisted of a stamped pattern of concentric circles. Objects of this sort have been discussed at some length by W. Lamb in an early number of *Anatolian Studies* (*AS*, VI, 1956, "Some Early Anatolian Shrines"), where three examples are illustrated, one from Kusura having similar decoration to

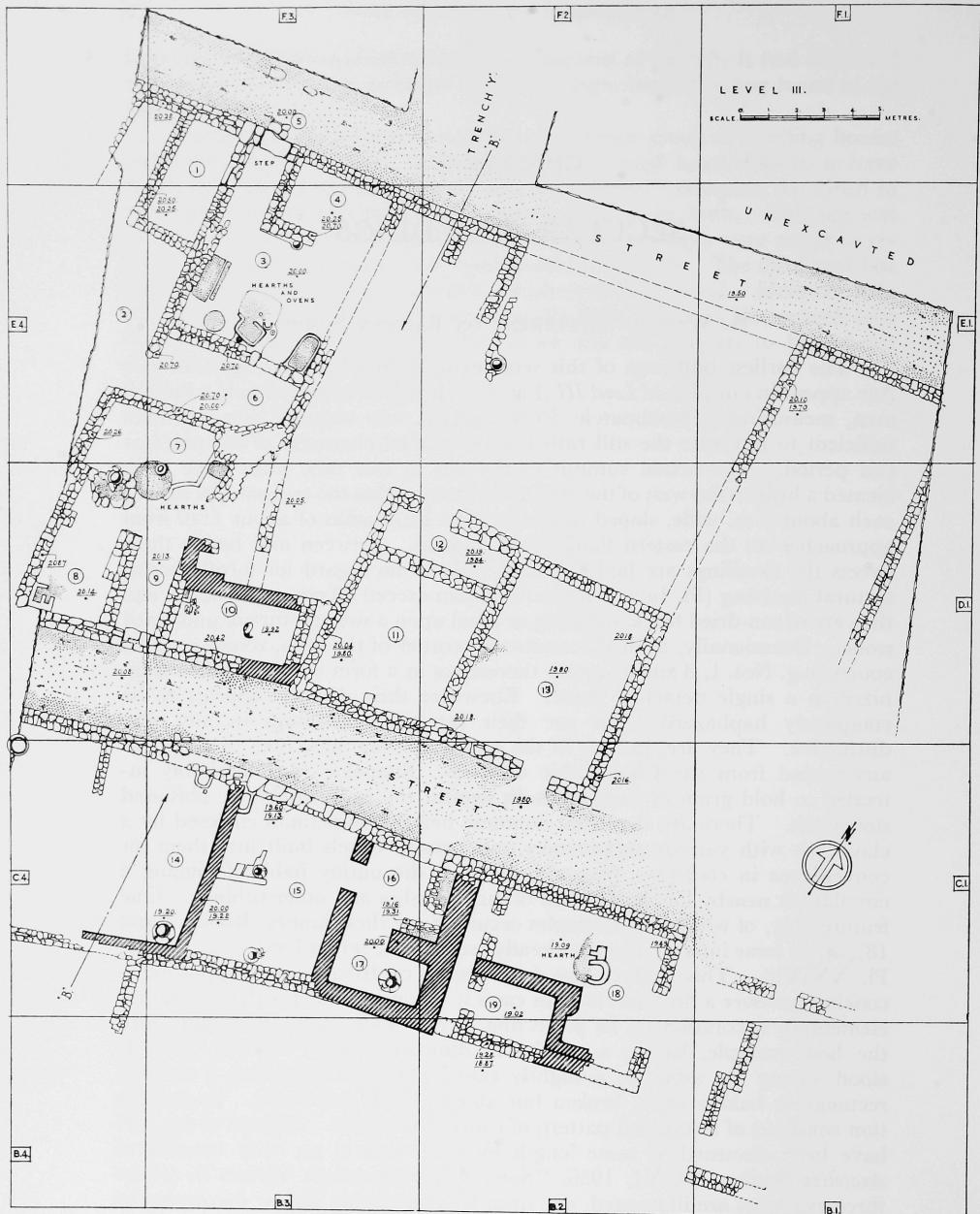


FIG. 2. Plan of Level III on east summit

our own. But many have been recorded since, in Middle or Late Bronze Age settings, and no further evidence has been found to support Lamb's suspicion that they might have served some ritual purpose.<sup>1</sup> Our own second example in Room 18 was a permanent fixture; considerably larger and having an irregular shaped shelf on one side.

It should be mentioned at this point that, during the excavation of these houses, evidence was found of a secondary occupation during which some rebuilding of the houses took place and walls were occasionally re-aligned. For the purpose of allocating small objects and pottery this subphase has been referred to as *Level IIIa*. In Fig. 2, only the basic layout (*Level IIIb*) is recorded. Something should also be said about the enclosure wall, concerning which, all the evidence available suggested that it already existed in the Level IIIb phase. Its location at two points on the north and west side of the settlement resulted from the extension during our first season of two search-trenches, "N" and "K" in these two directions respectively. In Trench N, it was reached at a point 23 m. north of the Level III street (where the beginning of Trench Y is indicated in Fig. 2). Here it took the form of a substantial stone wall 60 cm. thick, separated by a filling of hard clay from a narrower retaining-wall built at a slightly lower level, as though to form a terrace around the base of the fortification (Pl. IIa). This interpretation of the evidence provided by Trench N was satisfactorily confirmed later in the season, when precisely the same arrangement of enclosure wall and terrace were once more encountered at the extreme western end of Trench K, once more in a setting contemporary with the foundation of the Late Bronze Age settlement (Pl. IIb).<sup>2</sup>

#### *Replanning of the Settlement in Level II*

From the slovenly beginnings of the walled settlement in Level III one turns with renewed interest to *Level II* which, as we have said, clearly represents its period of maximum prosperity and self-respect. Some parts of it, having been excavated in 1954, were described in the first preliminary report (*AS*, V, 1955), but from then onwards every season saw a further extension of the plan, which in its final form (Fig. 3) seems likely to include all the buildings of maximum interest. It may be well here, first to describe these in some detail, and afterwards to reflect on the information which they provided regarding contemporary architectural conventions.

The buildings then, once more group themselves on either side of two parallel streets, ascending from approaches in the east which, as in the time of the Middle Bronze Age palace, may have been reached by a road winding up the hillside from the river-crossing. For convenience, they will henceforth be referred to as 'South Street' and 'North Street'. The former seems to have reached the summit of the hill in Square D6, beyond which the excavation was not continued; but there were indications that at this point a

<sup>1</sup> Cf. also S. Diamant and J. Rutter in *AS*, XIX, 1969, 147 ff.

<sup>2</sup> Comparative sketches and sections of these occurrences have unfortunately been mislaid.

corner occurred and it turned southward. North Street (Pl. IIIa) also reached the summit in Square F4, where it emerged into an open space, perhaps a central market-place. Starting our description on the south side of the excavated area we find a block of buildings which, in the early days of the excavation, were known as the "Little Palace". On this side, the mound slopes sharply southwards and the level of occupation in the building is some 50 cm. below the pavement of South Street, so that steps are necessary in entering Room 45. Beyond the outer wall to the south the slope must have increased, for there are no further buildings on this side and foundations surviving from Level III serve the purpose of a retaining-wall. The completed excavation of the "Little Palace" contributed only minor amendments to the plan, which may still be described partly in the words of the preliminary report.

The building here seems to consist of a standard unit, twice repeated with an interconnection. Each unit comprises, first a rectangular court (Nos. 45 and 48), which we take to have been open to the sky, since the span in both cases would appear too great for an unsupported ceiling and no post holes of any sort were found. Annexed to this are two further rooms; a sort of "portico" living-room, open to the court on one side, and a smaller chamber approached through a door, possibly a bedroom. The better preserved unit (Unit D), excavated in 1954, has a court (*No. 48*) measuring 8.50 × 4.00 m. (Pl. IIIb). Near the centre there is a built-up hearth with a clay curb around it and in the north-east corner a square brick pedestal, placed diagonally to the room. Two large *pithos* water jars stand side by side in the north-west corner. It is connected with the adjoining unit (Unit E) by a doorway which is sufficiently characteristic of structural practice in these buildings to merit further description (Pl. IIIc). The threshold consists of two untrimmed logs of wood, held in place by a bedding of small stones and plastered over. One jamb—on the side on which the door is hung on its pivot-stone—is a simple plastered reveal. The other, against which the door closes, is lined with the semicircular half of a tree-trunk, exactly fitting the thickness of the wall, itself also plastered over. This device seems to be an invariable practice and may have facilitated the fast-closing of the door. It is not new in this period, as it has already been recorded in a building of the Early Bronze Age (*cf.* Vol. I, p. 40). Room 49 is in this case the "portico" living-room. It is open to its complete length on the court side, the threshold consisting of a single tree-trunk, built into the wall at either end and wedged with lines of stones on either side. Evenly placed at two points in its length were the charred remains of two substantial wooden posts which had stood upon it, supporting a beam across the opening. One jamb, at the western end was lined with half a tree-trunk like the door we have described. The other, as confirmed by the arrangement in the adjoining unit (Room 47), had a square reveal covered only with plaster. This has suggested to us that two of the openings separated by the vertical posts may have been screened, perhaps with reed matting. The third would then have had a door, closing against the built-in wooden jamb.



FIG. 3. Plan of Level II on east summit



Next to the "portico" is a smaller room (*No. 50*) entered by a doorway of standard construction, which in this case would appear to have been a store. It was filled to a considerable depth with carbonized grain, among which lay some objects including a bronze spearhead and a lead-headed club. The room also contained a very large number of broken "fruit stands"; fragments of nearly forty vessels in all, together with broken fragments of *pithoi* which had probably contained the grain. At the west end of the "portico" stood three tall *pithoi*, two of them held in position by a low sleeper-wall. Elsewhere, a large two-handled basin lay intact upon the pavement.

The adjoining unit (Unit "E"), consisting of Rooms 45, 46 and 47, seems to have been almost identical with that just described, save that the rooms were somewhat larger. The court (*No. 45*) was entered from South Street by a doorway with two steps, and an opening in the west wall gave alternative access to an area beyond the limits of the excavation. This unit contained no objects of importance. The complex is completed by a room or court (*No. 51*) occupying the whole width of the building, and was entered on the east side through a wide opening with a central wooden post. Inside, a low bench of plastered brickwork was built along the base of the south wall. Annexed to the main building on the south side, a single room was cleared (*No. 53*) of an adjoining dwelling. Here, among the ashes of a built-up hearth, lay a two-horned pot-support (sometimes called "andiron"), of a sort with which we shall become familiar in other parts of the site.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Megaron A and Appendages*

For reasons which will become apparent, we should turn our attention now to the complex of buildings on the other side of the settlement, beyond North Street (Pl. IVa). The most imposing of these came to be known as "Megaron A", owing to the "hall-and-porch" arrangement of the central unit. The "hall" (*Room 8*) measures 8.00 × 3.50 m. and its most conspicuous feature (in the tradition of *megara*) is a circular central hearth measuring 1.40 m. in diameter. It has a heavily plastered surface on a basis of rubble and a raised curb around it. Beside it is a smaller, built-up cooking hearth, this time rectangular in shape. Against the base of the east wall there is a plastered brick bench, 21 cm. high, and in the centre of the west wall, a doorway with two steps leads down into the "porch" (*Room 7*). This part of the building, which has a central post to support the roof, opens at its west end on to a wide courtyard. Hall and porch are separated from the street by a line of subsidiary rooms approximately 1.74 m. wide. Here the street entrance is into *Room II*, which brings one through a "lustral" area, paved with large stones, into a small vestibule (*Room 12*) and so into the main hall itself at its eastern end. Returning to the porch (*Room 7*), one finds that some structural details of its northern wall are of special interest. By analogy with the classical *megaron*, we should regard this as one of the *antae* of a building *in antis*, though the *anta* on the south side is in this case missing. That the outer end of these projecting walls, forming a *megaron* porch, received special

<sup>1</sup> See below, p. 20; cf. also Diamant and Rutter, *op. cit.*

architectural treatment we are already aware, since they have been studied with some care in buildings dated to the Early Bronze Age (*cf.* Vol. I, pp. 60–61). In the present case this adds special significance to the details given in our second preliminary report (*AS*, VI, 1956, p. 104), where we noted the following:

“The porch itself had at some time completely collapsed and been rebuilt from its foundations upwards. But the remains were sufficient to suggest some architectural treatment of the *antae*, perhaps corresponding to the so-called *parastades* found by Schliemann in the Troy II *megara*. The base was found of a single three-quarter column, moulded in brickwork and outlined in mud plaster, its position suggesting that three might have occurred side by side.”

