

# ADALYA



SUNA - İNAN KIRAÇ AKDENİZ MEDENİYETLERİ ARAŞTIRMA ENSTİTÜSÜ  
SUNA & İNAN KIRAÇ RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS

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THE ANNUAL OF THE SUNA & İNAN KIRAÇ RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON MEDITERRANEAN CIVILIZATIONS

## ADALYA

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## Some Observations on a Group of Buildings and their finds from the Early Neolithic II/2 Settlement at Bademağacı

Gülsün UMURTAK\*

In recent years a group of buildings, belonging to the Early Neolithic (EN) II/2 settlement at Bademağacı and in an arrangement not seen before, was excavated at the höyük<sup>1</sup>; the finds from these buildings are also different from those of ordinary buildings. A description and evaluation of these unusual finds will be given below.

Based on the results of the Bademağacı Excavations, it can be said that the transition to settled life took place in our region approximately 9000 years ago. In the excavations carried out so far at the höyük, virgin soil was reached in two separate Deep Trenches (DT 1 and DT 2) at a depth of -8.90 m. from the highest point of the höyük<sup>2</sup>. The first settlement to be established at the höyük was the Early Neolithic level I/9 (EN I/9) that was directly on virgin soil. No remains were found that could be attributed to any buildings belonging to the EN I/9 settlement and the four settlement periods that follow it but it was possible to identify the settlement phases by following the traces of burnt floors. These earliest settlements at Bademağacı must have been built using the wattle and daub technique in which a framework of tree branches was covered with mud plaster. In the settlements belonging to the relatively more developed phases of the Early Neolithic Period at Bademağacı, there were some important changes in the architecture preferences and instead of the tradition in which light materials such as reed, branches and mud were used in the construction of the walls, for the first time in level EN II/4 *kerpiç* (mud bricks) is seen to have become the main architectural element. However, it is not possible to follow the stages of this development in the excavations. The houses of the EN II phase are sometimes slightly distorted rectangular-square in plan, the walls are on average 60 cm in width and the corners are usually not sharply angled but gently rounded. The measurements of the houses (internal) vary between 7 x 4.5 and 5 x 3.5 m. The houses, which (with one exception) consist of just one room, have door spaces usually approx. 1 m in width in the centre of the longer walls and a horse-shoe shaped oven in front of the wall opposite the door. These ovens, which are covered with a low roof, usually have semicircular ash boxes with sides lengthened

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<sup>1</sup> This Project was supported by the Istanbul University Research Fund (Project nos. 531/2006, 553/2007).

<sup>2</sup> For the stratigraphy identified during the excavations carried out at Bademağacı from 1993 onwards under the direction of Prof. Dr. Refik Duru and the reports that have been published up to now see. R. Duru, "Bademağacı Kazıları 2002 ve 2003 Yılları Çalışma Raporu / Excavations at Bademağacı, Preliminary Report, 2002 and 2003", Belleten LXVIII/252, 2005, 519-560.



with clay in front of them. In some houses, there are raised platforms 15-25 cm in height prepared for sleeping on, ash boxes made of clay, fire boxes and hand grinders and work areas where the work of grinding took place. The floors of the houses were made of compressed earth; the floors and the walls were mud plastered. The doors, door thresholds and posts that helped to support the roof were made of wood. Although the roofs did not survive to the present day, looking at the remains it can be assumed that the buildings were covered with a fairly light flat roof made of such materials as wood, tree branches and earth. As no traces of any windows have been found in the houses uncovered so far, light and clean air must have come through the door. The plan of the Bademağacı EN II settlement consists of passageways that link up with town squares and free standing houses that open up on to these squares (Fig. 1). These settlements were sometimes destroyed by fire or other reasons but were rebuilt using the same method and plan and continued for a considerably long period and it can be said that this tradition was used for a very long time at Hycek and Hacılar<sup>3</sup>.

The unusual buildings that are the subject of this article are three buildings attached to each other labelled no. 3, 4 and 5, which were uncovered in the northern part of the hyk in squares C 4 / III 5 and IV 1, and the neighbouring building, no. 6, on the western side in square C 3 / III 5 (Figs. 1 and 3).

The first building of this group on the northern side, building no. 3 (Figs. 1-2; 4-5), is entered through two doors that have door leaves with bolts (!), one on the eastern side and one of the southern side. Next to the eastern entrance of the building and attached to the northern wall, there is a platform 1 m in width and 20 cm in height (Fig. 6). On the slightly distorted quadrangular shaped platform - an architectural element that was introduced in building level EN II/4 at Bademağacı - a mother goddess figurine was found *in situ* (Fig. 20). Some debris consisting of large pieces of the plastered walls made from light materials such as branches and mud had fallen onto the same platform; this debris perhaps also came from a shelf on the wall. In this debris a three-dimensional representation of a human head made from a rough clay paste was found (Fig. 21). Some objects roughly shaped from clay, stone mortars and slightly smoothed medium-sized and small stones were uncovered on the floors near the edge of the eastern and southern walls of the house, (Fig. 28). The floor of the building is formed from very well compressed and burnished earth, and in the centre there was a hole made for a post that had pieces of burnt wood. In the courtyard on the eastern side, next to the northeastern corner of the house, there was a grinding unit consisting of a quadrangular box approx. 60 cm in height, with sides made of large stones and a grinding stone next to it (Fig. 34).

Another doorway on the southern side with two very well plastered steps provided entrance into a second area where no. 4 of the building group, thought to be a silo, was located (Figs. 4-5). A group of large clay beads and greyish stone hand axes had been left immediately outside the door. The eastern side of the barn was filled with 12 storage boxes (silos)<sup>4</sup> (Fig. 7). These boxes with varying dimensions were formed, according to the tradition of that period, with previously prepared baked clay plaques that were joined to-

<sup>3</sup> For details on this subject see. G. Umurtak, "A Building Type of the Burdur Region from the Neolithic Period", *Belleten* LXIV/241, 2001, 683-706.

<sup>4</sup> The barn mentioned here was the subject of a previous article: G. Umurtak, "Silos in Neolithic Settlements of Burdur-Antalya Region", *Adalya* X, 2007, 1-16.

gether and plastered over several times (due to the thickness of the plaster, it was not clear whether or not holes were pierced in the corners of the clay plaques where they were joined together). The tops of the boxes were closed with wooden lids; in fact it seems that care was taken to protect the grain from damp, insects and mice. The insides of these boxes were empty, suggesting that the great disaster that caused the destruction of the house took place at a time when the grain stored in the village had run out and the new crop had not yet been harvested, probably early summer. There were three jars placed in two of the boxes (Figs. 15, 17-18).<sup>5</sup>

The door that provided passage from house no.3 to the Barn and another door on the same axis gave access to the area of building no. 5 (Figs. 1-2; 4-5). Grinding stones and mortars were found *in situ* in the passageway of the door. It seems that there was a second door on the western side. As this area has not yet been excavated, it is not clear whether this door opened onto a street or into another room. It is clear from the hearth, non-portable boxes and the grinding stones that building no. 5 was a work area (Figs. 30, 33). A three-dimensional model of a foot with lifesize measurements was found *in situ* on the burnished compressed earth floor of the work area (Figs. 23, 33). Alongside this, there were some complete bowls and jars, grinding stones, mortars and piles of clay sling pellets (Figs. 30, 33). This work area was undoubtedly covered with a roof to protect it from outside elements such as rain.

