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Published and distributed by *ex oriente*, Berlin
© *ex oriente*, Berlin - ISSN 1434-6990

NEO- LITHICS 1/01

A Newsletter of Southwest Asian Lithics Research

Editorial

This is a meagre issue of *Neo-Lithics*. As already discussed in our last editorial, we have had problems receiving enough contributions to maintain the newsletter at the level of the past several years. From the reactions we had on the last editorial, it is clear that this is not a problem of acceptance – *Neo-Lithics* is well accepted and respected among our colleagues. Like other newsletters and journals that have had to pass through periods of thinner issues, we think that we simply have to proceed with what we receive, wait for better times, and reduce the number of issues back to two per year. Three issues were too ambitious, hopefully two are not.

Since human communication has been dramatically altered by the digital revolution, one is tempted to act as if this has also altered the productivity of mind. More possibilities of exchange have been established, and more communications can be processed within seconds. These technical facilities have created pressures, desperate publication constraints, and – to be frank – repetitious information or simply junk. Publishing a concept at these lower quality levels has not always served the concept well. Editors are pressed to be lion tamers in this circus, but at the same time they are responsible that it goes on.

We would not like *Neo-Lithics* to become an agent of such high-pressured development, which has even reached levels that hinder real research, for which little time remains. Serving the growing number of conferences (almost a full-time job) takes time from reading the publications of colleagues or the preparation of one's own artifact analysis for a final publication. And, because having no time to work with the artifacts themselves, there is a tendency to proceed with guesswork about artifacts.

But *Neo-Lithics* wants to serve research discussion on a level not guaranteed by journals. We especially invite younger colleagues to present their ideas generated in their fieldwork or labs without fear in order to get support and assistance through public or private discussion. Their professors and senior colleagues are asked to encourage them to do so. The Neolithic house is a vivid place, open your door or pass by its kitchen of ideas.

Congratulations and best wishes to the organizers of the 4th Conference on PPN Chipped Lithic Industries, which takes place soon!

Hans Georg K. Gebel and Gary O. Rollefson

PS: In the future we will publish the authors' email addresses within the title area of the contribution.

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Deadline for the coming issue of *Neo-Lithics* is **Nov. 15th, 2001** (next deadline: May 15th, 2002)

Please, note that the text of contributions should be send as an email attachment directly to Gary O. Rollefson (rollefo@whitman.edu, Dept. of Anthropology, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA, 99362 USA). Illustrations should be sent separately by snailmail to H.G.K. Gebel at the Berlin address (Free University of Berlin, Hüttenweg 7, D-14195 Berlin, Email: hggebel@zedat.fu-berlin.de).

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The Summer 2000 Season at Fıstıklı Höyük

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Introduction

The summer 2000 season at Fıstıklı Höyük was the last one at this 0.5 ha site. This Early Halaf settlement is situated on the left bank of the Euphrates some 25 km upstream from Carchemish in the upper reaches of the Karkamish Dam area. A first season of excavations took place in 1999, when a total of seven excavation units (A - G) were opened. This year, we opened four new units, H through L.

Our goals for this year were twofold. First, we aimed to gather data on the distribution of artifacts associated with daily activities in order to assess the size and composition of households. We work under the assumption that recurring sets of artifact associations define households as economic units rather than equating them with architectural units such as tholoi. Thus, a household may consist of several tholoi and/or other buildings. Our second goal was to investigate in detail the span of use of the site, which, according to last year's results, was very brief.

In units H and L, sterile soil was reached, with H having a much longer sequence than the shallow accumulation in L. In units I and K, the stratigraphy has a minimal depth of 1.5 m. Sizeable burial pits from Hellenistic/Roman age cut through layers in units H, I and K.

Site Structure

This year's excavations provided us with data that nicely complement what we found in 1999. Two of the four trenches (H and K) were situated at the northern and eastern periphery of the site (Fig. 1). None of them contained substantial remains of living structures. However, large lengthy earthworks were found in I and K, built from pisé and bell-shaped in section. One runs WSW-ENE, the other NNW-SSE. Their function is not entirely clear, but they may have served as protective devices against flooding from the adjacent hills or the Euphrates, which probably flowed nearby at the time of the Halaf settlement. A small channel at the eastern edge of unit K may have had a similar function - water removal - and parallels finds from last year (Pollock *et al.*, n.d.).

Two of the units, H and I, also contained several large ovens with a circular ground plan and domed superstructure (floor diameter between 0.80 and 1.20m). The walls of these installations were ca. 10 to 15cm thick, and the interior was filled with ash and wall debris. In several instances, fireplaces of rocks were superimposed on the destroyed kilns indicating strong functional continuity in the use of particular areas. Particularly in units H and I, we discovered sequences of outside surfaces that were densely littered with many different kinds of artifacts. It is too early to decide conclusively whether the objects on these surfaces were simply trash dumped at the edge of the site or just debris related to work that had taken place there. The main importance of these findings lies in their potential for delimiting households through an analysis of activities.