We are now able to publish a photograph of this detail (Pl. IV*b*), in which it will be seen that the brickwork of the *anta* rests directly upon the crushed remains of a large pottery vessel, which could, we thought, just possibly have been a foundation deposit.

Appended to the Megaron A building at its eastern end were the *two “shops”* excavated in 1954. Their description here follows very closely that given in the first preliminary report (*AS*, V, 1955).

The two rooms, now numbered 13 and 14, shared party-walls with Megaron A and with each other, and may well be considered to be part of the same building (Pl. V*a*). Yet each had its separate entrance, provided with a single wooden door-jamb and pivot-stone; that from Room 13 leading out through a sort of porch, open on one side, to what must have been a terrace overlooking the sloping flank of the mound; the other, from Room 14, giving directly on to North Street. In Room 13 (Pl. V*b*), a part of the floor space measuring 3.00 × 1.30 m. on the north-west side had been enclosed by a narrow wall or partition 30 cm. thick. This was interrupted at one point by a doorway with plastered reveals, and at two points there were gaps in it which seemed to be arranged so that small *pithoi*, partly sunk in the floor, could be accessible both from inside and out. Circumstances suggested that this structure had the function of a “bar” and, in addition to the *pithoi*, a pile of ten drinking cups of the “chalice” type was found in the north-west corner. The part of the room not enclosed in this way also produced some pottery, including a fine “fruit stand”, found lying in the south-east corner where the door opened inwards against a brick door-stop. There was also a large earthenware basin, too fragmentary to reconstruct, and from this had fallen two groups of objects in curious juxtaposition (Pl. VI*a*). One was a pile of seventy seven knuckle-bones, of the type immemorially used for a game of chance, and the other a collection of thirty-one crescent-shaped terracotta objects, pierced at either end, of the type found everywhere in Bronze Age Anatolia and hitherto identified as loom-weights. The remainder of the floor space was covered by eight human skeletons, at least one of which could be identified as a woman. One at first imagined that, in the military emergency which had resulted in the destruction of the settlement by fire (there were only minor traces of burning in this room), these individuals had taken



refuge here and afterwards been clubbed to death; but the position of those which had not afterwards been disturbed by scavenging birds or animals rather suggested that they had met their death elsewhere and their bodies been deposited here. In the open vestibule outside an unbroken and perfect specimen of a "beak-spouted" jug still stood upright among other pottery at the foot of the south wall.

The most conspicuous feature of *Room 1* was the two rows of four *pithoi* each, standing above ground on the east and west sides (Pl. VI*b*). These vessels, which are described in Vol. III, Part II, had been used for the storage of grain and were in most cases still about half full of wheat, barley or lentils. Their height, which amounted in most cases to almost 1.50 m., necessitated some means of access to them from above; and for this purpose, in the north-east corner of the room, a damaged brick stair could be seen leading up to some sort of "cat-walk" along the inner face of the wall. In the north-west corner of the room stood a more easily accessible grain bin, built partly of brick and partly of wood (Pl. VII*a*). Tilted on its side by the collapse of the wooden lid, of which the charred planks remained, was a large earthenware basin containing what appeared to be a complete "service" of intact vessels (Pl. VII*b*). It consisted of one bifoil-mouthed jug, three "fruit stands" and nine carinated bowls, six of which were nested together. All these vessels were of the type covered with a metallic slip to resemble silver, but had been considerably blackened by the fire. Elsewhere in this room pottery lay in great profusion, particularly behind the door, where more than twenty simple bowls and saucers of various types stood on the ground, some nested in groups of six. The whole total of pottery comprised sixty-four complete vessels. Details of these will be found in Vol. III, Part II.

To the east of Room 14, a shallow ramp, paved with large stones leads up to the little terrace outside Room 13, where two *pithoi* for drinking water stand half-buried in the pavement. Here also a finely preserved beak-spouted jug was found (Pl. VIII*a*). To the north of Megaron A, there is a rather generously planned group of out-buildings. There is little to suggest their function and no pottery or objects of particular interest were found in them.

#### *Buildings between the Two Streets*

The complex of buildings lying between the two parallel streets is divided most clearly into a western and an eastern section by the long wall forming the eastern sides of Rooms 21, 22 and 26. Let us first discuss the western section, in which the most easily recognizable single unit is that in the north-western corner known as *Megaron B* (Pl. VIII*b*). Here we find a long rectangular hall, measuring 8.50 × 3.50 m., whose outstanding features are strikingly similar to those of Megaron A, already described. On the central axis of the room near its eastern end, there is once more an extremely large domestic hearth, paved with plastered rubble and surrounded by a roughly rectangular curb. Also against the wall at the eastern end of the room is a plastered brick bench, 20 cm. high, and in the north wall, between bench and hearth

there is a recessed niche, also plastered. Another point of resemblance to Megaron A is the shallow porch at the west end of the hall, from which it is entered through a doorway, in this case placed asymmetrically. The remainder of the plan was a little difficult to determine owing to the intrusion of wall foundations and rubbish pits associated with a later occupation. Another complication arose from the fact that the whole unit, like Megaron A, had been partially rebuilt on two different occasions, and fresh pavements laid. It could, however, be seen clearly that, again like Megaron A, the unit included a row of subsidiary rooms on the south side, one of which (Room 20) was entered by an ordinary doorway from the main hall, while the other (Room 19) was also accessible from the hall through a wide opening with two wooden posts. Between Rooms 19 and 20 there was a small window, subsequently bricked up to form a recessed niche facing Room 19. It could also be deduced that there had been two further rooms on the same alignment, both entered from the space in front of the *megaron* porch.

All the remaining parts of the western section, to the east and south of Megaron B, are intercommunicating and may well have belonged to a different owner. Unlike Megaron B, they are approached from South Street by a doorway with two steps leading up from a small rectangular porch. The rooms accessible from here (Rooms 25, 24, 26, 22 and 21) have little to distinguish their purpose and few conspicuous features, save for the usual hearths and baking ovens. Room 21 was paved at a level 70 cm. lower than that of its neighbour and appeared to have been used as a store for grain and some other vegetable material. The west doorway of Room 24 led into a wide open courtyard, in which two features are perhaps worth noting. First, in the south-east corner, an area 3.00 m. square had been paved carefully with large flat stones. This in itself would have seemed unremarkable: but it was discovered subsequently that a tunnel had been dug from outside the south wall of the courtyard, apparently aimed at something which lay beneath the stone pavement. This tunnel, when examined at a later stage in the excavations, was found to have cut through the burnt debris of Level II and through the contemporary pavement of the street, suggesting that it must have been dug during one of the subsequent occupations. Our curiosity as to its purpose could not unfortunately be satisfied, since the steep angle at which it descended made it unsafe to follow.

Another feature on the west side of the court (on the edge of the unexcavated area), was a large oval hearth, whose unusual significance lay in the fact that it had been reconstructed repeatedly in one form or another and re-used over a very long period of time. It survived, in fact, until the final occupation of the eastern summit in Level Ia, at which period fragments were found in secondary use of decorated terracotta "horns", similar to those which will later be discussed in connection with the "shrines" in Area R. For this reason it was thought that it may have had some ritual significance.

To the west of courtyard No. 23, two further rooms at least could be associated with Level II (Rooms 23a and 23b) owing to the traces of burning

and the character of the pottery which they contained. Beyond this, the westward slope of the mound made work impossible.

Turning now to the *eastern section* of the central complex. It has become clear after prolonged study that these buildings constituted a unit in themselves (Pl. IXa); a unit devoted to a particular purpose, namely the stabling of horses and accommodation of those who looked after them. The first indication that this might be so came during the excavation of Room 38, against whose western wall were found the impressions of wooden uprights, recognizable as tethering posts. Further confirmation to support this evidence was next found in Room 41, where the floor was found to be covered with thick laminations of decayed straw bedding. Where the straw had become impregnated with the clay beneath, it proved possible to recognize and even to photograph the impressions left by the hooves of equids (Pl. IXb). Other features of the buildings became explicable by the same hypothesis, as may best be understood from the following description based largely upon our first preliminary report.

The approach to the "stables" was once more from South Street, by two entrances leading to *Areas 31 and 40* respectively. Where these two areas may well have been open courts, the rooms around them were certainly roofed, including *Room 38* which could be recognized unmistakably as a stable (Pl. Xa). The three tethering posts, of which impressions remained, measured 20 cm. square and one supposes that their upper ends were secured to beams in the roof. The east wall was much denuded by intrusive foundations of later buildings: but there were reasons for restoring a wide entrance from Area 40 with a central post supporting a beam above. A range of smaller rooms (*Nos. 33 and 34*), running northward towards the street on the other side had cross-walls with stout posts built into them, which may well have supported a loft, reached by a ladder. Also flanking North Street, but approached through the stable itself, was a small self-contained unit which we have taken to be the living-quarters of a groom, since it seemed to incorporate the three distinctive elements of residential units elsewhere (rectangular court with central hearth, porch-type living-room and smaller store-room).

*Area 40* appeared to be a sort of open yard with cooking installations behind a screen-wall in the centre. A deep recess on the north side was entirely occupied by a square pit, almost 1.00 m. deep, half filled with a decayed substance recognizable as manure. From the adjoining Area 44, one had access on the north side to an interesting double unit, consisting of *Rooms 41 and 42*, which could again be identified as a well-appointed stable. The entrance passage (*Room 42*), with its three wall-niches no doubt serving as cupboards, was connected with the stable itself by an opening in the west wall, 3.50 m. wide, with three upright posts housed into the wooden threshold. The stable (*Room 41*) had a large and well-built manger in the north-west corner. The clay pavement around it, as we have already mentioned, was covered to a considerable depth with the laminated remains of straw bedding in which hoof-marks were clearly detectable. Like most others, this room had been destroyed by fire and the floor was littered with the part-carbonized