In addition to the boxes of this group of three buildings, another series of six boxes were found outside the walls of buildings no. 3 and 4 of this group, placed next to the extended eastern wall of barn no. 4 (Figs. 1-2). We think these boxes were made for another covered area here but this particular building had not survived. On top of the largest of the boxes found on the eastern side of house no. 3 a large schematic clay model of an animal horn (?) was found. This model was probably attached to the wall that the boxes were next to and must have fallen down at the time of the destruction of the building (Fig. 29). During the work of the year 2001, a piece of the wall decorated with red paint (Fig. 10)<sup>6</sup> and a mother goddess (Fig. 19)<sup>7</sup> were uncovered inside a large lump that must have broken off as a result of a very severe fire, about 1-2 m to the east of this box with six compartments.

Building no. 6 on the western side of the three building group, is the only one to be built in the traditional style of a quadrangular plan with one room and, as the whole building lies within the area of excavations, its details have been uncovered and brought to light in a helpful way (Figs. 1-2 and 8-9). The door is positioned in the usual way on the longer wall of the house on the southern side, slightly towards the eastern corner, with a 'horse-shoe shaped' oven opposite the door. Right next to the oven a complete grinding unit made of *kerpiç*, with the front sections slightly slanted towards the front edge and the back and sides slightly longer to prevent the grain from spilling, was uncovered in a very good condition. In addition to this, a large number of grinding stones and house/kitchen tools such as mortars and pestles were also found in the room.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> R. Duru, "Bademağacı Kazıları. 2000 ve 2001 Yılları Çalışma Raporu /Bademağacı Höyük (Kızılkaya) Excavations", *Belleten* LXVI/246, 2003, 555, 581 Pl. 10/2.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. 560, 585; Pl. 30/1, 31.



## A Description of the Finds (Fig. 2)

### Pottery

The pottery uncovered in the building group, the architectural characteristics of which are described above, belongs to the traditional Buff Ware pottery group of Bademağacı. This ware group consists of mineral tempered vessels, usually with a compact paste, self-slipped, medium or well fired and sometimes lightly burnished. Although these buff wares usually remain the same colour after firing, some of them may have pinkish beige tones or light orange tones (*Munsell* 2.5 YR 6/4 'light reddish brown', 5 YR 8/3, 7/3, 7/4 'pink'; 10 YR 8/4 'very pale brown', 7/1, 7/2 'light gray', 7/3, 7/4 'very pale brown')<sup>8</sup>. It is not possible to say that the wares of this group, which are always seen in large numbers in the EN II levels, are always shaped with great care.

The pottery from the building group consists of bowls and jars. In building no. 5 – the work area – the small bowl found *in situ* in front of the northern wall where the grinding tools were grouped together has a plain rim, straight sides and a plain base (Fig. 11). This bowl is slightly more sophisticated in shape than its parallels in the region and is slightly later in date. Parallels to the Bademağacı example, which has a pair of animal head lugs - one on each side, are seen at Höyücek in Ware 2 from the Sanctuaries Phase (SP); while at Kuruçay it was found among the A2 Wares of level 11<sup>9</sup>. These wares at Höyücek closely resemble the Bademağacı Buff Ware Group from the point of view of paste and production characteristics<sup>10</sup>.

The deep pots with flared mouths found in building no. 5 are very similar to each other in form. These are usually deep spherical pots that are not made with great care; some have straight rims and some have slightly everted rims. They have flattened bases and a pair of vertical string pierced lugs on the middle section (Figs. 12, 13, 14). This type of pots was produced in a kind of mass production in the Bademağacı EN II settlements; there are a considerable number of examples of this form in different ware groups<sup>11</sup>. Parallels are seen in the Jar/B1 form group<sup>12</sup> of the Höyücek Shrine Phase (Sh.P); we do not think it would be wrong to call this group "Bademağacı Wares".

In building no. 4 – the Barn – a miniature jar found in one of the boxes is spherical and has an inverted hole-mouth and a plain base (Fig. 15). It appears that this jar continued to be used for a long time after one of the vertical hole-pierced lugs on the body had broken off. This pot seems to be similar to one of the *Unusual* vessels of Höyücek Sh.P<sup>13</sup>.

Another small jar has a unique shape; it is oval, has everted rims and a plain base with a pair of very large vertical string-pierced lugs on its wide sides (Fig. 16).

<sup>8</sup> Munsell Soil Color Charts (1975).

<sup>9</sup> R. Duru – G. Umurtak, Höyücek. 1989-1992 Yılları Arasında Yapılan Kazıların Sonuçları / Results of the Excavations 1989-1992 (2005) Pl. 65/4; R. Duru, Kuruçay Höyük I. 1978-1988 Kazılarının Sonuçları. Neolitik ve Erken Kalkolitik Çağ Yerleşmeleri / Results of the Excavations 1978-1988. The Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic Periods (1994) Pl. 82/5.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid., 28, 182.

<sup>11</sup> Duru, *supra* 2, Pl. 11/2; 23/3-5.

<sup>12</sup> Duru – Umurtak 2005, *supra* 9, 39 Fig. 10.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid., Pl. 51/2, 99/4.



These two jars that resemble each other (Figs. 17, 18) were found inside the boxes and were therefore affected by the fire. This type of small jars - characterised by everted rims, a pear shaped body, a plain base and a pair of string-pierced lugs - is one of the popular forms from the Bademağacı EN II settlements; we know of parallels to it from the C1 type group of the Höyücek ShP.<sup>14</sup> We have mentioned before that similar examples were found in the distant neighbouring regions to the north such as Ilıpınar, Fikirtepe and Pendik, and also at Franchthi in Greece<sup>15</sup>.

## Baked Clay Objects

### Figurines/ Mother Goddess Representations

During excavations carried out in previous years, just east of building no. 4 a broken female figurine made of poorly fired clay, beige in colour (Fig. 19) was found in the thick layer of debris from the fire – next to the paint decorated piece of wall. There was a small hole between the shoulders of the figurine, which indicates that the head was made separately and then attached to the body. The figurine is portrayed with the arms on the breasts and in a sitting position with the left leg placed under the extended right leg<sup>16</sup>.

A beige coloured, grey stained female figurine was found *in situ* on the platform next to the northern wall of building no. 3. The head and part of the arms of the figurine are broken or missing. The stomach, hips and thighs of the figurine are very large; the legs are gathered to the right and the right leg is on top of the left leg (Fig. 20).