As the overall plan of our excavations shows (Fig. 2), open areas occupied a lot of space at the village of Fıstıklı

Höyük. Compared to slightly earlier sites such as Sabi Abyad 6-4, this is somewhat unexpected (cf. Verhoeven 2000: Fig. 2). However, this may be due to the short-lived occupation at Fıstıklı Höyük: as a settlement ages, empty spaces are typically built up with additional structures.

At a relatively late point in the occupational history of the site, units H and K were used as dumping areas. The spaces west and east of the earthworks in unit K were filled with ash and debris, and finally turned into a wide, shallow pit with a cooking installation containing a coarse clay stand, a bottom portion of a vessel, a calcareous disk and large quantities of ash. In unit H, a deep pit was cut through the earlier surfaces and filled with debris, including substantial quantities of ash.

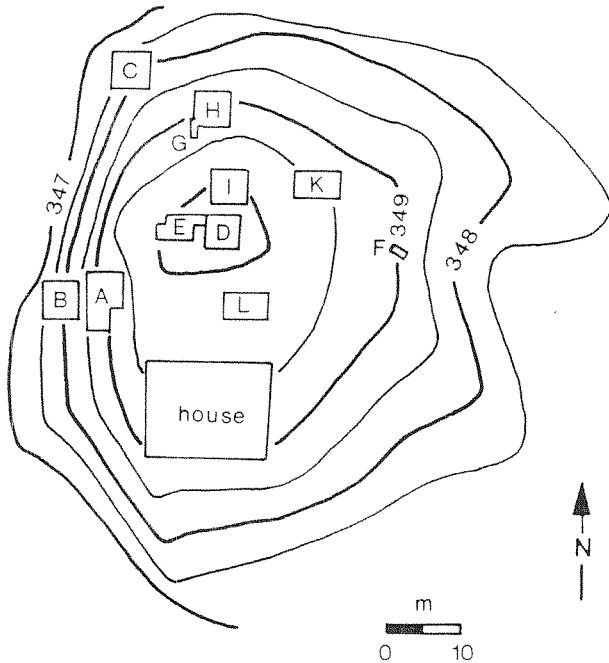


Fig. 1. Plan of Fıstıklı Höyük with location of trenches.

Architecture

The Halaf architecture exposed this year consisted of four recognizable types of structures: the already mentioned earthworks and large ovens, a cell-plan building and two tholoi: Tholos IV in unit L and Tholos V in unit I (Fig. 3). Furthermore, a few pieces of walls were found that were too fragmentary to assign to a ground plan of a building type. While the earthworks seem to have been built entirely of packed mud, the tholos and the cell plan building had large calcareous stones as foundations and a pisé superstructure. This is also the case for one of the ovens. In unit K, in an early phase, a wall was found that was built of alternating layers of pisé and thin bands of mortar.

Unit L, on the summit of the mound to the southeast of the large Tholos I excavated in 1999, contained a tholos of ca. 4m diameter with internal installations such as hearths, a pit and a bench. Two large calcareous disks were found leaning up against the tholos wall inside the building. This building, tholos IV, was associated with a cell-plan structure and provides a good parallel to a similar combination of buildings in unit D (Bernbeck and Pollock 1999: Fig. 2) and to configurations at Yarim Tepe II (Merpert and Munchaev 1993: 140, Fig. 8.8). The structures in unit L were erected on sterile soil and had several internal surfaces. In contrast to the outside surfaces found in units H and I, those in the two buildings had been kept clean. The cell-plan building was modified in a late phase, when a new square room of moderate dimensions replaced the larger initial structure. In the late phase, this structure contained a stone pestle, a fragment of a calcareous vessel, as well as pottery and chipped stone implements, suggesting that it may have been a place for food preparation.

Artifacts

Artifact assemblages from the 2000 season were richer than those from 1999. This is due to the excavation of outside surfaces and trash areas with high densities of sherds, lithics and other items. The Halaf pottery shapes, among them straight-sided bowls and a large number of tall-necked jars (with the necks made separately and joined only carelessly to the body of the vessel), corroborate last year's dating of the site to the Early Halaf period. Among the sherds from unit K is a piece that contains the representation of a bird and a human being with raised arms (Fig. 4).