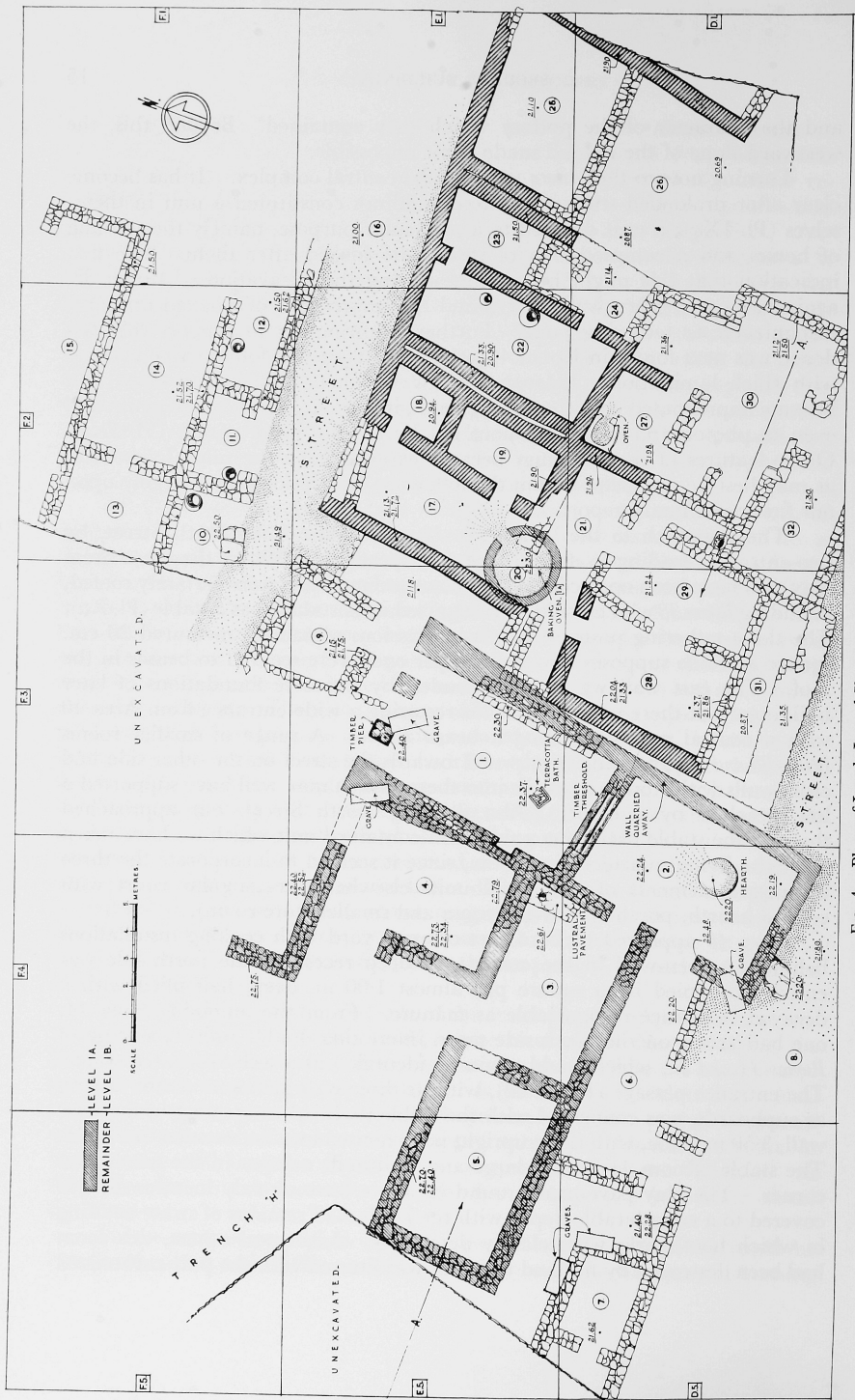


FIG. 4. Plans of Levels Ia and Ib on east summit

remains of wooden beams, which could well have carried a hay-loft over the northern part of the room. To the east of Room 42, one further large room or court survived. This also may have been used for stabling purposes, as it had a built-up manger against the west wall and a wide entrance from the south with a central wooden post.

There is then, in our own minds, no possible doubt that this eastern section of the complex, enclosed by the two parallel streets, was used for the accommodation and care of horses. Of special interest is the fact that so large an area, in the exact centre of the settlement, and surrounded by residential buildings, should have been devoted to this purpose. A natural inference would be that horses were at this time of great value; and one is reminded of the evidence to this effect in the Trojan legends, which deal with a period corresponding to the last century of our own Late Bronze Age.

#### *Levels Ia and Ib: Penultimate Occupations*

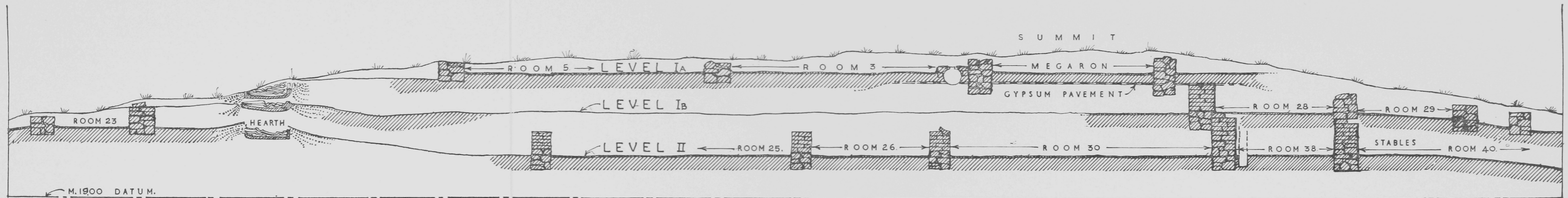
In studying the history of a Bronze Age settlement like that at Beycesultan, one has come to understand how the fluctuating fortunes of its inhabitants create a regular pattern which is reflected in its archaeological remains. After the disaster which destroyed the Middle Bronze Age city with its great palace on the eastern hill, one has seen a first interim re-occupation by mere squatters among the ruins, followed by a more purposeful rebuilding of the settlement when its communal life began to be renewed. Several centuries later, in the period represented by Level II, the place was destroyed again by fire and the two subsequent building levels showed how the pattern of re-occupation had been repeated. This time, however, the process of recovery was destined to remain incomplete. After the first attempt to rebuild the settlement in Level Ib, some unknown circumstance drove its population to move elsewhere and the eastern hill at Beycesultan remained deserted save for an isolated farmhouse (Level Ia).

It will be understood accordingly that there is a great deal less to be said about the architecture of Level Ib than of the occupation which preceded it. The excavated remains of this period can in fact be summarized as follows (Fig. 4). Both of the two parallel streets dating from Level II, still seemed to be in use and were paved roughly with pebbles and potsherds at the new level. To the north of North Street, no attempt was made to rebuild Megaron A in its original form and such walls as do survive make no coherent plan. The main attempts at rebuilding are limited to the eastern section of the area between the two streets ("stable" area). Here the house walls are in some parts well preserved. They stand high enough for the lower courses of their mud-brick upper structure to have survived, and one can see that in almost all cases the wall faces are neatly plastered. Nevertheless, little can be learnt from their rather slovenly planning, save the fact that they represent a group of contiguous domestic units, consisting in two cases of a rectangular living-room with two smaller side chambers (e.g. Rooms 17, 18 and 19). The settlement at this period seemed not to extend beyond South Street, nor was any extension of the plan eastwards recoverable, owing to the denudation of

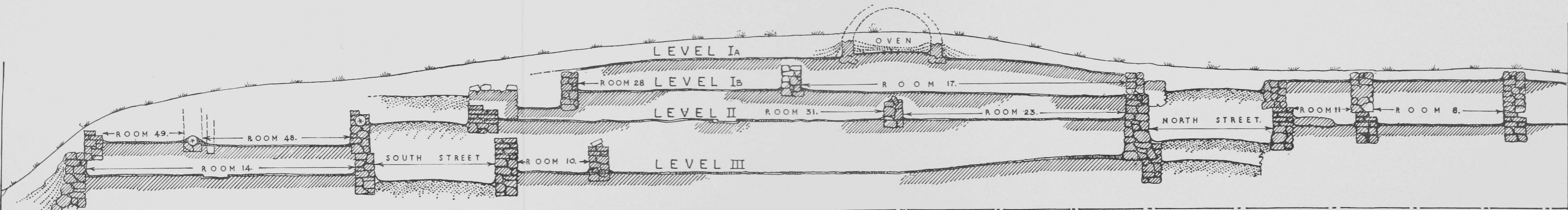
the mound. Turning to what we have called the western section of the area between streets, we are presented with a situation which is less easily explicable. Both on the northern and the southern edges of the area some fragmentary stone foundations have survived (Rooms 9 and 7); but the space between (subsequently occupied by the Level Ia *megaron*, which will be referred to presently) appears to have remained unoccupied. Furthermore, in the process of excavation, we were surprised to find that the greater part of it was covered with a pavement of white gypsum plaster from 5 to 10 cm. thick. The only point at which this pavement seemed to be interrupted was directly beneath the circular domestic hearth of the later *megaron*. Here, side by side, lay two uncut slabs of stone, approximately 60 cm. in diameter, and in front of each was a small circular pit, entirely filled with animal bones broken into small fragments (Pl. Xb). The significance of this layout was hard to understand but, since the two stones were located at what must at the time have been the exact summit of the hill, one wondered whether they might not have had some ritual significance.

The *megaron* building and its dependencies in Level Ia was, to the best of our knowledge, the only building existing on the eastern summit during these final years of the Late Bronze Age (Pl. XIa). It was not well preserved, since the whole of the east and part of the south wall had been quarried away in comparatively recent times. They can, however, be reconstructed, as shown in the plan, with satisfactory conviction, since the trenches left when the stone had been removed were filled with loose soil and could be traced fairly easily. Its claims to be a *megaron* type of building are then also convincing. The inner hall measures almost 7.00 × 4.50 m., and has a circular hearth, 1.50 m. in diameter, sunk into the pavement. It is entered at the northern end by a doorway 2.40 m. wide, with a threshold composed of three tree-trunks laid side by side (Pl. XIb). No traces of wooden door linings could be found in the reveals, though this may have been due to its poor state of preservation. The porch measured 8.50 m. in length, the side walls gradually increasing in thickness to a maximum 1.40 m. at their outer ends, where a heavy lintel must have been supported by two composite wooden columns. The exact architectural treatment of this outer face of the portico was made less easy to determine by the intrusion of two Byzantine graves and the destruction caused by quarrying. Nevertheless, it will be seen from a photograph taken during excavation (Pl. XIIa) that the structure of the one surviving column could be determined with some certainty. It consisted of four wooden uprights, probably tied together and certainly plastered over to form a square pier. The only object of particular interest found in the portico was the broken fragments of a child's terracotta bath-tub; a deep rectangular affair with a small seat in the centre (Pl. XIIb). Its fragments were separated from the pavement by a considerable depth of burnt debris and must accordingly have fallen from the roof above when the building was burning. The possibility of an upper storey should perhaps also be considered, though the absence of any stairway by which it might have been reached makes it less probable.





- EAST SUMMIT - SECTION "AA" -



- EAST SUMMIT - SECTION "BB" -

FIG. 5. Cross-sections of Levels Ia to III on east summit



In the west wall of the main hall were two openings, one leading to a room (No. 3) in the out-buildings. This had a stone-paved lustral area in one corner, with a water jar sunk beneath it. The remaining out-buildings were without character. Some metres to the east of the portico, a large circular baking oven, 3.00 m. in diameter, constituted the only evidence of occupation on this side of the building.

The stratigraphical relationship of Levels Ia to III on the east summit is illustrated by two cross-sections here reproduced (Fig. 5).

#### B. WESTERN SUMMIT: AREA A

It will be remembered that this area comprises a part of our earliest search-trench, "A", together with subsequent extensions on either side. All were excavated in 1954 and notes on the Level II exposure were included in our first preliminary report (*AS*, V, 1955). Something has been said already about the group of Early Bronze Age houses which are to be studied here. Like the Level II settlement on the eastern summit, they had been destroyed by fire. Nevertheless, the walls were reasonably well preserved, standing as much as a metre high and having, in some cases, the lower courses of the mud-brick upper structure still surviving. Their remains had suffered less from the quarrying of stone in more recent times than from the ubiquitous rubbish pits dug down into this level from the Byzantine occupation immediately above. A prolongation of Trench A north-westward showed a steep falling away in the final Early Bronze occupation-level and an increasingly deep filling of rubble dating from Byzantine times (background in Pl. XIIIa). It was assumed accordingly that the long wall limiting our group of buildings on the north side could be treated as a "parapet" wall, along the edge of an escarpment.