Looking at the examples from Hacılar, Kuruçay and Höyücek in the Burdur-Antalya Region, it is possible to say that there was a common and traditional ‘Mother Goddess’ image in the Neolithic Period and different styles were used to make this image concrete. From the point of view of style and position, the description given above of the two figurines matches what we already know from the region; the position of the arms on the breasts is especially common in the Anatolian Plateau. In the developed Neolithic cultures of the Burdur-Antalya Region, the use of the inserted head was a widespread preference. In this tradition, the heads of the idols and figurines were usually made of another material such as bone, wood or stone and placed in a hole (hollow) in the body and this head often disappeared with time<sup>17</sup>.

In the settlements of the Höyücek Sanctuaries Period<sup>18</sup> and Hacılar VI<sup>19</sup>, there are examples of figurines with hands on the breasts and in a sitting position with the legs gathered to one side. We can add two examples to this group; one is from Çatal Höyük level II<sup>20</sup> and the other is a paint decorated figurine kept in the Yalvaç Museum<sup>21</sup>. The figurines

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., Pl. 46/6.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., 56.

<sup>16</sup> Duru 2003, supra. 6, 560.

<sup>17</sup> R. Duru, “Burdur Bölgesi’nden Yeni Bir İdol Tipi: Kemik Başlı İdoller - A New Variety of Idol from the Burdur Region: The Bone-Head Idol”, M. Mellink - E. Porada - T. Özgüç (eds.), *Nimet Özgüç’e Armağan. Aspects of Art and Iconography Anatolia and Its Neighbors. Studies in Honor of Nimet Özgüç (1993) 155-157*; R. Duru, “Höyücek Kazıları-1990”, *Belleten* LVIII, 1995, 725-745 (Höyücek Excavations, 1990-Summary).

<sup>18</sup> Duru – Umurtak 2005, supra 9, Pl. 125/1, 168/1.

<sup>19</sup> J. Mellaart, *Excavations at Hacılar I-II (1970) Fig. 214, 218, 219, Pl. CXXI/b, CXXII, CXXIII*.

<sup>20</sup> J. Mellaart, “Excavations at Çatal Höyük, 1962. Second Preliminary Report”, *AnatSt* XIII, 1963 Fig. 30 Pl. XXIII/c-d

<sup>21</sup> G. Umurtak, “Yalvaç Müzesi’ndeki İki Ana Tanrıça Figürini’nin Düşündürdükleri”, T. Tarhan - A. Tibet - E. Konyar (eds.), *Muhibbe Darga Armağanı (2008) 511-516*.

from Bademağacı and Hacılar have legs gathered to the right, while the Höyücek, Yalvaç and Çatal Höyük examples sit with legs gathered to the left.

A female head without a body was found among the fallen debris on the platform of building no. 3 (see p. 2). This piece is formed from an extremely rough paste and is inadequately fired, leaving it brittle; the face has almond-shaped eyes and the chin is well accentuated, the ears are indicated with large protusions, the hair pulled back in a kind of bun (Fig. 21). If the roughness of the paste is not taken into consideration, this figurine head is similar to examples of mother goddess heads from Hacılar and Kuruçay<sup>22</sup> but the size of this one is larger than the average examples of this period. If the head was to be put together with the body and it is considered to have been in a standing position, its height is likely to have been around 40 cm. As no part of a body was found in the place where this head was uncovered, it can be assumed that it was placed on a shelf (?). A male head without a body found at Bademağacı has similar dimensions<sup>23</sup>.

#### Beads (?)

Fifteen clay beads (?) stuck to each other<sup>24</sup> were found just in front of the door that provides access from building no. 3 to the Barn (Fig. 22). Of the beads that make up this series, eight are greyish brown and in the shape of a double split cone, the two sides of which are stuck together back to back, and the seven light brown beads are spherical in shape. Due to their weight, it may have been difficult for them to have been used as a necklace. These beads may have been used in the barn for counting.

#### Model of a Foot

Among the finds from building no. 5 – the Work Area – a three-dimensional model of a foot is of exceptional interest (Fig. 23). This foot model is of a similar size to shoe numbers 36 and 37 and the section from the ankle downwards is complete. The foot, which is made from very rough clay and is not very well fired, has a pierced hole 4.5 cm in diameter that extends from the middle of the ankle down to the bottom of the heel. There are some gentle grooves parallel to each other on the front section of the foot. Its size and characteristics suggest that it could belong to person of a medium height and the floor of building no. 5 and the items on it had survived in very good condition; however, no piece was found that could belong to a statue. In recent years, a piece of a 'rhyton' and several examples of miniature foot models were uncovered in the debris of the EN II settlements at Bademağacı. Another example of this kind of model with life-size dimensions is the 'Shoe-shaped vessel' from the adyton of the Höyücek Temple<sup>25</sup>. The foot model from Bademağacı must have stood in the place where it was found and have been used for a specific purpose. The vertical hole shows that something was inserted into it and that the foot was the base for the item that was inserted into it. The object placed inside it was probably a long piece of wood rounded at the ends and perhaps there was a symbol on the other end of this, the nature of which we have no knowledge. As some of the smaller

<sup>22</sup> Mellaart, *supra* 19; Duru, *supra* 9.

<sup>23</sup> R. Duru, *From 800 BC to 200 BC Six Thousand Years of the Burdur-Antalya Region* (2008) 94 Fig. 155.

<sup>24</sup> These were placed on a string by us, without changing the order in which they were found.

<sup>25</sup> Duru – Umurtak 2005, *supra* 9, 62/1; 101/6.



foot models also have a vertical hole, it seems very likely that most of the foot models had the same function.<sup>26</sup>

### Box Lid

This item found in the Work Area of no. 5 is quadrangular in shape with rounded edges and was made from a very rough paste. The outer surface of this lid, which had been badly damaged by the fire, is plain while the inner surface has grooves and the sides extend outwards – it seems to have been prepared in a way that would enable the lid to rest on the mouth of a box with the same form (Fig. 24). Although none of the boxes from Bademağacı were found together with a lid, some of them can help us to evaluate this item. A shallow baked clay box, oval in shape and with a ledge around the mouth for a lid to be placed on, was found among the mixed finds of EN II; although the dimensions of this box are a bit smaller than those of the lid, it is similar in form<sup>27</sup>. In the EN II/4 settlement a baked clay box quadrangular in shape with rounded corners and a ledge around the mouth was found<sup>28</sup>. These items resemble the wooden boxes from Çatal Höyük level VI, identified by James Mellaart on the basis of their carbonised remains<sup>29</sup>. The lid from Bademağacı also resembles the lid of a wooden box near a burial from Çatal Höyük level VI<sup>30</sup>. Different models of these boxes and vessels in the shape of boxes have been found at such places as the near neighbours of Bademağacı, Höyücek in the Shrine Phase, and in a later period at Hacılar level II and also at settlements in more distant neighbouring regions such as Demircihöyük and Fikirtepe<sup>31</sup>.