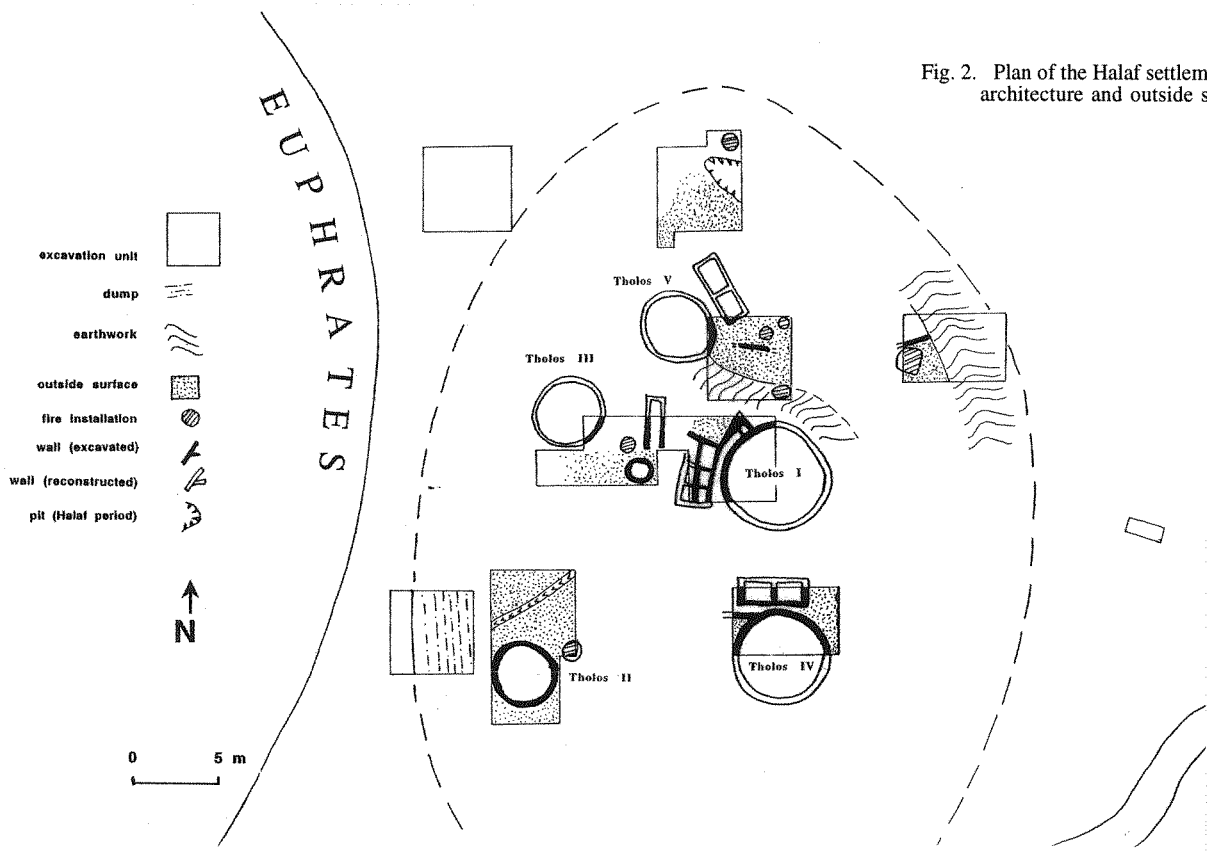


Fig. 2. Plan of the Halaf settlement with architecture and outside surfaces.

The chipped stone industry includes a majority of items made of local chert as well as a small quantity of obsidian. There is ample evidence for local production of stone tools, with cores and other types of debitage present alongside tools. Tools include drills (several made of thick obsidian flakes), denticulates, transverse arrowheads, burins, and sickle blades.

A considerable number of *jetons*, small stone and ceramic disks, were found that were probably used as mnemonic devices (Costello 2000). Stone examples are almost exclusively unmodified river pebbles that seem to have been selected for their size and shape. The ceramic jetons are chipped from sherds to create round disks. So far, the chronological and spatial distribution of these items beyond the Halaf period is largely undocumented, although similar artifacts seem to occur in LPPNB contexts at 'Ain el-Kerkh, for example (Arimura 1999: Fig. 2).