The plan which we recovered (Fig. 6) seems to comprise two complete private houses and part of a third. Each house consists of a courtyard, probably unroofed, a "porch room" opening on to it and one or more rooms behind at a slightly higher level. In the case of the first house on the west side, the courtyard showed little sign of occupation, save for a small *pithos* water cooler set upright in the pavement. As will be seen from the plan, the porch room (No. 3) has an opening 3.00 m. wide with two circular posts to support the lintel. The holes, in which these uprights had stood, were found beneath a litter of charred beams, fallen from above. The contents of Room 3 were probably characteristic for a simple living-room of this period and may be listed. A *pithos* water cooler stood upright in the south-west corner. The fragments of another which still had contained carbonized grain lay in the centre of the room opposite the entrance from the courtyard. This was surrounded by a litter of pottery including bowls, jars, jugs and "fruit stands", among which were two stone querns and a pile of carbonized lentils. Another interesting group lay at the foot of the north wall, where the fragmentary remains were to be seen of a projecting plastered hearth, covered with ashes.

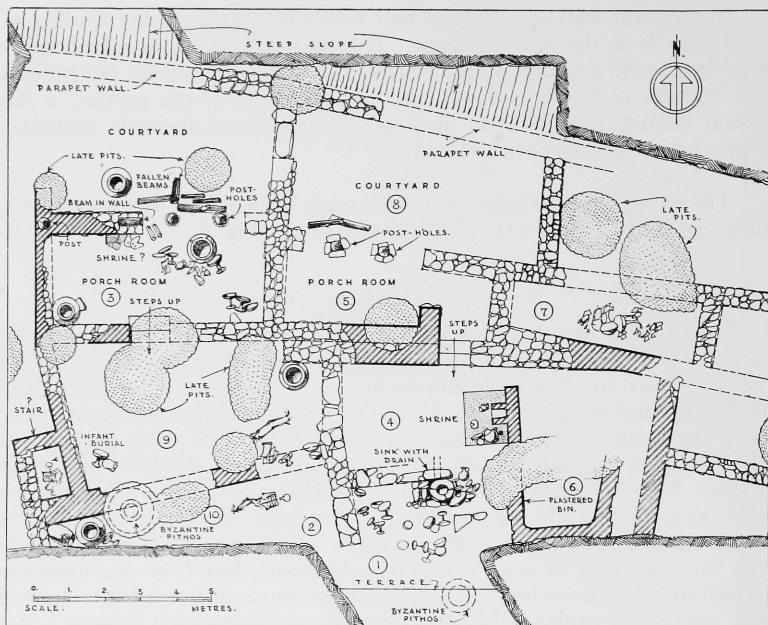


FIG. 6. Plan of Level II private houses in Area A

Also among the ashes was a pair of two-horned pot-supports of the type illustrated in Pl. XIII*b*, and another pair, of a simpler form, also with thumb-and finger-holes for convenience in moving them. (There is now little doubt that such objects were for purely practical purposes.) Other pottery lay near the south-east corner of the room. In the middle of the south wall, three steps led up to a back room (No. 9) where similar pottery lay scattered about the floor. Two human skeletons lying on either side of its south wall seemed more likely to be victims of the fire than ordinary burials. The projecting compartment to the west of Room 9 could have contained a stair leading to the roof. There was an infant burial beneath it.

The second house shared a party wall with the first and consisted of very much the same elements; courtyard (No. 8), porch room (No. 5) and two rooms behind (Nos. 4 and 1). The threshold survived of a doorway between the two courtyards. In contrast to the first house, where the most conspicuous evidence of occupation was to be found in the porch room, it was in this case the back rooms upon which our interest became concentrated. Against the east wall of Room 4, a hearth was built (Pl. XIV*a*); a low platform of baked clay with a rectangular brick projection, serving as a base for a pair of ornamental terracotta "horns", fragments of which lay in other parts of the room. In the angle between this projection and the wall, a small square

pillar of baked clay, 40 cm. high, stood upright in a pile of ashes mixed with fragments of animal bones. Also found lying upon the raised pavement were a large two-handled jar, a small trefoil-mouthed jug and, once more, a pot-support of the "two-horned" type. In 1954 when this hearth was discovered, a comparison could be made immediately with a similar installation found in a contemporary setting at Kusura by W. Lamb. In discussing the subject soon afterwards (*AS*, VI, 1956, pp. 87 ff., "Some Early Anatolian Shrines"), Miss Lamb arrived at the conclusion that these curious erections might have some religious significance—a theory which, as we shall see presently, came to be supported strongly by our subsequent discoveries in Area R (*cf.* p. 37).<sup>1</sup>

The wall between Rooms 4 and 1 seemed at some time to have been demolished, and astride its foundations lay the greatest concentration of pottery yet found in this area (Pl. XIV*b*). There was here a kind of stone sink, with a drain leading northward under the floor of Room 4. Standing in it was a large water container, too fragmentary to reconstruct, with smaller vessels piled around it, including many "chalice"-type drinking cups, "fruit stands" and simpler bowls. The "plastered bin" (No. 6) to the east of this area seemed likely to be intrusive from the Byzantine level above. Also on the east side and unconnected with the house just described, was a long narrow room (No. 7) from which we recovered three fine examples of the "beak-spouted" jug, so characteristic of this period.

There was no evidence that this site had been re-occupied in any subsequent period corresponding to Levels Ib or Ia on the eastern summit. In penetrating beneath Level II, however, we found that in Level III it had already been occupied by a single rectangular building of whose purpose there was no indication (Pl. XVI*a*).

### C. DOMESTIC PLANNING IN THE LATE BRONZE AGE

In the above pages we have described the planning and domestic arrangements of a dozen or so private houses dating from the three centuries preceding 1100 B.C., and it should now be possible to observe certain conventions which appear to be characteristic of the period. First then, there has been reason to conclude that, for a residence of any size or pretension, the *megaron* unit provided the basic architectural pattern. Any reader who has studied the architectural sections in the two preceding volumes of this work will have realized already that this type of building has a long history of earlier development at Beycesultan. The first example seemed to us to be recognizable in the remains of one very small dwelling dating from the Late Chalcolithic period in Level XXIV (Vol. I, Fig. 6), while the group of houses encountered in Levels X–VIII left us with the impression that during a part at least of the Early Bronze Age, the residential part of the town consisted largely of self-contained *megaron* units, grouped loosely together. To the best of our knowledge, the formula was not used in the Burnt Palace of Level V, though the

<sup>1</sup> For other parallel examples see Diamant and Rutter, *op. cit.*

plans of Middle Bronze Age houses which replace it, showed some renewed memory of the *megaron* form. It was accordingly less surprising to find two well-developed examples reappearing in Level II, and a third—the largest of all—in Level Ia.

Megara A and B in Level II also serve to remind us that the elementary unit consisting merely of a “hall” and “porch” could be elaborated by annexing a row of subsidiary rooms along one side of the building<sup>1</sup> or, as in the case of Megaron B, by incorporating a formula normally adopted for houses of a smaller size, to which we must now refer.

In Level II, this second formula is represented on the eastern summit by the two private house units to the south of South Street and is there repeated in the so-called “groom’s quarters” associated with the “stables”. On the western summit it also dictates the form of the two Level II house units in Area A. In this case, its basic elements consist of an unroofed courtyard with side rooms, one of which takes the form of an open portico with wooden posts or columns. In such houses it seems usually to have been arranged that the “porch room” faced north, doubtless in order to avoid the full heat of the summer sun. In it, one imagines that the normal routine of family life took place, including a certain amount of cooking, while the smaller rooms beside or behind it could be used either as bedrooms or stores. Absence of pottery in the courtyards suggest that at night animals were admitted to them. There is little more to be said about this second planning formula which, probably by chance, has no parallel that we know of in exposures of Late Bronze Age private houses made elsewhere in Anatolia. Only the system of construction used here is one which has by now become familiar over a wide geographical area and a long period of time. It may be well, therefore, to repeat certain comments on the subject made in our first preliminary report.

Regarding, then, the method of building, one tends first to note its resemblance to the current practices of Bronze Age peoples elsewhere in Anatolia; to those of the Hittites at Boghazköy, of the Karum merchants at Kültepe or of the West Anatolian villagers at nearby Kusura. Yet it would be a mistake that any close ethnological affinity is implied between the peoples concerned: for equally satisfactory parallels could be found, for instance, in Cretan or Aegean settings. In fact, the system is dictated by climatic conditions and the character of available building materials. When the three primary elements, stone, clay and timber are easily obtainable, and long experience of earthquakes has shown that some elasticity is desirable, experiments in widely separated localities arrive independently at the same results. Stone recommends itself for the foundations, crude brick for the upper structure and the walls are reinforced internally with a framework of timber beams, which also assure the stability of the roof.

In the present setting, this system is to be seen in its simplest form throughout the buildings of Level II. Stone foundations are reduced to a minimum and seldom stand more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. high. But at certain points (e.g. in Room

<sup>1</sup> This practice may, in fact, already be seen in some of the earliest private houses of *megaron* type yet found outside Anatolia; cf. *AS*, IX, 1959, p. 161, Fig. 13.

3 of Area A), the collapse of the brickwork above has revealed the system of reinforcement. A horizontal beam is bedded between the stones and tied in to a vertical post at the intersection of the walls. To judge by comparable examples found elsewhere, the top of this corner post would be framed into an upper horizontal member upon which the rafters rested. A lintel supported by two wooden posts in the porch opening would be a projection of this member.

## CHAPTER 3

## RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS IN AREA R

Reference to the Late Bronze Age buildings in Area R, on the northern periphery of the western hill, has been postponed until now because, in our own opinion, they have no resemblance to or connection with the ordinary domestic dwellings exposed elsewhere. This, however, depends on an argument regarding their purpose, which cannot be discussed usefully until they have been described properly. The reader should, at the same time, immediately be reminded that it was the continued excavation of this area, after the Late Bronze Age buildings had been removed, which led to the discovery in the Middle Bronze levels beneath (Levels IV and V), of two very unusual buildings, both of which were identified provisionally as religious shrines (*cf.* Vol. II, Ch. 3). In Level III, with foundations resting directly on the ruins of Level IV, a pair of rather important-looking buildings were found in 1957, and as we shall see presently, similarly identified. They lay side by side, sharing a party wall, and each consisted of a very long rectangular chamber with a smaller room or vestibule at either end. Both were rebuilt in Level II with only minor re-alignments of the plan, and as usual with buildings dated from this second Late Bronze occupation, they had been destroyed by fire, the site showing no traces of subsequent rebuilding. They will be referred to here as the "West" and "East" shrines.

In the plan of Level III (Fig. 7), the twin buildings appear in approximately the centre of the excavated area. In both cases the walls of the main chambers were sufficiently well preserved for the mud-brick superstructure to have survived up to an average height of about 50 cm. Unfortunately this was not so in the smaller rooms at either end, where only the stone foundations remained in place. It was possible only to understand that both shrines were entered at their south ends through an irregularly built vestibule. Small rooms at their north ends, to which the means of access remained unclear, butted against a long wall, 70 cm. thick, running the whole length of the excavation on this side. Over a part of its length the stonework had been recently quarried away; but it is possible to surmise that following as it did the line of the Middle Bronze Age city wall, it may well, in its own time, have marked the limits of the settlement of this northern side. The *main chamber of the West Shrine* measured 9.50 × 3.00 m. It proved remarkably empty of pottery or objects but, at its northern end, we came upon one of these complicated installations to which it would seem to us impossible to attribute anything other than a ritual purpose. This example is particularly well

preserved (Figs. 8 and 9, Pl. XV*a, b*). It consists first of a free-standing screen-wall of plastered brickwork, surviving to a height of 60 cm. and having a slightly convex face on the south side. At its foot, also on the south side, is a brick platform, 20 cm. high, projecting 1.50 m. out into the room. Standing clear of this wall on the west side of the platform is a pair of terracotta erections, shaped like horns and decorated on their outer faces with a pattern of concentric circles, impressed with a stamp covered with red paint. The "horns" stand 25 cm. apart, and roughly aligned with the space between them is a circular hole in the screen-wall, big enough to pass one's arm through. Also on the platform, to the east of the horns, is a hearth piled high with ashes. It remains only to mention a clay bench running round the base of the wall at the northern end of the room, and a clay bin, twice rebuilt, in the angle