### Object with Matting Impression / Pottery Stopper (?)

A disc-shaped baked clay object with a rough matting impression on it (Fig. 25) was found in the Work Area. Looking at the undamaged side of this piece, we can definitely say that it does not belong to the bottom of a vessel. Similar finds from Aşağı Pınar level VI were called stoppers by Mehmet Özdoğan<sup>32</sup>. Many of these stoppers come from an area in which storage pots were found and had impressions left on them from the material used to cover them. They show important similarities to the Bademağacı find<sup>33</sup>.

### Clay Objects

In front of the southern wall of building no. 3, some clay objects with an unknown function were found (Fig. 28). The first of these is a large, heavy 'L' shaped object made of a rough paste with a horizontal hole in the centre (Fig. 26); a similar example to this with a hole pierced from the top was found in the Shrine Phase at Höyücek next to the storage

<sup>26</sup> R. Duru – G. Umurtak, "Bademağacı Kazıları. 2004, 2005 ve 2006 Yılları Çalışma Raporu / Excavations at Bademağacı. Preliminary Report 2004, 2005 and 2006", *Belleten* (in press).

<sup>27</sup> Duru, *supra* 6, Pl. 19/9, 27/2.

<sup>28</sup> R. Duru, "Bademağacı Kazıları 1995 ve 1996 Yılları Çalışma Raporu / Excavations at Bademağacı Preliminary Report, 1995 and 1996", *Belleten* LXI/232, 1998, 726-727 Pl. 16/8, 22/2.

<sup>29</sup> J. Mellaart, "Excavations at Çatal Höyük, 1963", *AnatSt* XIV, 1964, 85 ff Fig. 37/1, 4, 38/4-5, 39/3; Pl. XXIIc-d.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, Pl. XIX/a.

<sup>31</sup> Duru – Umurtak 2005, *supra* 9, 116 Pl. 138/2.

<sup>32</sup> M. Özdoğan, "Marmara Bölgesi Neolitik Çağ Kültürleri", *Türkiyede Neolitik Dönem*. M. Özdoğan - N. Başgelen (eds.) (2007) 419 Fig. 42.

<sup>33</sup> I reiterate my thanks to Prof. Dr. Özdoğan, who allowed me to see some of these items.



boxes<sup>34</sup>. It is thought that these objects were used as weights/weight measures. A heavy conical object made from the same rough paste as the first one (Fig. 27), shows resemblance to the vessel supports from the Shrine Phase and Sancturies Period at Höyücek<sup>35</sup> but, as it was found as a single item, it probably had a different function .

An object shaped like an animal horn (?) made from rough paste (Fig. 29) was found in a large box on the eastern side of building no. 3. This was probably attached to the wall and fell down with the walls of the building and must have fallen onto the storage box<sup>36</sup>.

### Sling Stones

In a corner of the Work Area, where the grinding stones, mortars and smoothed medium size stones were found, around 500 sling stones about 4-5 cm in length were found in good condition; they were made from a very sparsely tempered paste light brown in colour but had taken on a reddish colour due to having been well baked in the fire (Fig. 30)<sup>37</sup>.

### Stone Finds

#### A Marble Plate

An oval miniature marble vessel found in the Work Area (Fig. 31), was extremely well made. Small plates and jars were found in the Bademağacı EN II levels. In the more developed phases of the Early Neolithic sophisticated forms produced with great expertise were in use at the centres where excavations have been carried out - Höyücek<sup>38</sup>, Kuruçay<sup>39</sup> and Hacilar<sup>40</sup> - but it seems that this production was later terminated.

### Hand Axes

A group of hand axes made of dark grey stone and consisting of two types, those with a wide mouth and those with a narrow mouth, were found in the Work Area (Fig. 32). The mouth and base sections of these hand axes were worn down due to use over a long period.

### Grinding Stones

Grinding stones were found *in situ* outside the eastern door of building no. 3 (Figs. 5, 34), on the path leading to Barn no. 4 (Figs. 4, 7), scattered in groups throughout the no. 5 Work Area (Figs. 30, 33) and near the oven of building no. 6 (Figs. 8-9). The grinding units found outside building no. 3 (Fig. 34) and in building no. 6 on the eastern side of the oven (Fig. 9) are similar to the earlier grinding units of EN II/3 house no. 1<sup>41</sup> but seem to have

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., 113 Pl. 134/2.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., 112-113 Pl. 133/5-7, 134/1.

<sup>36</sup> Umurtak, *supra* 4, 3.

<sup>37</sup> For more information on the function of sling stones, how they were stored, the situations in which they were found and a comparison with the examples from Bademağacı see M. Korfmann – F. Dedeoğlu – M. Erdalkıran, "Ulucak Höyük, Neolitik Dönem Sapan Taneleri", Refik Duru'ya Armağan/Studies in Honour of Refik Duru. G. Umurtak – Ş. Dönmez – A. Yurtsever (eds.) (2007) 41-50

<sup>38</sup> Duru - Umurtak 2005, *supra* 9, 127-128 Pl. 150-153.

<sup>39</sup> Duru, *supra* 9, Pl. 222/6-7, 231/4.

<sup>40</sup> Mellaart, *supra* 19, Fig. 159-164; Pl. CXII-CXIV.

<sup>41</sup> Duru, *supra* 28, 715 Lev. 4/2, 7/1.

reached a level of expertise due to the experience of traditional daily life and use. In this system, the grinding stone was placed on a slanted platform made of *kerpiç* and plastered over, enabling the crushed grain to spill easily onto the cover or container placed on the floor. The same system must have been formed with stones placed one on top of the other outside the eastern wall of building no. 3.

## Evaluation

The architectural plan and structural characteristics described above, along with the non-portable objects found in these buildings as well as the position of the small finds of the building group, are not adequate to explain the function of these buildings. For example the fact that a Mother Goddess figurine and female head was found in building no. 3 shows that this was not an ordinary house but an important building but it would not be right to say that this building had a sacred function just on this basis.

At Bademağacı, even in the EN II/3 settlement where so far nine houses have been uncovered in good condition and a relatively larger area of which has been excavated, no building with an unusual plan that would suggest it could have been a shrine has been found. Therefore we have no knowledge of any temple that may have existed at Bademağacı. On the other hand, there is only one example of the multi-plan Höyücek Shrine consisting of five related areas; a house, a room with a sacred function, an adyton, a barn and a work area<sup>42</sup>. We should mention, however, that the plan of the Shrine at Höyücek was a standard model, not any different from the other buildings. For example, in the Shrine at Höyücek, only the special and unique non-portable items like the “bath tub” area and the miniature stairs found in the Adyton made it different from the other buildings. Apart from the Adyton, buildings no. 1, 2, 3 and 5 are not any different in plan from the traditional houses of the region<sup>43</sup>. On the basis of this, it would not be appropriate to expect a Shrine model different in plan from the normal house architecture at Bademağacı.

The same situation is true of Hacılar level VI, a settlement that gives us very good information about these periods. J. Mellaart says it is difficult to distinguish private houses, shrines and workshops from one another in settlement VI and suggests, on the basis of such finds as small figurines and well-made statuettes found in the buildings of this period, that this could have been a domestic cult. Mellaart also draws attention to a group of three buildings in the centre of this settlement and, as a large number of statuettes were found in Houses Q3, Q4, Q5 and a considerable number of them had not yet been fired, he suggests that these buildings were for the purpose of meeting the spiritual needs of the people, and that it was a production centre for statuettes and perhaps also for pottery<sup>44</sup>.