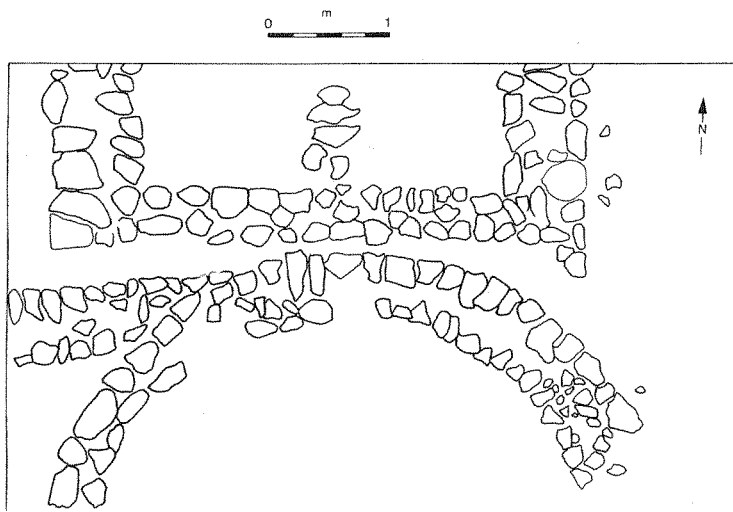


Fig. 3. Plan of Tholos IV and associated Cell Plan Building in Unit L

This year, eleven seals were recovered from Halaf levels. They exhibit a wide range of shapes, including square, clover-shaped, round, and irregular amulet-shaped. While most were made of a dark green to black stone, there are also examples of yellow sandstone and an unidentified reddish stone. Designs are exclusively geometric, and in this respect they are fundamentally different from those found at earlier Sabi Abyad 6-4 (Akkermans and Duistermaat 1997), resembling instead later seals from Late to Post-Halaf contexts (cf. Campbell and Carter 1999: Fig. 14, Nos. 1-2; Yener *et al.* 2000: Fig. 23.2 and 4). Only one sealing attests to the sporadic use of such items to make impressions. Interestingly, most of the seals were found in the peripheral areas of the site in trash contexts.

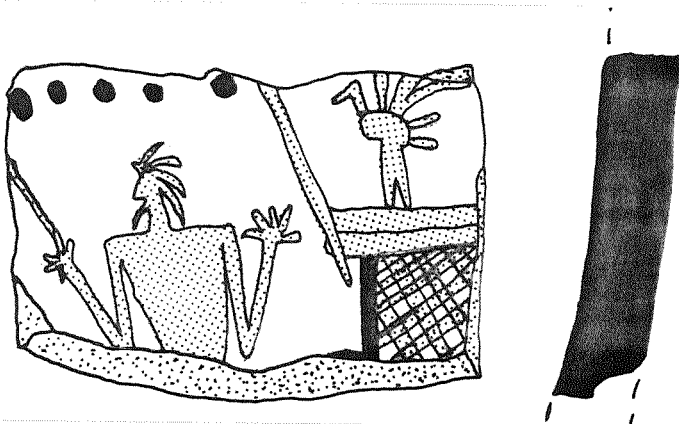


Fig. 4. Sherd with representation of a human being with raised arms (1:1).

In the 1999 season, we had identified worked calcareous stone disks (Pollock *et al.* n.d.). This year many more items of the same type were discovered, some with diameters up to 30

cm, others as little as 5 cm. The larger ones were often associated with pots or installations that can be related to cooking. We cannot specify the function of these items any further until we have completed analysis of contexts and artifact associations. Other objects made from calcareous stone or gypsum include small cones with rounded tops and semi-circular and pyramidal items.

Representations of animals and humans come in two distinct types. Animals occurred mostly as animal shaped ceramic vessels, whereas human beings were represented by small, unpainted clay figurines fired at low temperatures.

Several small disk- and ball-shaped pieces of clay were found; these could potentially have been tokens of some sorts. Also among these finds was a textile impression.

We discovered substantial quantities of animal bone. Identification will require detailed analysis, but preliminary examination indicates that sheep/goat, cattle, fish and crabs are represented. Combined with a good yield of plant remains (both wood charcoal and seeds from flotation samples), this will allow a detailed reconstruction of the subsistence basis of the households present at this small Halaf hamlet.

Conclusion

After a study season in the summer of 2001, we will begin the task of identifying spatially recurrent patterns of artifact associations in order to gain better knowledge about the socio-economic structure of the site. A preliminary assessment, based on first impressions, is that Fıstıklı Höyük was a site with a small number of widely spaced tholoi at its center and a northern periphery that was used for activities involving ovens and perhaps artifact production. The site was located on a small natural mound at the eastern edge of the Euphrates valley that had to be protected from periodic flooding.

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An Epipaleolithic Occurrence at the Site of Ain Miri, Northern Israel

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Introduction

The site of Ain Miri is located in the upper Galilee at the meeting point of Nahal Dishon and Nahal Tzivon. The site is situated at 560 masl, and lies in a valley rich in water sources surrounded by mountain ridges (Fig. 1). In the early 1970s a test excavation (1 x 1m) indicated Epipaleolithic and Neolithic finds (Ronen *et al.* 1974). We conducted a systematic survey in the area in 1998 and a small-scale excavation in 1999 (Area E). The assemblage presented here is from a test pit of one square meter to a depth of 40 cm. Excavation levels were 5cm thick, and the sediment was dry-sieved through a 2.4 mm mesh.

This paper will concentrate on the Epipaleolithic flint industry, although the flint assemblage contains a Neolithic component as well, which will be the subject of a separate report. Two lunates were found that may indicate Natufian or PPNA presence. All flint finds are presented in Table 1. The discussion concentrates only on the Epipaleolithic component of the assemblage – *i.e.*, bladelet cores and microliths.