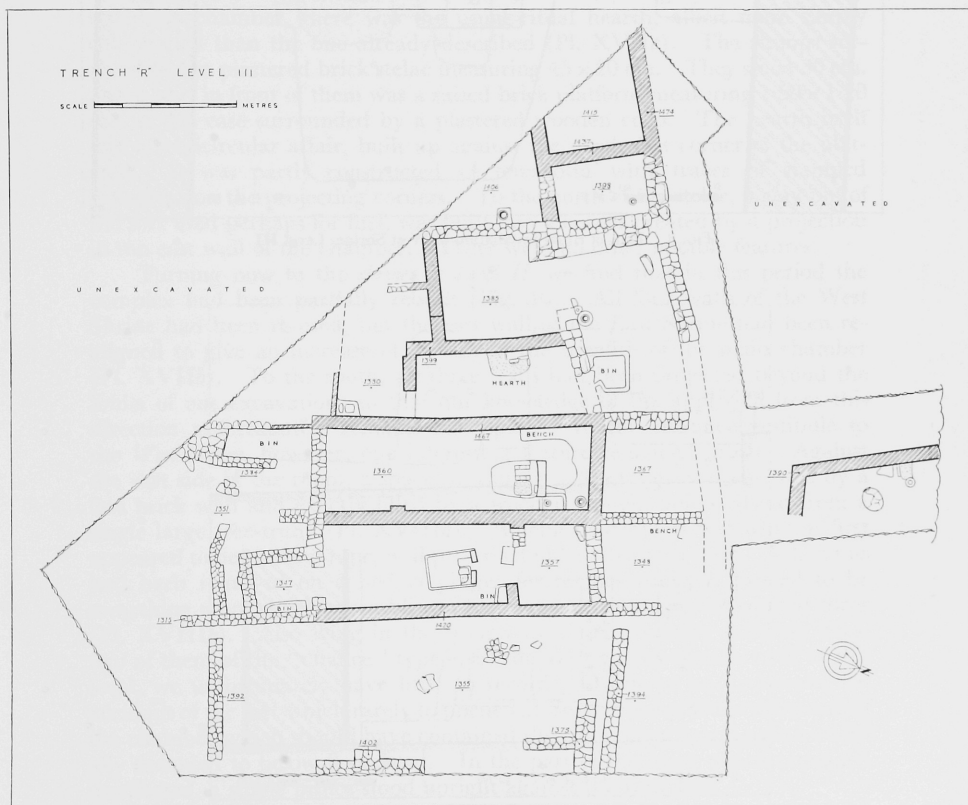


FIG. 7. Plan of Level III in Area R

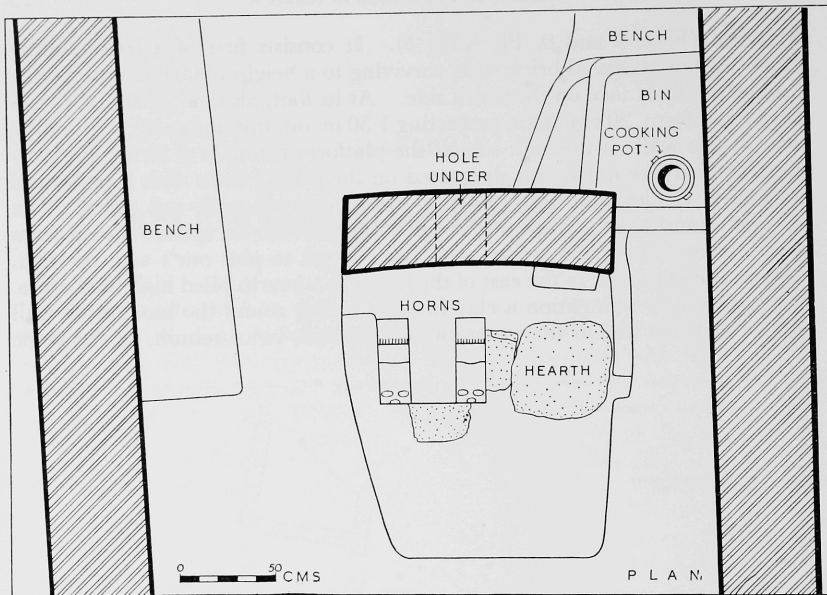


FIG. 8. Plan of ritual installation in West Shrine, Level III

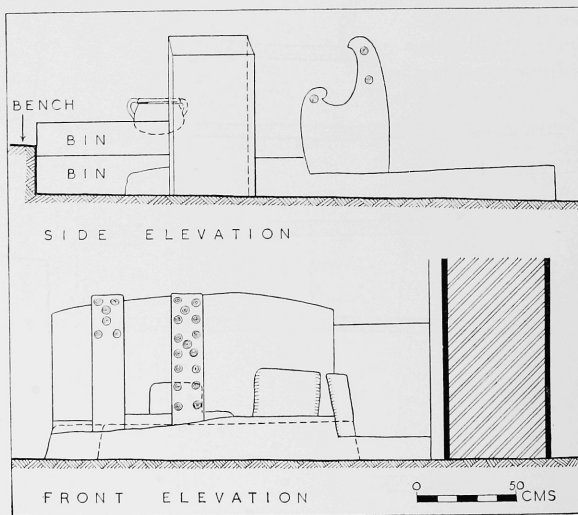


FIG. 9. Elevations of ritual installation in same shrine



between the screen-wall and the side of the room. This contained a large unbroken cooking pot.

Annexed to the shrines on their west side at Level III, was a further group of rooms of a purely domestic character, perhaps belonging to a private house. The only point of interest here was a fireplace laid against the west wall of Room 6, in which broken fragments of a decorated terracotta "horn", similar to that in the adjoining shrine, had been used as pot-supports and still lay among the ashes (Pl. XVI*b*). These rooms appear to have been rebuilt or reused in Level II.

The two shrines at Level III showed no signs of having been destroyed by fire like those in the level above. One assumes, therefore, that their contents were removed at leisure, leaving the *east building* as devoid of objects as its neighbour to the west. Here again, however, roughly in the centre of the main chamber, there was the usual ritual hearth, albeit more simply constructed than the one already described (Pl. XVII*a*). The stumps survived of two plastered brick stelae measuring  $45 \times 20$  cm. They stood 30 cm. apart, and in front of them was a raised brick platform measuring  $1.50 \times 1.20$  m., in this case surrounded by a plastered wooden curb. The hearth itself was a semicircular affair, built up against the north-east corner of the platform. It was partly constructed of terracotta with traces of stamped ornament on the projecting corners. To the north of the stelae, a clay bin of the sort used perhaps for fuel, was built into a corner created by a projection in the east wall of the chamber. There were no other notable features.

Turning now to the *shrines in Level II*, we find that in this period the complex had been partially rebuilt (Fig. 10). All four walls of the West Shrine had been re-used, but the east wall of the East Shrine had been realigned to give an increase of 50 cm. in the breadth of the main chamber (Pl. XVII*b*). To the south, all three walls had been projected beyond the limits of our excavation: so that our knowledge of the approach from this direction unfortunately remains incomplete. In the entrance vestibule to the *West Shrine*, however, one interesting feature remained intact. Against the east side of the room, a space measuring  $3.20 \times 60$  m. was enclosed by a low brick wall and exactly filled by a wooden trough, hollowed out from a single large tree-trunk (Pl. XVIII*a*). Among its contents was what at first appeared to be a pile of rope, well preserved in a carbonized state. When this had been removed on a bed of plaster for further study, it proved to be something more closely resembling a bag or basket composed of knotted cords (Pl. XVIII*b*). Also lying in the trough were three pottery drinking cups, two of them of the "chalice" type. Of the *western shrine chamber* itself at this level, we unfortunately have little to record. Owing to an archaeological accident of the sort which rarely happened at Beycesultan, the northern end of the chamber which should have contained the ritual hearth, was unintentionally denuded to below floor level. In the part of the room which remained unaffected, a single pithos stood upright against the west wall.

The condition of the *eastern shrine in Level II*, as it began to appear in the process of excavation, went some way towards compensating us for our

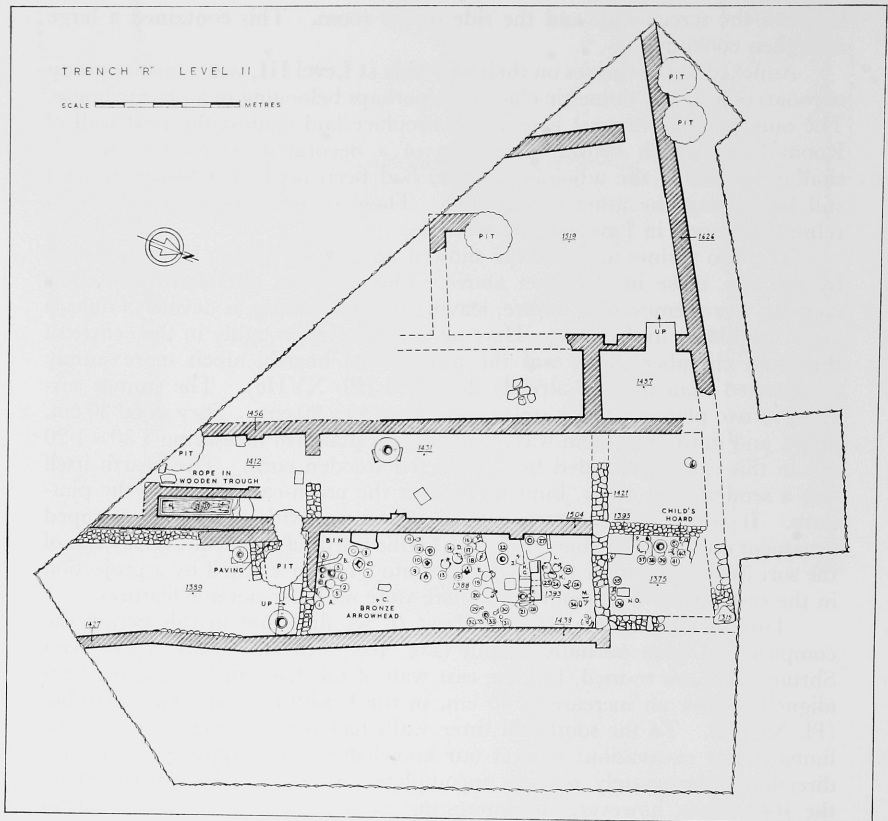


Fig. 10. Plan of Level II in Area R

disappointment concerning its neighbour. As is so often the case when a building is destroyed by fire, this one showed every sign of having been abandoned hurriedly, and virtually the whole of its contents and appointments remained intact. We have said that it was approached through a long vestibule, whose southern end could not be reached. In the north-west corner of the vestibule much damage had been done by an intrusive rubbish pit; but it was possible to reconstruct a “lustral” area, paved with stone and protected by a low screen wall, beside which a *pitcher* water jar stood, supported by brickwork. Another, even larger water container stood beside the door leading into the main shrine.