As we have determined in the Burdur-Antalya Region<sup>45</sup>, it is possible to say that in other centres on the Anatolian Plateau in this period there was no special shrine or tem-

<sup>42</sup> Duru – Umurtak 2005, *supra* 9.

<sup>43</sup> *supra* 3.

<sup>44</sup> Mellaart, *supra* 19, Fig. 21.

<sup>45</sup> At another important centre in the region, Kuruçay, the houses in the level 12 settlement had stone foundations and in the level 11 settlement a defence system with towers, unique and well developed for this period, was uncovered. It is thought that the northern sections of both of these settlements had broken off and fallen down the slope as a result of floods from the mountains on the eastern side. Therefore, we are unfortunately unable to learn anything about the Sacred Buildings: Duru, *supra* 9.



ple model and buildings with a sacred function were no different in plan to the ordinary houses and Çatal Höyük<sup>46</sup> can be given as an example of this.

In the building group under discussion in this article (Fig. 1), areas no. 3, 4 and 5 are connected to each other by door passages; this planning shows that they had a common function. There is no doubt that this complex consisting of three adjacent buildings and located in the centre of the settlement had a special function. As the western side of this building group has not yet been excavated, the relationship between this group and building no. 6 is not clear. However, we think that this building could have been linked in some way with the group. Also, the paint decorated piece of a wall mentioned above and the Mother Goddess figurine were found in the area where the door of building no. 3 opens up on the eastern side and the six storage boxes were next to the barn on the outside shows that the building group extended eastwards in this period but, due to this section having been damaged, this extension did not survive to the present day. There is no tradition of wall paintings in the Bademağacı Neolithic settlements; apart from some traces of red paint found in the debris of house no. 8 of level EN II/3, this is the only example of a piece of wall with motifs on it. In addition, female figurines are not commonly found among the items of the EN II period houses. There is no doubt that this complex located in the centre of the settlement had a special function.

In view of this, building no. 3 with a traditional house plan, the Barn, the Work Area and the Mother Goddess representations, ritual objects such as the shoe model, along with the painted wall piece found in them seem to suggest, when taken as a whole, a magical meaning; they must represent the hidden power of nature and be related to the desire for the blessings of female fertility and agricultural production. In later millennia, in the developed cities of the Near East, glorious temples were built that also had barns and work areas and represented real life as well as the World of the Gods<sup>47</sup>.

<sup>46</sup> J. Mellaart, "Excavations at Çatal Höyük. First Preliminary Report, 1961", *AnatSt* XII, 1962, 41-65; Mellaart 1963, supra 20, 43-103; idem, "Excavations at Çatal Höyük, 1963. Third Preliminary Report", *AnatSt* XIV, 1964, 39-129; idem, "Excavations at Çatal Höyük, 1965. Fourth Preliminary Report", *AnatSt* XVI, 1966, 165-191.

<sup>47</sup> I extend my thanks to my colleague Miss Angela Bell (MA İstanbul University) for translating this article into English.



## Öz

### Bademağacı Erken Neolitik II/2 yerleşmesinden bir grup yapı ve buluntuları üzerine bazı gözlemler

Bademağacı'nın Erken Neolitik (EN) II/2 yerleşmesinde son yıllarda kazılan bir yapı grubunun höyükte şimdiye kadar karşılaşılmayan bir düzende konumlandırıldığı, bu yapılardan ele geçen buluntuların ise, sıradan konutlarda rastlananlardan daha farklı olduğu görülmektedir. Bu makalede söz konusu farklı buluntuların tanıtımı ve bunlarla ilgili değerlendirmeler yer almaktadır.

Höyük'te Erken Neolitik I/9 yapı katı (ENÇ I/9) Ana Toprak üzerine kurulan ilk yerleşmedir. ENÇ I/9 ve onu izleyen dört yerleşim döneminde olası yapılara ait kalıntılara rastlanmamış ancak, yanık tabanların izlenmesiyle yerleşim dönemlerini belirlemek mümkün olmuştur. Bademağacı'nın bu en erken yerleşmelerinde ağaç-dal örgülü ve çamur sıvalı bir yapı tekniğinin söz konusu olduğu düşünülmelidir. Erken Neolitik Çağ'ın görece gelişmiş evrelerine ait yerleşmelerde, mimarlık tercihlerinde önemli gelişmeler olduğu, saz, dal ve çamur gibi hafif malzemelerle duvar yapma geleneğinin değişerek, ilk kez EN II/4 yapı katında kerpiçin temel mimarlık ögesi haline geldiği anlaşılmaktadır. Ne var ki, kazılarda bu gelişimin aşamalarını izlemek pek de mümkün olmamaktadır. EN II döneminde evler bazen hafif yamuk, dikdörtgen-dörtgen planlıdır, duvarlar ortalama 60 cm genişliğindedir ve genellikle köşeler dik açılı değil yumuşak bir dönüşle oluşturulmuştur. Evlerin ölçüleri (içte) 7 x 4.5 veya 5 x 3.5 m arasında değişmektedir. Bir tanesi dışında tek odalı olan evlerde genellikle yaklaşık 1 m genişlikteki kapılar uzun duvarların ortalarına açılıyor ve kapının karşısına gelen duvarın önüne at nalı planlı fırınlar yerleştiriliyordu. Basık bir çatı ile kapatılmış olan bu fırınların çoğunlukla önlerinde, kenarları kille yükseltilmiş, yarım daire şeklinde küllüklerinin bulunduğu görülmektedir. Bazı evlerin içinde, yatmak için hazırlanmış 15-25 cm yükseklikte platformlar, kilden hazırlanmış ateş kutuları 'mangal' ve el değirmenleri ile öğütme yapılan işlik yerleri bulunuyordu. Evlerin tabanı bastırılmış topraktandı; tabanlar ve duvarlar sıvalı idi. Kapı kasaları, kapı eşikleri ve çatıyı taşımaya yardımcı olan dikmeler ahşaptan yapılmıştır. Çatılar sağlam durumda günümüze ulaşmamakla birlikte, kalıntılara bakılarak, ahşap, dal, toprak gibi malzeme kullanılarak fazla ağır olmayan düz dam şeklinde yapıldıkları tahmin edilebilir. Kısaca tanımlamaya çalıştığımız bu geleneğin bölgenin Höyücek ve Hacılar gibi merkezlerinde çok uzun zaman uygulandığı söylenebilir. Bu bölgede aynı çağlarda, konutlardan farklı planlanmış kutsal nitelikli yapıların, başka bir anlatımla bir tapınak mimarlığı anlayışının da olmadığını görüyoruz.