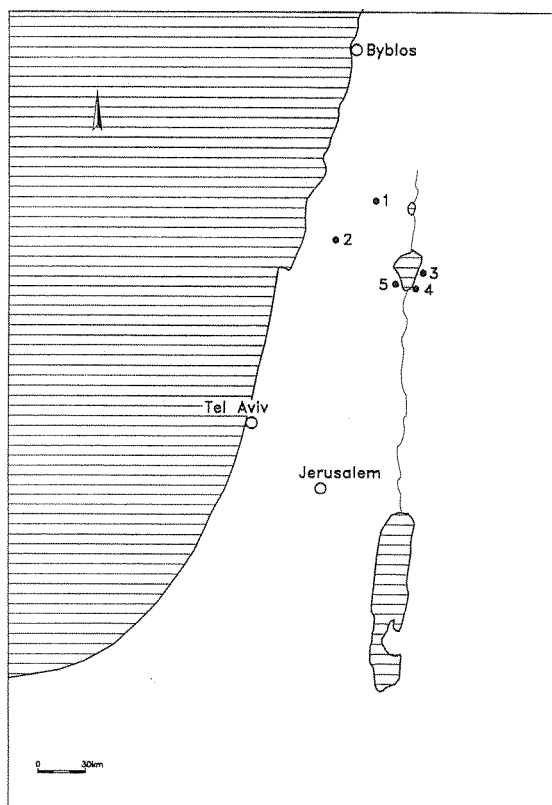


Fig. 1. Geometric Kebaran sites in northern Israel: 1. Ain Miri; 2. Hayonim Terrace; 3. Ein Gev III; 4. Haon III; 5. Ohalo I.

Table 1. The flint assemblage from Ain Miri (Area E).

Debitage type	n	%
Primary element, flake	55	1.1
Primary element, blade	32	0.7
Flake	432	9.0
Blade	98	2.0
Bladelet	413	8.6
Core trimming element	70	1.5
Core	44	0.9
Tool	381	7.9
Burin spall	19	0.4
Microburin technique	4	0.1
Polished spall	2	0.0
Chip	2612	54.4
Chunk	641	13.3
Total	4803	100.0

Cores

Area E yielded 44 cores, of which two are blade cores (one naviform), 22 flake cores and 20 bladelet cores. We assume that the bladelet cores are Epipaleolithic. Single platform cores are dominant in this group (n=17), and the cores are relatively wide. A few of the cores were modified at the base or back. Only five cores are narrow. These are mainly made on narrow blanks or nodules. Two bladelet cores have two striking platforms, and in one of them the platforms are opposed. One bladelet core has three striking platforms. The presence of microburins (Fig. 2:1-2) is worthy of note.

Tools

In all, 381 tools were found (Table 2) of which 166 are microliths (Table 3). Some of the geometric microliths are wider than 9 mm. However, these seem to be an integral part of the geometric microliths by their shape and raw material.

Table 2. Tools from Ain Miri (Area E).

Tool Type	n	%
Scraper	8	2.1
Burin	7	1.8
Retouched flake	42	11.0
Retouched blade	20	5.2
Notch/denticulate	28	7.3
Awl	16	4.2
Truncation	5	1.3
Biface	1	0.3
Arrowhead	5	1.3
Microlith	166	43.6
Varia	20	5.2
Broken items	63	16.5
Total	381	100.0

Geometric Microliths

Trapezes –Rectangles. Seven rectangles (6-9 mm wide) (Fig. 2: 3-5) and four trapezes (15-32 mm long and about 5 mm wide) were found. In addition, 16 asymmetrical trapezes were found (11-35 mm long and 5-11mm wide, most of them in the range of 8-10mm width). In almost all of these, one end is truncated at 90°, while the opposite is truncated at a different angle, (usually at 100°-110°) (Fig. 2: 7-9). Additionally, one proto-rectangle was found.

Broken rectangles. This group includes 38 backed bladelets with a straight truncation (90°) at one end. The other end is broken. The width of the broken rectangles varies between 5-10 mm. Some might be defined as proto-rectangles (Fellner 1995: 131; Valla 1989: 260).

Broken Backed and truncated bladelets/ Broken trapezes?. This group includes 34 backed bladelets with an oblique truncation at one end. The other end is broken. Most of the truncations are at an angle of 100°-110°. Only four are truncated at an angle of 135°. These probably represent trapezes and asymmetrical trapezes.

Table 3. Microliths from Ain Miri (Area E).