The *shrine-room* itself measured  $9.60 \times 3.25$  m. The ritual structure was as usual placed in the centre of the room towards the northern end and was again a rather elaborate affair (Pl. XIXa, Figs. 11 and 12). Like that in the

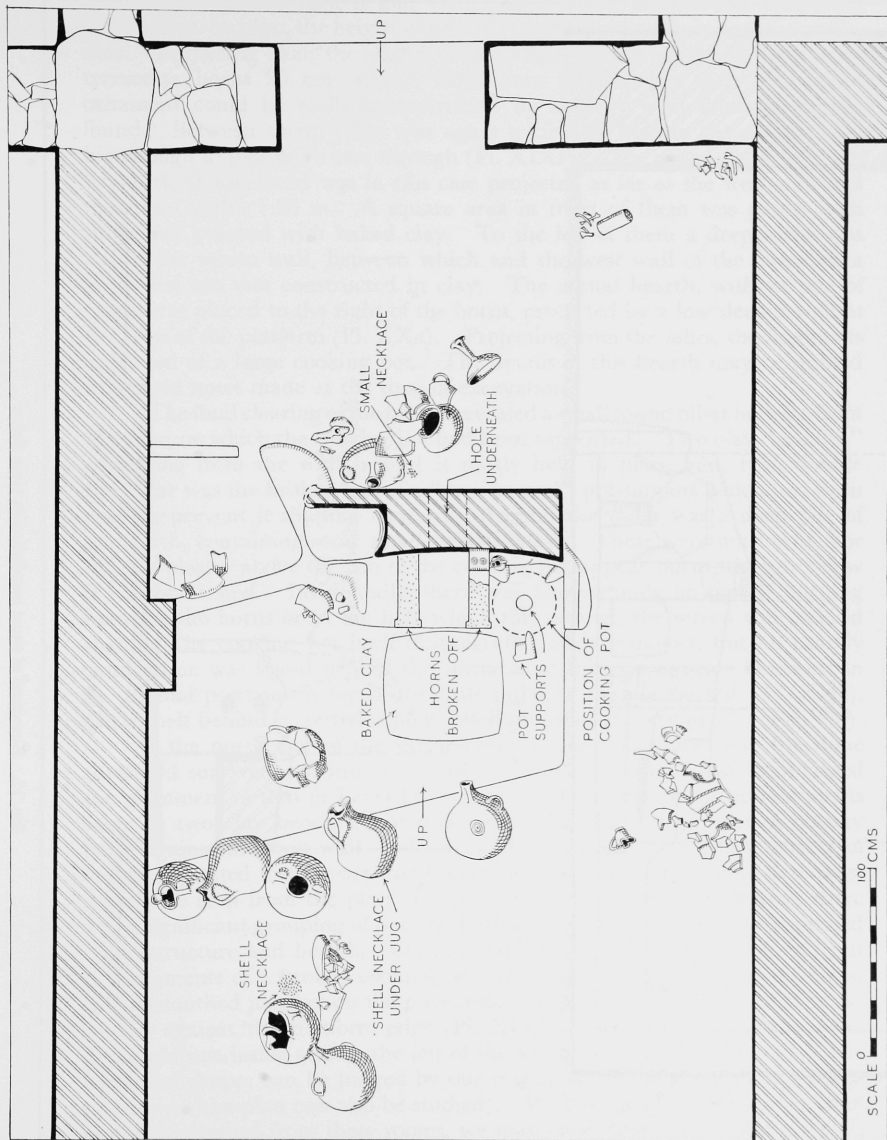


FIG. 11. Plan of ritual installation in East Shrine, Level II

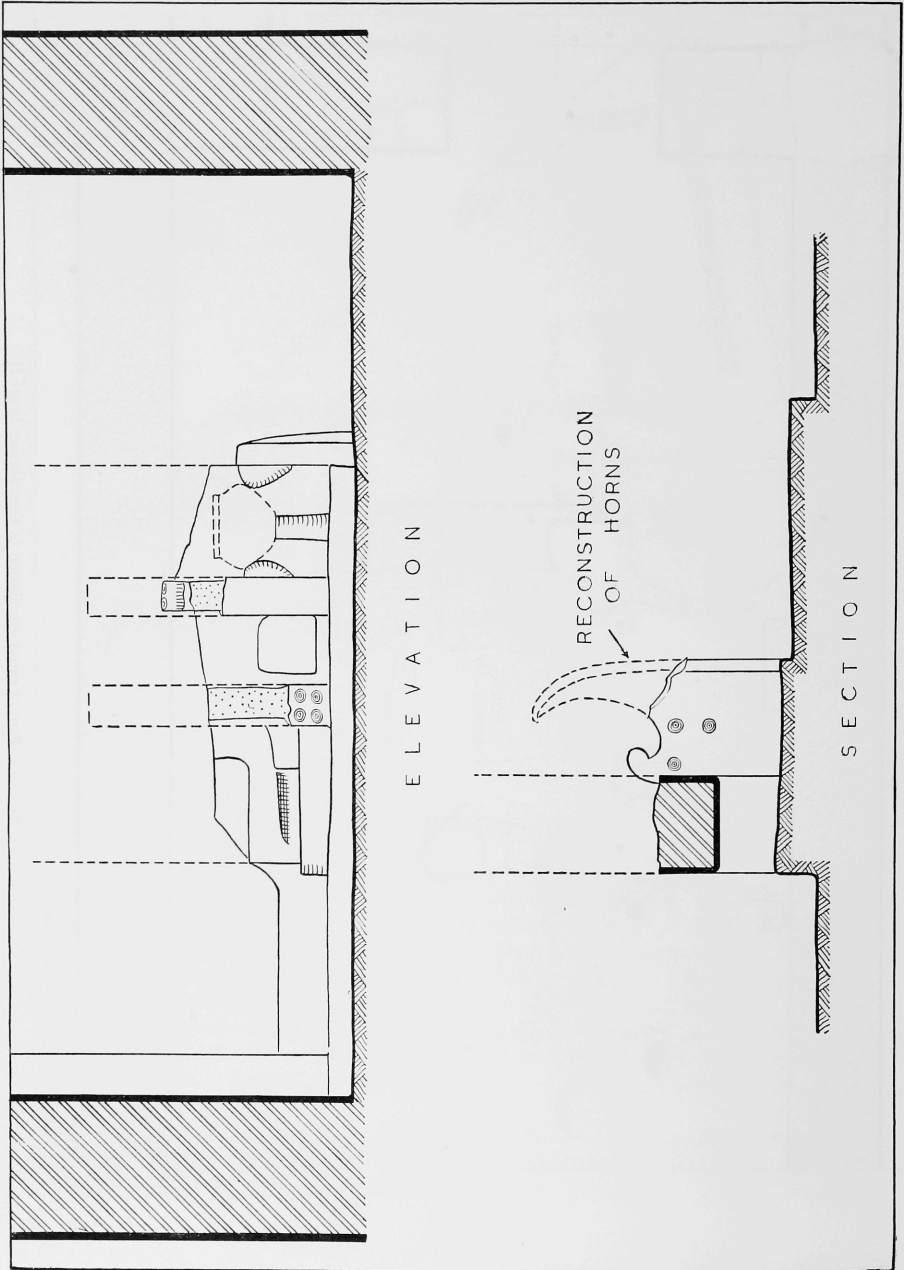


Fig. 12. Elevations of ritual installation in same shrine

West Shrine (Level III), it had at the back a solid screen wall measuring  $1.40 \times 40$  m. on plan, the height to which it originally stood being not ascertainable. Projecting from the slightly convex face on the south side, were two terracotta horns 25 cm. apart. Both were broken, but their shape and ornament could be easily reconstructed by analogy with those previously found. Between them, there was again a circular hole in the screen wall, big enough to pass one's arm through (Pl. XIX*b*). The raised platform upon which the horns stood was in this case projected as far as the west wall and measured  $2.80 \times 1.30$  m. A square area in front of them was paved with stone and covered with baked clay. To the left of them a deep niche was cut in the screen wall, between which and the west wall of the chamber a large fuel bin was constructed in clay. The actual hearth, with its pile of ashes, was placed to the right of the horns, protected by a low sleeper-wall at the edge of the platform (Pl. XX*a*). Projecting from the ashes, the fragments appeared of a large cooking pot. The details of this hearth may be quoted from field notes made at the time of excavation:

“The final clearing of the hearth revealed a small round pillar built up from the floor, on which the cooking pot had been supported. Two clay “nozzles” projecting from the wall behind it partly held in place and, lying beside the pillar was the broken half of a “two-horned” pot-support which had been used to prevent it slipping forward. Around the pillar was a deep pile of white ash, containing some small animal bones. These were not burnt, nor did the plaster above the rim of the cooking pot appear burnt, though below it was blackened. Incidentally, there was also virtually no sign of burning between the horns or in the hole which ran through the screen wall behind them. The cooking pot itself disintegrated when removed, but an exactly similar one was found behind the shrine, and this one appears balanced in its original position on top of the little pillar in the photograph (Pl. XX*b*). On a shelf behind it, rested a small bifoil-mouthed pottery jug.” (Fig. 13.)

At the north end of the shrine-room, a door of which only the stone threshold survived, led into a *subsidiary room* whose eastern wall maintained the alignment of that in Level III beneath. It had no special appointments save for two clay benches, but there was a further complement of pottery lying against the west wall, and this, added to the extraordinary variety of vessels deposited in the *shrine itself*, made a total of over forty complete pots. As will be seen from the plan (Fig. 14) and photographs (Pl. XXI*a*), there was a significant grouping of pottery, both in front of and behind the supposed ritual structure and hearth. On the platform itself, nothing was found but the fragments of a broken cooking pot: but large vessels including *askoi* and trefoil-mouthed jugs lay on the pavement in front of it, some with their necks resting against the platform edge (Pl. XIX*b*). Another large group were deposited just inside and to the left of the southern entrance doorway. The variety of shapes can be judged by our inventory of numbered items (whose position on the plan can also be studied). With regard to objects other than pottery recovered from these rooms, we may once more quote from the field notes made at the time:

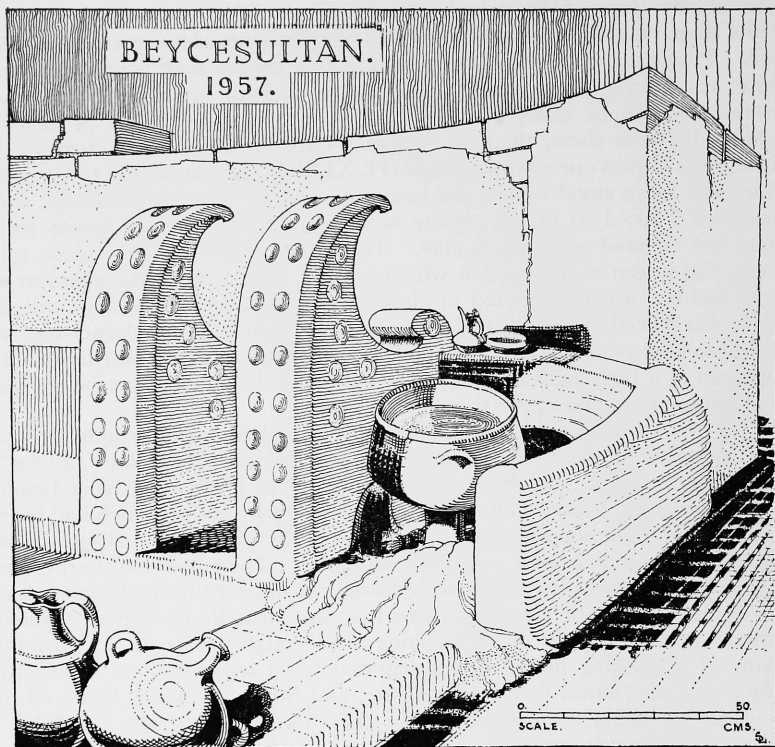


FIG. 13. Reconstruction of ritual installation in East Shrine, Level II

“When the pottery was finally cleared from this shrine, a good many small objects appeared and their position in the room was recorded. The list will include two spear-heads and an arrow-head of bronze; pestles, celts and “knives” of stone; several spindle-whorls and “two-horned” pot-supports. Of three bead necklaces lying near the altar among votive pottery, the largest has now been rethreaded and proves to be a massive affair composed of whitish cowrie shells with a bronze clasp (Pl. XXI*b*). Another, of frit and barrel-shaped carnelian beads is less well preserved on account of heavy rain which fell while it was being excavated. The skull of an animal, apparently a young pig, lay among the group of well-preserved vessels behind the altar (Pl. XIX*b*), and in the small room to the north we found a group of small “treasures” obviously belonging to a child; beads, pebbles, modelled clay objects and the tusk of a wild boar.” These objects were numbered serially and their position is also shown in the plan.