Bu yazıya konu olan sıradışı yapılar höyüğün kuzey yarısında C 4 / III 5 ve IV 1 karelerinde ortaya çıkan birbirine yapışık durumdaki 3, 4, 5 no'lu yapılar ile bunların batı komşusu olan C 3 / III 5 karesindeki 6 no'lu yapıdır (Res. 1, 3).

Grubun kuzeydeki ilk yapısı olan 3 no'lu yapıya, kapı kanatlarının sürgülü (!) olduğu anlaşılan birincisi doğuda diğeri güneyde açılmış iki kapıdan girilmekteydi. Yapının doğu girişinin yanında ve kuzey duvarına bitişik, 1 m genişliğinde ve 20 cm yüksekliğinde bir platform yeralıyordu (Res. 4-6). Güney duvarda açılmış olan kapı ise, yapı grubunun ambar olduğu anlaşılan 4 no'lu ikinci mekânına çok iyi sıvanmış durumdaki iki basamakla geçişi sağlıyordu. Ambar'ın (Res. 4, 7) doğu yarısının 12 tane kutu ile doldurulduğu görülmektedir. (Res. 7). Ambar'dan bir kapı ile geçilen güneyden bitişik mekân tarafımızdan İşlik olarak adlandırılmıştır. Bu işliğin yağmur vs gibi dış etkilere korunması gerekeceği için, üstünün bir çatı ile örtülü, yani kapalı bir olduğunda kuşku yoktur.

Bu üçlü yapı grubundaki ambarlardan başka, 3 ve 4 no'lu yapıların duvarlarının dış tarafında, 4 no'lu Ambar'ın doğu duvarının devamına bitleştirilmiş 6 kutudan oluşan bir dizi daha bulunmaktadır. Bu kutuların da burada olan bir kapalı mekânın içine yapıldıklarını, sözkonusu yapının günümüze kadar ulaşmadığını sanıyoruz. Üçlü yapı grubunun batısında kalan 6 no'lu mekân, geleneksel dörtgen planda yapılmış tek odalı bir yapı olup, tümüyle kazı alanının içinde kaldığından, ayrıntıları ile çok iyi durumda gün ışığına çıkarılmıştır (Res. 8-9).

Yukarıda mimarlık özellikleri tanıtılan yapı grubunda ele geçen çanak çömlek Bademağacı'nın geleneksel Devetüyü Renkli Mal Grubuna aittir. Bunlar, basit, karın kesiminde karşılıklı bir çift ip delikli tutamakları olan derin çanaklar ile içe doğru kapanan ağızlı küçük boy çömleklerden oluşmaktadır (Res. 11-18). Yapı grubunun doğusunda yanğın sonucu oluşmuş bir yıkıntı içinde kırmızı boya bezemeli bir duvar parçası (Res. 2, 10) ile bir ana Tanrıça Figürini (Res. 19); 3 no'lu yapıda bir diğer Ana Tanrıça figürini (Res. 20) ile pişmiş topraktan bir kadın başı (Res. 21) ele geçmiştir. İşlik'te bulunan 36-37 numara ölçülerinde kilden ayak modeli (Res. 23) dışında diğer pişmiş toprak buluntular, kilden boncuk dizisi (Res. 22), bir kutu kapağı (Res. 24), bazı ilginç nesneler (Res. 25-29), sapan taneleri (Res. 30) olarak sayılabilir. Ayrıca bu yapı grubunda, mermerden minyatür bir tabak (Res. 31) ile el baltaları (Res. 32) ve öğütme taşları (Res. 7-9, 33-34) ele geçmiştir.

Sonuç olarak, geleneksel bir konut planı veren 3 no'lu yapı, Ambar, İşlik ve bunların içinde ele geçen Ana Tanrıça betimleri, pabuç modeli gibi ritual öğelerin yanı sıra boyalı duvar parçasının, hep birlikte sıradışı, majik bir anlamı olduğu; doğanın gizemli gücünü, doğurganlığı, üretimi, bereketi sakladıkları düşünülmelidir. Daha sonraki binyıllarda Önyasya'nın gelişkin kentlerinde görkemli tapınaklar da, ambarları ve işlikleri ile Tanrılar Dünyası'nın yanıbaşında gerçek hayatı temsil etmişlerdir.