Type	n	%
Rectangle	7	4.2
Proto-rectangle	1	0.6
Broken rectangle	38	22.9
Trapeze	4	2.4
Assymetrical trapeze	16	9.6
Backed & obliquely truncated bladelet	34	20.5
Lunate	2	1.2
Truncation	6	3.6
Backed bladelet	45	27.1
Varia	8	4.8
Microlith fragments	5	3.0
Total	166	100.0

Lunates. Two lunates were found in Area E (Fig. 2: 10-11). (Similar lunates were found in other areas of the site). One lunate is 18 mm in length and has bifacial retouch. The second is 12 mm long and has an abrupt retouch. These may indicate

either a Natufian presence at the site or a PPNA occurrence, as evidenced by a single broken el-Khiam point (Fig. 2: 12).

Other Microliths

Broken backed bladelets: The 45 items in this group constitute 27% of the microliths. Most of these are medial, and only two are proximal.

Truncated bladelets: Six truncated bladelets appear, of which three are obliquely truncated at an angle of 135°.

Varia: This group includes microliths that were not assigned to the types described above. Some of them are tool types known from the different typological lists: one broken bladelet with a back shaped by Helwan retouch; two notched bladelets; one bladelet with retouch along its dorsal face; one bladelet with a distal end shaped as a drill; one bladelet with alternate retouch; one irregular backed bladelet, and one La Mouillah point. Five microlith fragments could not be identified.

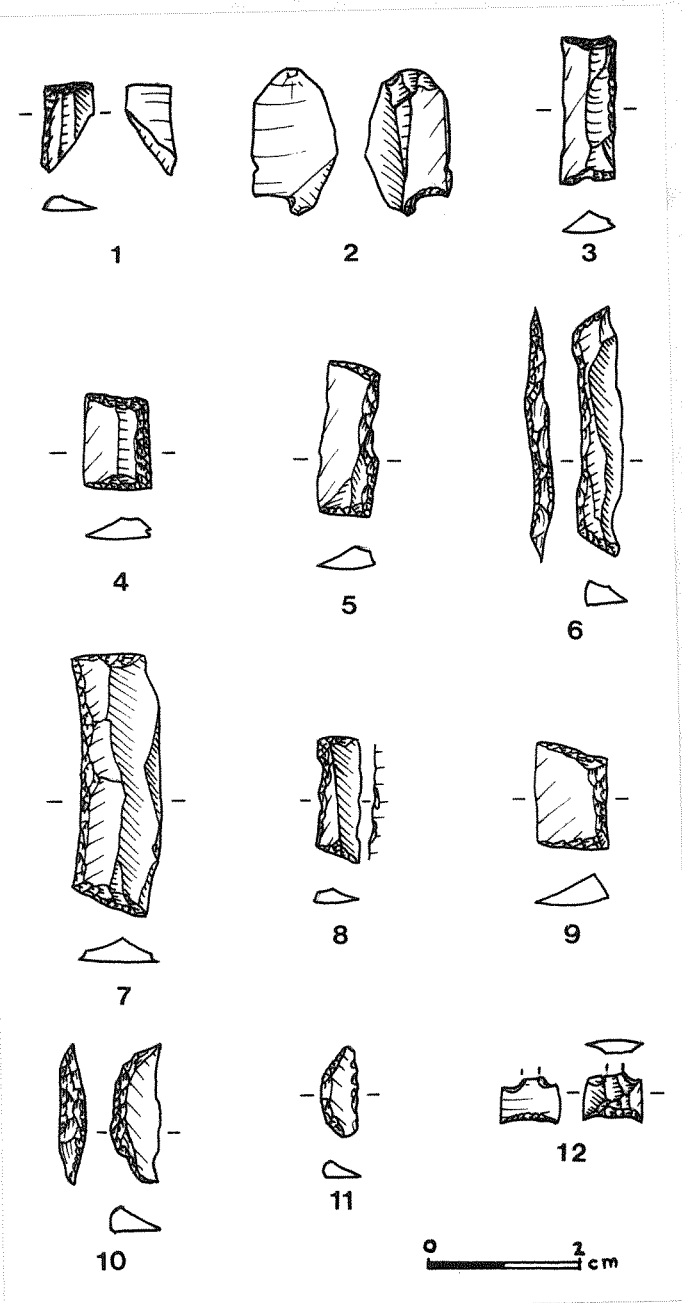


Fig. 2. Flint artifacts from Ain Miri.

Endnote

The assemblage uncovered in Area E at Ain Miri is mixed, however the frequency of microliths increased as we went deeper. The abundance of geometric microliths (about 60% of the microliths) favors a Geometric Kebaran assignment. Geometric Kebaran assemblages from northern Israel are generally characterized by narrow microliths, as is the case of Haon

III (4-7 mm, Bar-Yosef 1981), and Hayonim Terrace (most are 4-6 mm, Valla 1989). The width of the geometrics of Ain Miri varies between 5-11 mm. However, while the trapezes are indeed narrow, the asymmetrical trapezes and the rectangles are wider. A few other Geometric Kebaran sites are known in northern Israel, but most of them are published as short notes and do not provide sufficient data for comparison (e.g. Ohalo I, Bar-Yosef and Nadel 1988; Ein Gev III, Bar-Yosef 1970: 124-126). More research on Epipaleolithic sites of the Galilee is needed in order to enable a better understanding of the Geometric Kebaran complex. We hope that future excavation at Ain Miri may be of help.