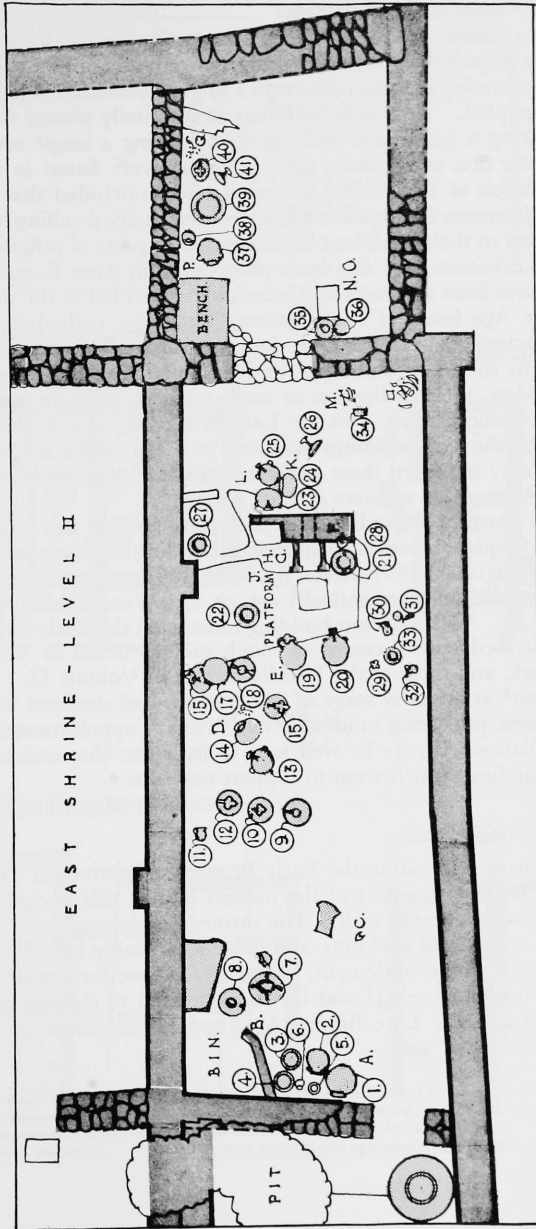


FIG. 14. Disposal of pottery, etc. in same shrine

*Determining the Purpose of These Buildings*<sup>1</sup>

During the seasons of 1956 and 1957, excavations in two locations on the western hill at Beycesultan revealed buildings dating from widely different periods, yet conforming in some respects to a single convention in planning and general arrangement. Two such buildings were usually placed side by side, sometimes sharing a party wall and together forming a single architectural unit. When the first examples of such buildings were found in the deeper Early Bronze levels of Trench SX, it was at once concluded that their contents and appointments distinguished them from ordinary dwelling houses, and further study led to their confident identification as pairs of religious shrines. Meanwhile, excavations had also been progressing in Area R and, by what may seem to have been a remarkable coincidence, had led to the discovery in Middle Bronze Age levels of two adjoining buildings, embodying many of the same characteristics. In this case, the two "shrines" were not contiguous but separated by subsidiary buildings, and their planning was notably different. Nevertheless, their dedication to some religious purpose seemed to us to be almost beyond dispute. In the Late Bronze Age levels the same site was occupied by the twin buildings described in detail earlier in this chapter; and it proved easy to regard these as the culmination of a tradition of whose Early Bronze Age origins we were already aware.

Our own theories regarding the interpretation of this architectural formula and its frequent repetition in successive building levels were summarized in an interim report on the 1957 season (*AS*, VIII, 1958), where the comparative plans were presented diagrammatically (*op. cit.* Figs. 3 and 6, here reproduced as Figs. 15 and 16). The relevant building remains in the Early Bronze levels were later described and discussed in much greater detail in Volume I of the present work, and those of the Middle Bronze in Volume II. Since one reviewer at least<sup>2</sup> at an early stage of publication, had doubted the validity of our conclusions, preferring to identify our "ritual" appointments as purely domestic installations, it may be well here to list some characteristics of the Level II/III buildings which seem to support our case.

*The Siting of the Shrines*

While we were excavating the Early Bronze Age shrines in Trench SX, we found that the western part of the mound had at this period been surrounded by its own enclosure wall. The shrines were placed with their back walls abutting against this enclosure and must accordingly have been located on the outer edge of the settlement. Similarly, as we have said, the back walls of the shrines in Levels II and III corresponded to the northern limits of the settlement in the Late Bronze Age, and abut against an enclosure wall.

<sup>1</sup> It is hoped that the conclusions reached in the following section will be compared with the discussion of the same subject in Diamant and Rutter, *op. cit.* The substance of our own reasoning was communicated to Mr. Diamant in a personal letter while his article was in proof and this was acknowledged in his footnote 24 on p. 152.

<sup>2</sup> M. Mellink, "Beycesultan: a Bronze Age site in south western Turkey", in *Bibliotheca Orientalis*, XXIV, No. 1/2, 1967.



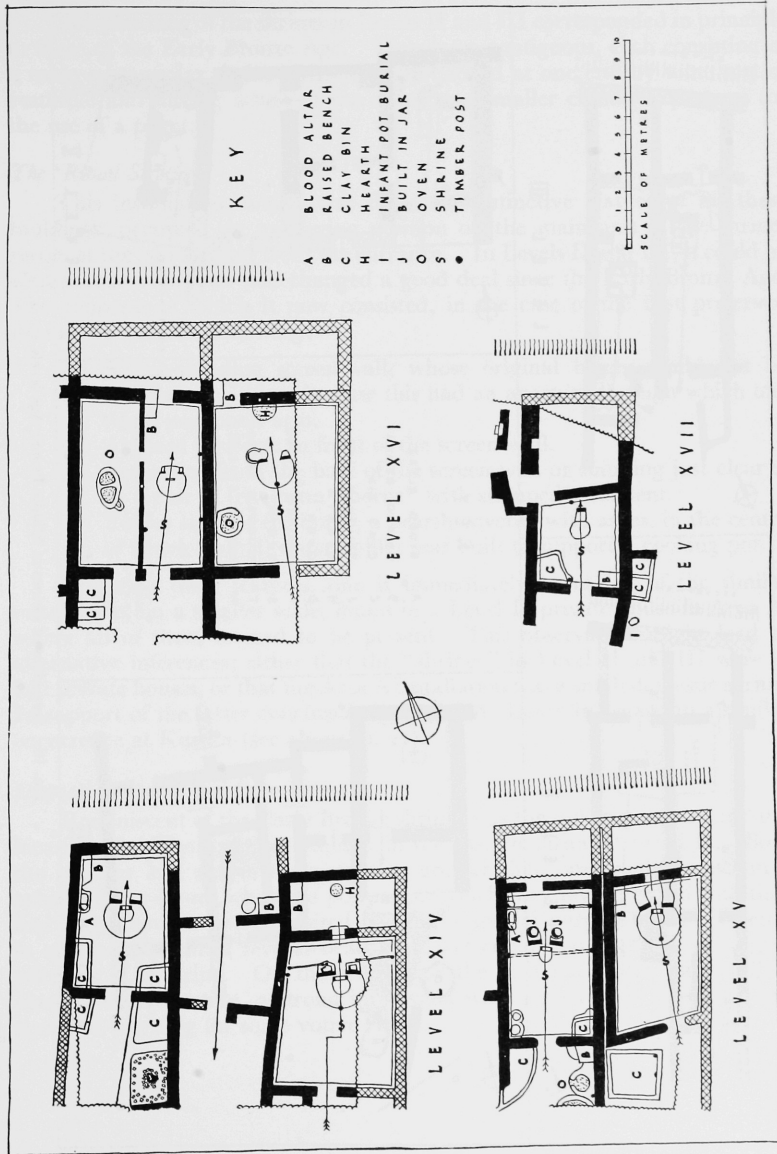


Fig. 15. Key-plans of shrines in Early Bronze Age levels

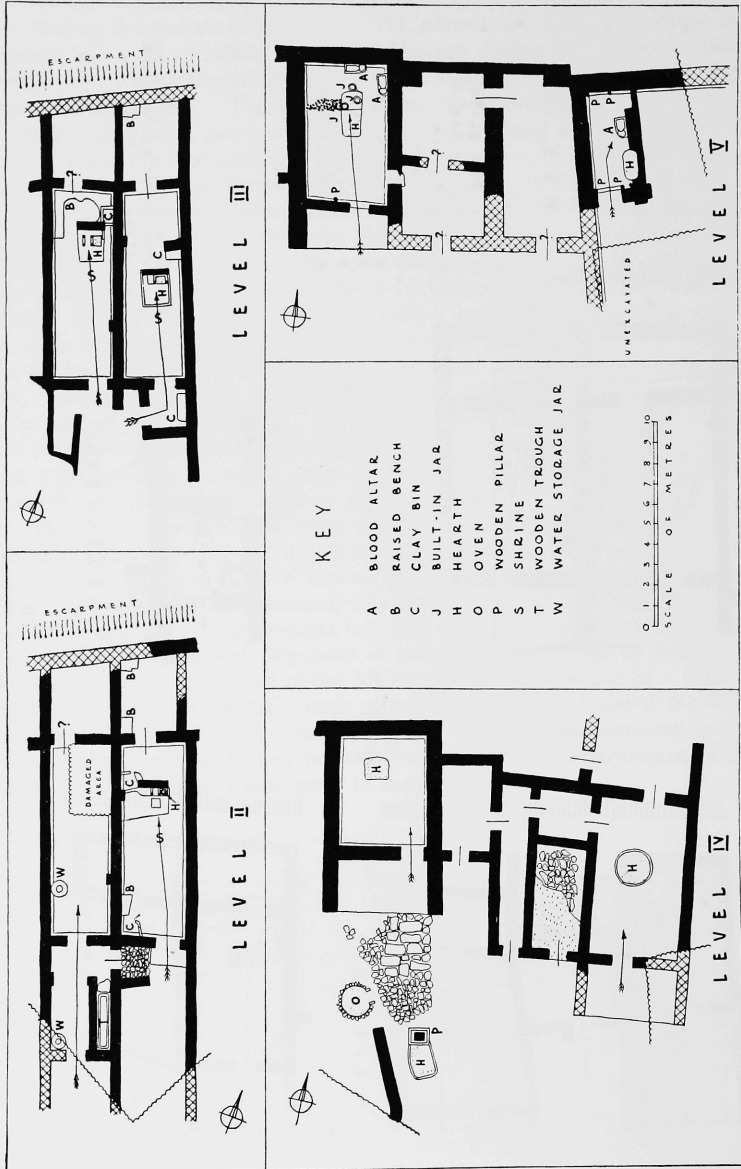


FIG. 16. Key-plans of shrines in Middle Bronze Age levels

### *Planning*

The planning of the shrines in Levels II and III corresponded in principle to those of the Early Bronze Age. They were contiguous, each consisting of a main rectangular shrine-chamber, approached at one end by some sort of vestibule and having access at the other to a smaller chamber, perhaps for the use of a priest.

### *The 'Ritual Structure'*

This installation, which was the most distinctive feature of all these buildings, occupied an unvarying position on the main axis of the shrine-room, at the end farthest from the entrance. In Levels II and III, it could be seen that its character had changed a good deal since the Early Bronze Age. The elements of which it now consisted, in the case of the best preserved examples, were the following:

- (a) A free-standing screen-wall, whose original height could not be ascertained. Near its base this had an aperture through which one could pass one's arm.
- (b) A raised platform in front of the screen-wall.
- (c) Projecting from the base of the screen-wall or standing just clear of it, a pair of terracotta "horns" with stamped ornament.
- (d) To the right of the horns, a hearth covered with ashes, in the centre of which a small square pillar was built to support a cooking pot.

In listing these features, one is immediately reminded of the similar installation, on a smaller scale, found in a Level II private house in Area A, where all of them seemed to be present. This observation might lead to alternative inferences; either that the "shrines" in Level II and III were in fact private houses, or that the Area A installation was a small domestic shrine. In support of the latter conclusion is that of W. Lamb in regard to a similar occurrence at Kusura (see above, p. 21).