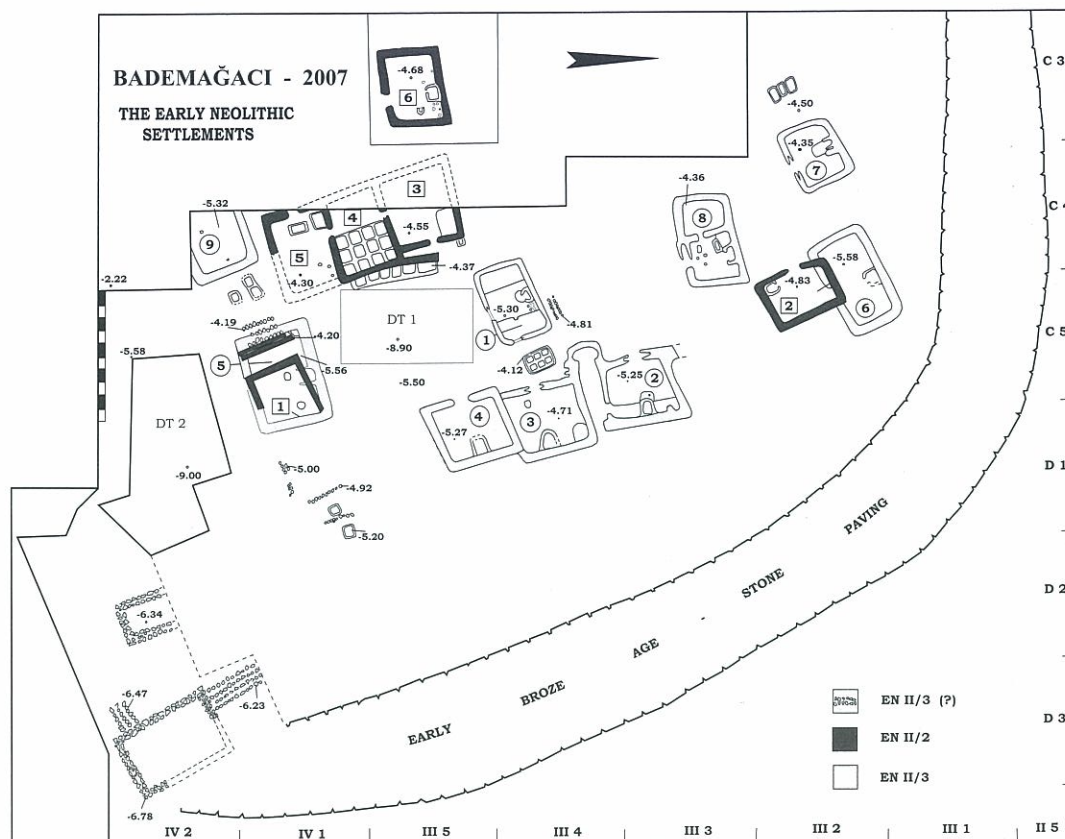


Fig. 1

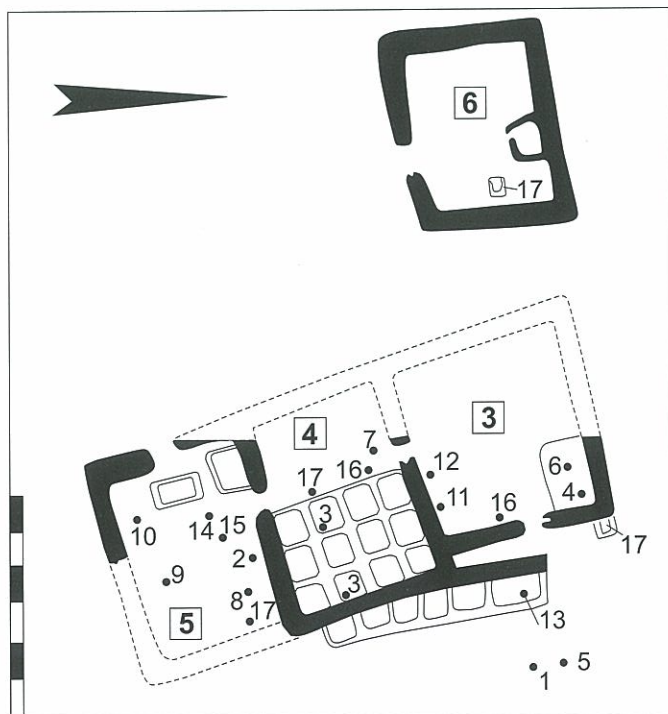


Fig. 2

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 (Fig. 10)                 | 9 (Fig. 24)          |
| 2 (Fig. 11, 12, 13, 14, 16) | 10 (Fig. 25)         |
| 3 (Fig. 15, 17, 18)         | 11 (Fig. 26, 28)     |
| 4 (Fig. 20)                 | 12 (Fig. 27, 28)     |
| 5 (Fig. 19)                 | 13 (Fig. 29)         |
| 6 (Fig. 21)                 | 14 (Fig. 30)         |
| 7 (Fig. 22)                 | 15 (Fig. 31)         |
| 8 (Fig. 23)                 | 16 (Fig. 32)         |
|                             | 17 (Fig. 7-9, 33-34) |