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A Short Note on Burin Sites in Wadi Hauran (Iraq)

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Introduction

Archaeological surveys concentrating on prehistoric sites in the area of Wadi Hauran, northeast of Rutba, were first conducted by H. Field in the late 1920s (Field 1960). The lithic material of these surveys was analysed by Garrod (1960: 116) and later again by Zarins (1990: 50). More recent investigations, concentrating on petroglyphs in this area, were conducted by Tyráček and Amin (1981: 145-148). (Fig. 1)

In April 2000 a short joint expedition of the University of Baghdad and the Oriental Department of the German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, visited the region of the Wadi Hauran, close to the ruin of Qasr Mueihwir¹. Several archaeological sites previously visited by colleagues of the geological department of the University of Baghdad were characterized by petroglyphs, stone alignments and abundant lithic material (Eichmann *et al.* 2000). It was D. Youkhanna A. Fadhil who drew the attention of German colleagues to these sites.

In November 2000 a second short visit² was carried out for a closer examination of some of the already discovered sites, concentrating on the collection of lithic artefacts, surveying the direct vicinity of the sites for detecting more petroglyphs, and visiting other places in the neighbourhood in order to examine their archaeological potentials.

Besides two already known sites (No. 003 "Jurassic Garden"³ and No. 005, close to Qasr Mueihwir), three new sites were detected. Due to the abundant burins, and referring to similar sites in the northeastern desert of Jordan (e.g. Betts 1984), these sites were identified as burin sites.