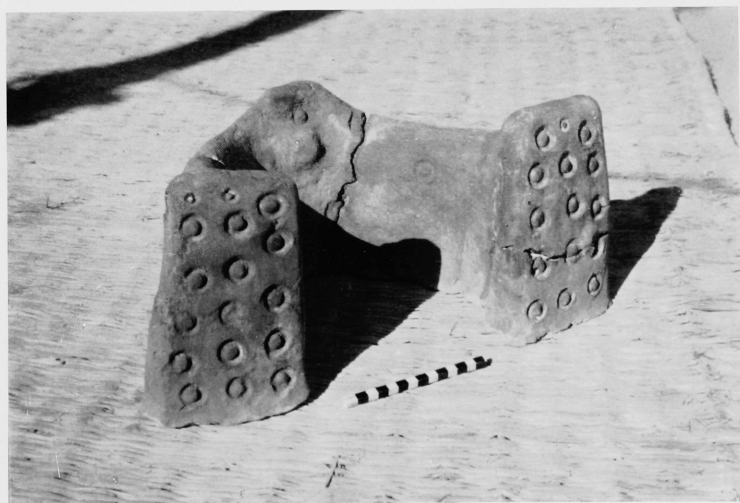
### *Disposal of Pottery and Other Objects*

Reminiscent of the Early Bronze shrines was the quantity, character and location of the pottery, particularly in the eastern shrine at Level II. Both the number and size of the pots were greater than one would expect in a private living-room, while the position in which they lay suggested that they had been brought and deposited here for a special purpose. The presence in or among them of several bead necklaces could also be taken to suggest offerings at a shrine. On those who saw the contents of this room still in place after excavation, a strong impression was created, that the place had provided a setting for some votive ritual.





(a) Stone substructure of houses at Levels IIIa and IIIb on the eastern summit



(b) Terracotta contrivance for supporting a cooking pot, from Room 3



(b) Foundations of Level III enclosure-wall and terrace (foreground), with burnt buildings of Level V. Trench K



(a) Foundations of enclosure-wall and terrace at Level IIIb in Trench N



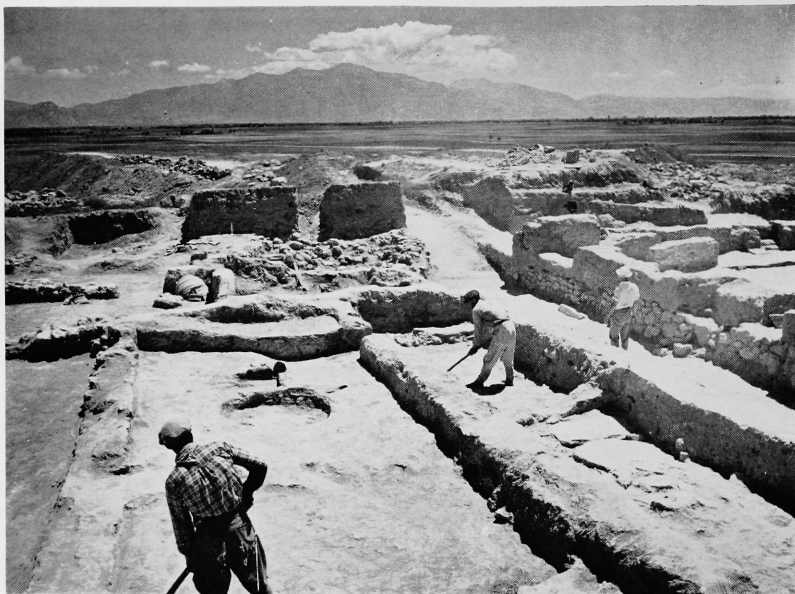
(a) View of North Street, looking east



(b) Level II. Courtyard of Unit D from the north east



(c) Doorway between Units D and E of the 'Little Palace'



(a) North Street with Megaron A in the foreground



(b) Line of plaster indicating shape of an attached column in portico of Megaron A





(a) Rooms 13 and 14 adjoining east end of Megaron A



(b) Room 13 from the south east



(a) Crescent-shaped terracotta objects and knuckle-bones in Room 13



(b) Giant *pithoi* and other pottery in Room 13



(a) Ruins of a grain bin in Room 14. Fragments of the wooden lid (2) lie among the carbonized grain (1 and 3)



(b) Service of 'imitation silver ware' vessels fallen from the lid of grain bin in Room 14



(a) Beak-spouted jug lying intact outside Room 13



(b) Ruins of Megaron B from the west



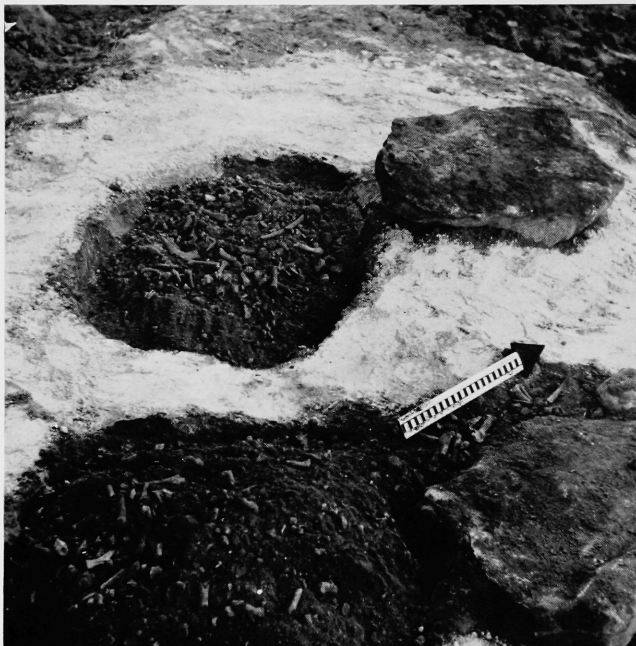
(a) Stabling accommodation in the eastern section of the area between North Street and South Street, from the east



(b) Imprint of hoof-marks in the decayed bedding of Room 41



(a) Charred stumps of tethering posts against the west wall of Room 38



(b) Level Ib. Flat boulders lying on a gypsum pavement, and shallow pits filled with animal bones



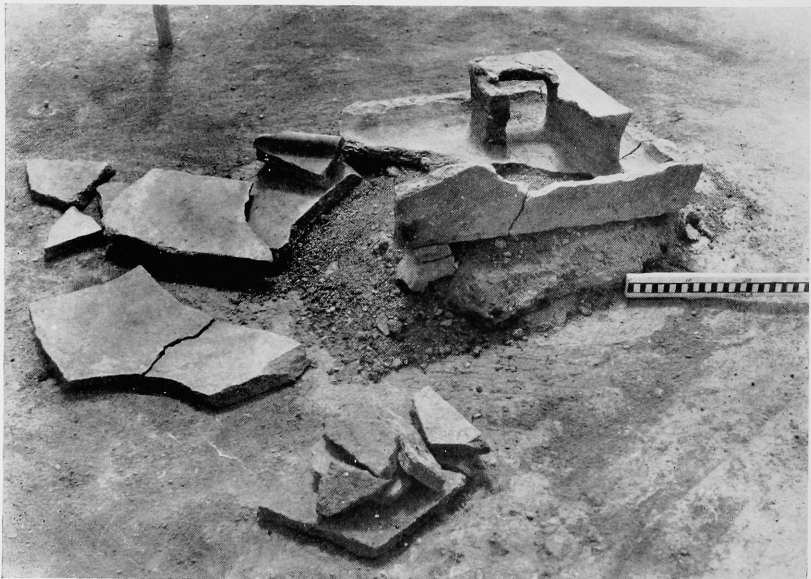
(a) Level Ia. Surviving parts of large, isolated megaron building directly beneath the surface



(b) Remnants of wooden threshold in megaron at Level Ia



(a) Base of plastered wooden pier in megaron portico, damaged by intrusive grave

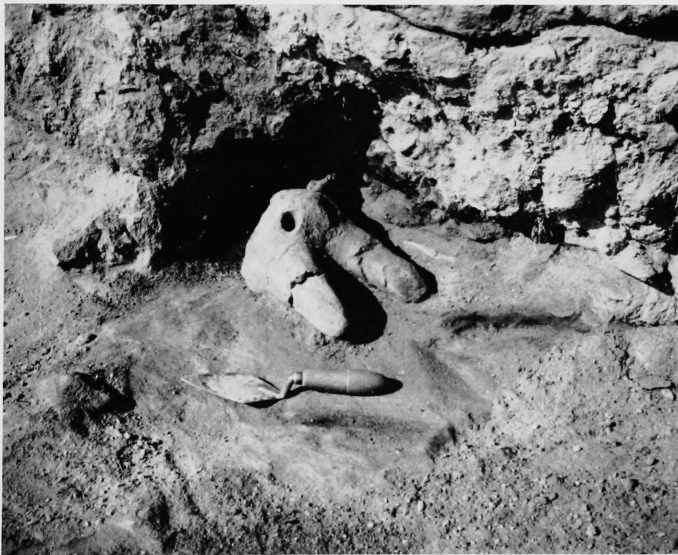


(b) Fragments of child's terracotta bath tub, fallen from roof of megaron building





(a) Level II. House walls on terrace in Area A, with trench beyond revealing escarpment



(b) Two-horned pot-support lying near a hearth in Room 3, Area A



(a) Hearth with brick backing and emplacement for terracotta 'horns'



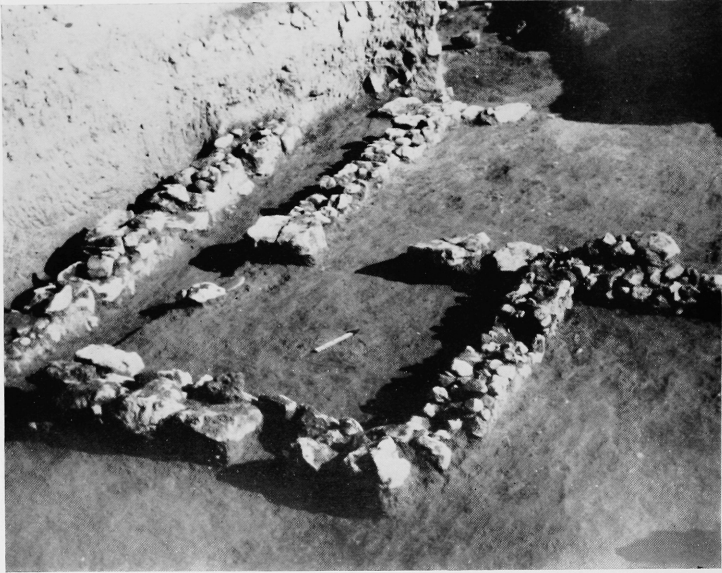
(b) Concentration of pottery over 'sink' between Rooms 4 and 1



(a) Area R. Terracotta 'horns' in West Shrine at Level III



(b) The same 'horns' seen from the south



(a) Stone foundations at Level III in Area A



(b) Fragment of decorated terracotta re-used in Room 6



(a) East Shrine at Level III. Raised hearth and remnants of terracotta structure



(b) Level II. Adjacent shrines in the process of excavation. In the West Shrine the 'horns' at Level III are already exposed



(a) Level II. Remains of wooden trough at entrance to East Shrine



(b) Bag or basket composed of knotted cords from wooden trough in Level II



(a) Level II. Ritual structure in East Shrine with votive vessels in foreground



(b) Closer view of ritual structure in East Shrine



(a) Level II. East Shrine. Cooking niche with vessel as found and small jug fallen from shelf



(b) Level II. East Shrine. Return curve of terracotta 'horns' and broken cooking pot replaced by identical vessels from behind shrine





(a) Level II. East Shrine. Votive pottery and skull of young pig lying behind ritual structure



(b) Level II. East Shrine. Large shell necklace among votive pottery









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