Fig. 3



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



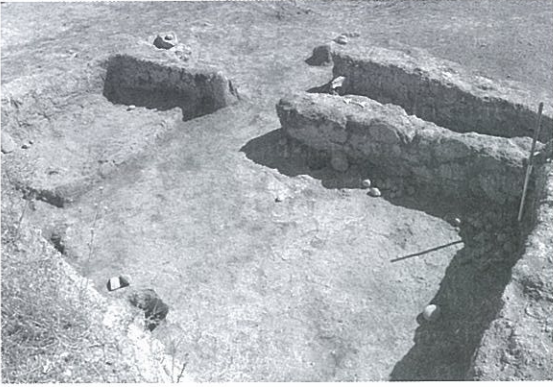


Fig. 6



Fig. 7

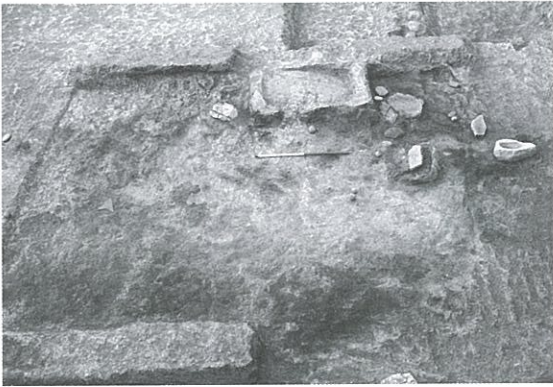


Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

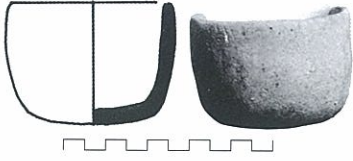


Fig. 11

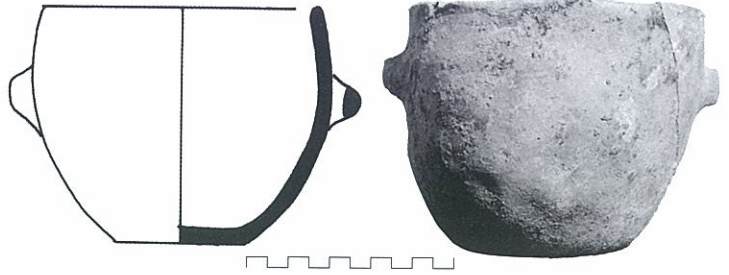


Fig. 12

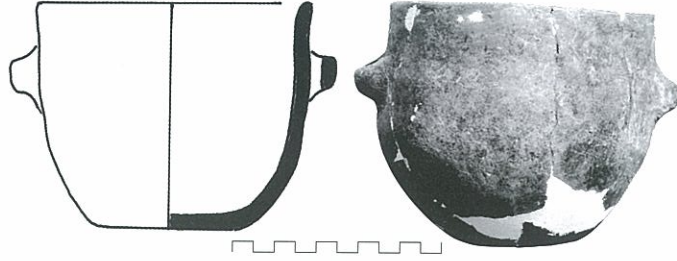


Fig. 13

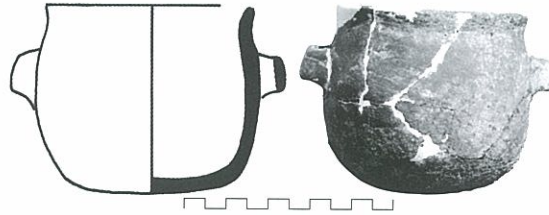


Fig. 14



Fig. 15

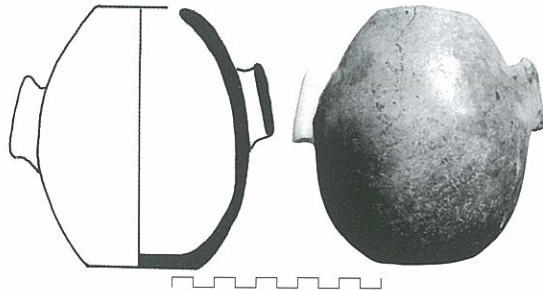


Fig. 16

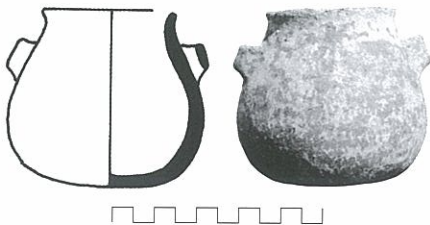


Fig. 17



Fig. 18



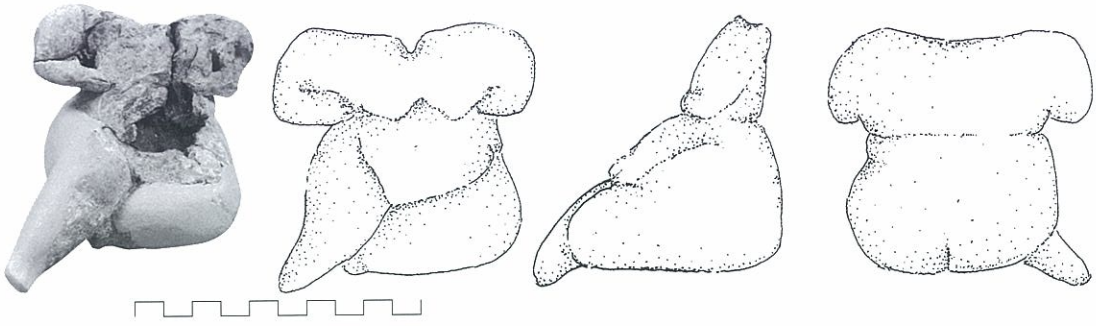


Fig. 19

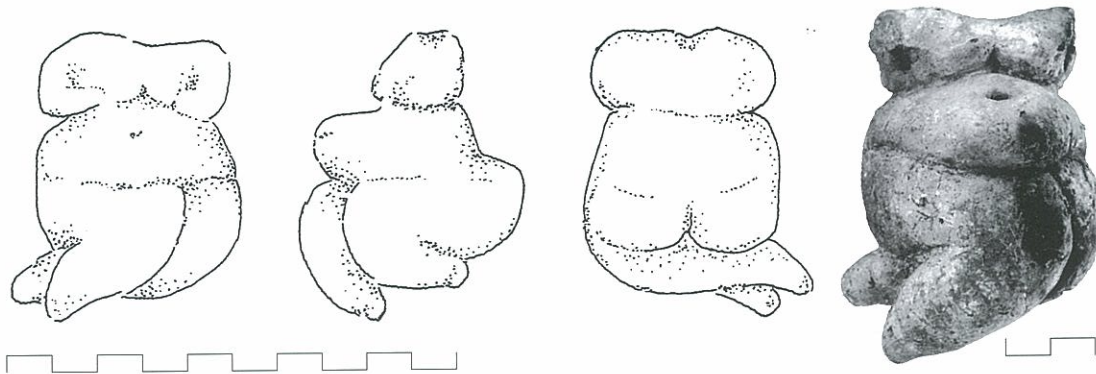


Fig. 20

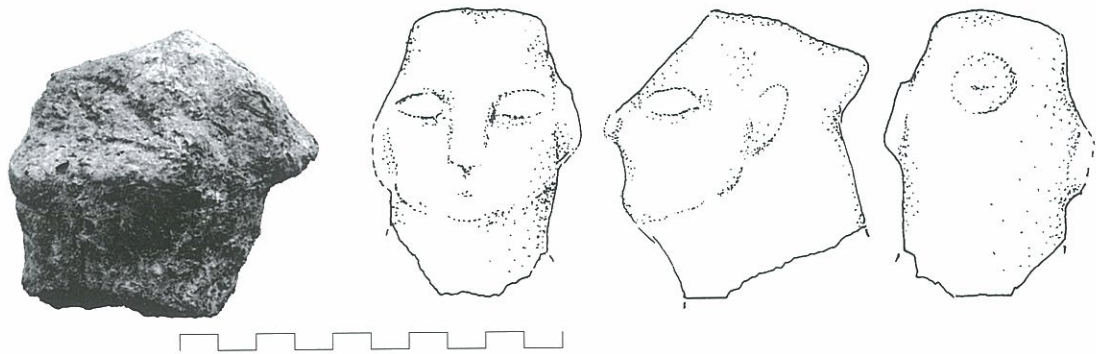


Fig. 21

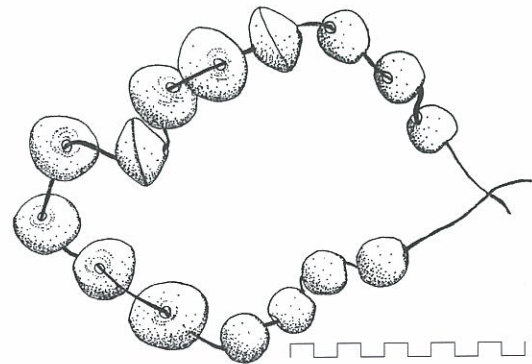


Fig. 22

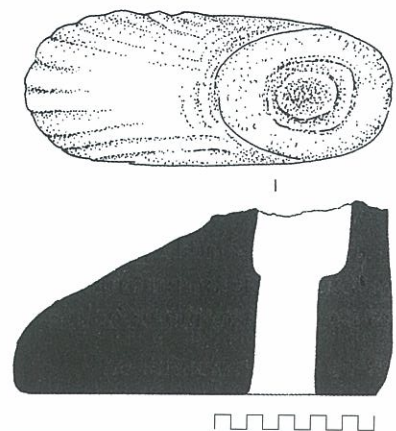


Fig. 23

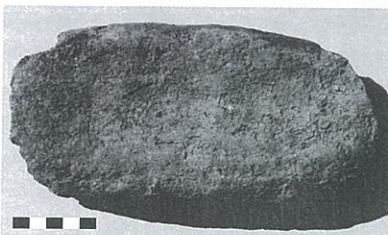


Fig. 24



Fig. 25



Fig. 26



Fig. 27



Fig. 28



Fig. 29



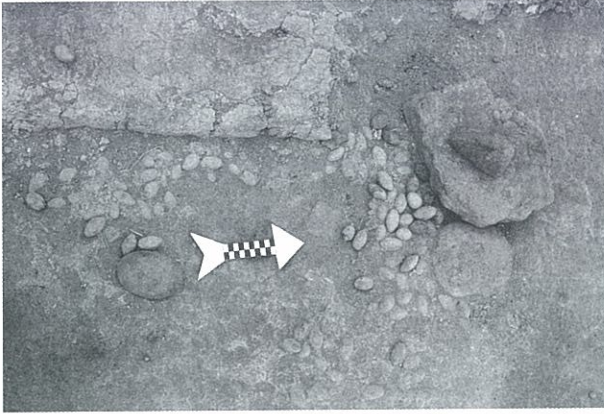


Fig. 30

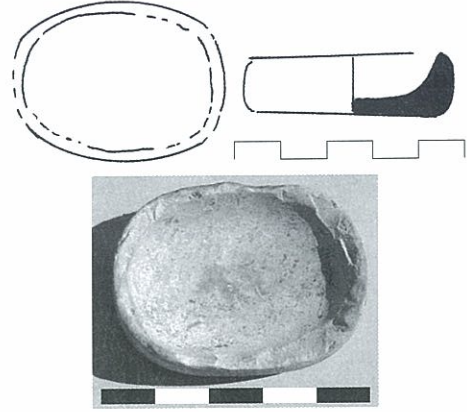


Fig. 31



Fig. 32



Fig. 33



Fig. 34