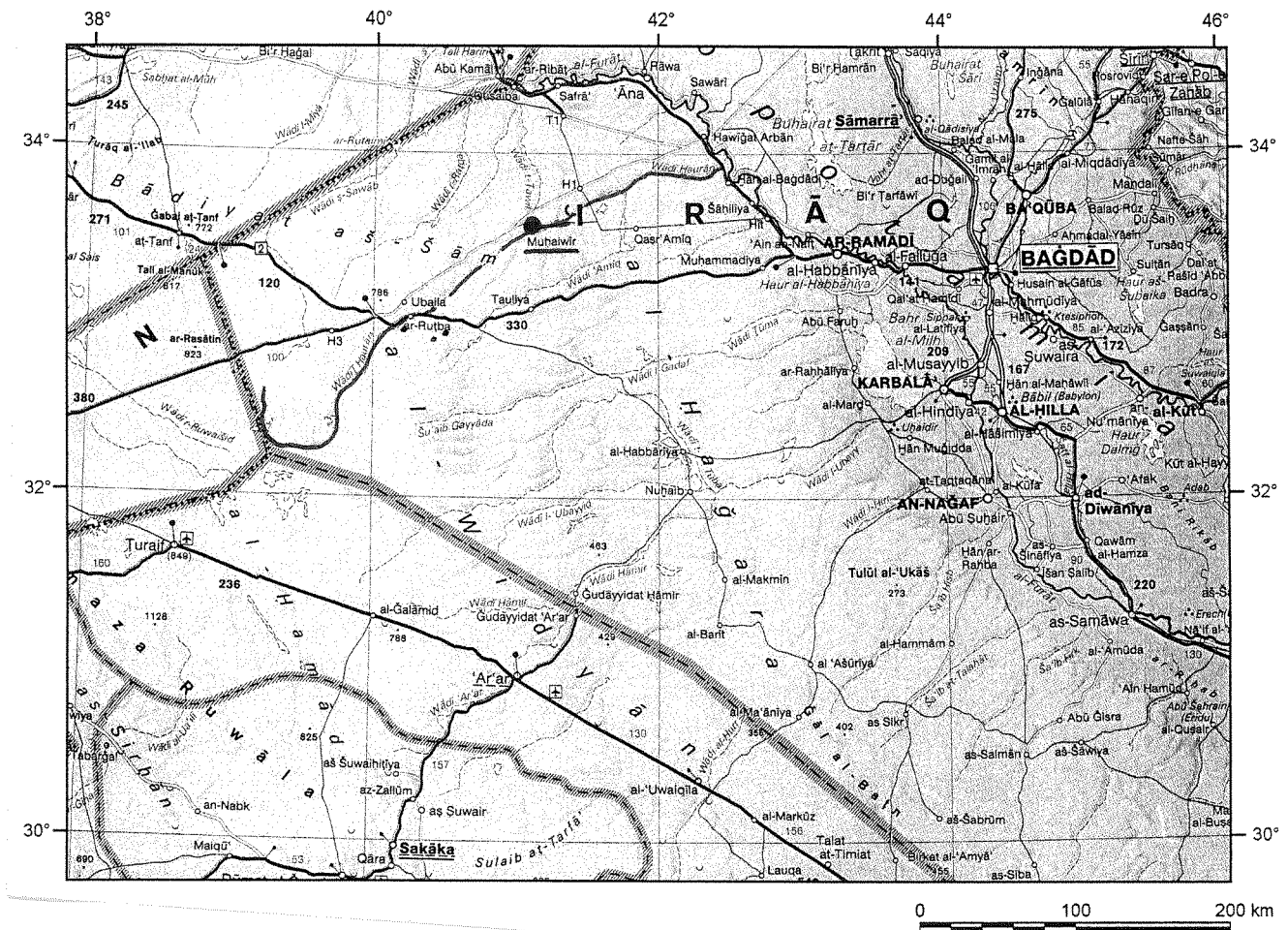


Fig. 1. Map of the region where the Wadi Hauran is located.

Setting

The landscape of the surveyed area consists geologically of Jurassic limestone and dolomite as well as tertiary limestone, sandy limestone, sandstone and quartzite deposits. This desert is characterised by *hammada* surfaces deeply incised through the several rock strata by wadis (Andrau 1960, Shakir 1999, Tyráček and Amin 1981). Low precipitation and extreme daily and annual changes in temperature are typical for the area. All sites are characterised by their setting at the foot of cliffs in sandstone formations, which are heavily covered with desert varnish, and located near wadis.

On most of the sites more or less rectangular stone alignments forming enclosure-like structures could be detected, made of large stones, with the cliff as one boundary. In the case of Site 003 ("Jurassic Garden"), a natural depression in the sandstone formation was used, and spaces between the cliffs were closed by large stones.

Many petroglyphs were found on and in the direct vicinity of the sites, representing animal depictions such as deer, gazelles, goats, cattle, snakes, etc. (Fig. 2). No inscriptions were found in direct connection to the petroglyphs⁴.

Lithic artefacts and other small finds

The lithic industry of all the examined sites is characterised by a strong homogeneity, including the choice of raw material (a mostly beige-brown and dark-brown flint) and a probable preference of blades as blanks for the secondary production. Primary production artefacts such as core trimming elements were rarely detected on the surface. Very few cores and core fragments were found, and these are more or less totally exhausted irregularly shaped small flake cores (Fig. 3a).

All sites are characterised by an abundance of burins, distinguished by three burin types, among which the burin on truncation was the most common. This burin type is represented by simple burins on truncation (Fig. 3b), multiple burins on truncation (Fig. 3c), the latter also by partly overlapping

burin facets (Fig. 3d), and opposed burins on truncations (Fig. 3e). Concave truncations are the most common type of truncation.

The second burin type is the transverse burin (Fig. 3f), followed by mixed burins—artefacts characterised by a combination of different burin types. For an example with a combination of burins on truncation and a transverse burin *cf.* Fig. 3g.

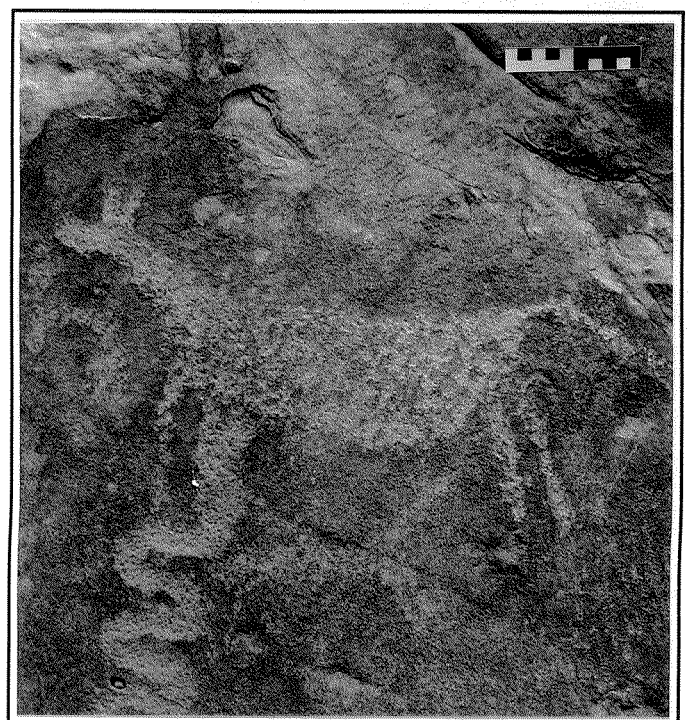


Fig. 2. Petroglyphs.

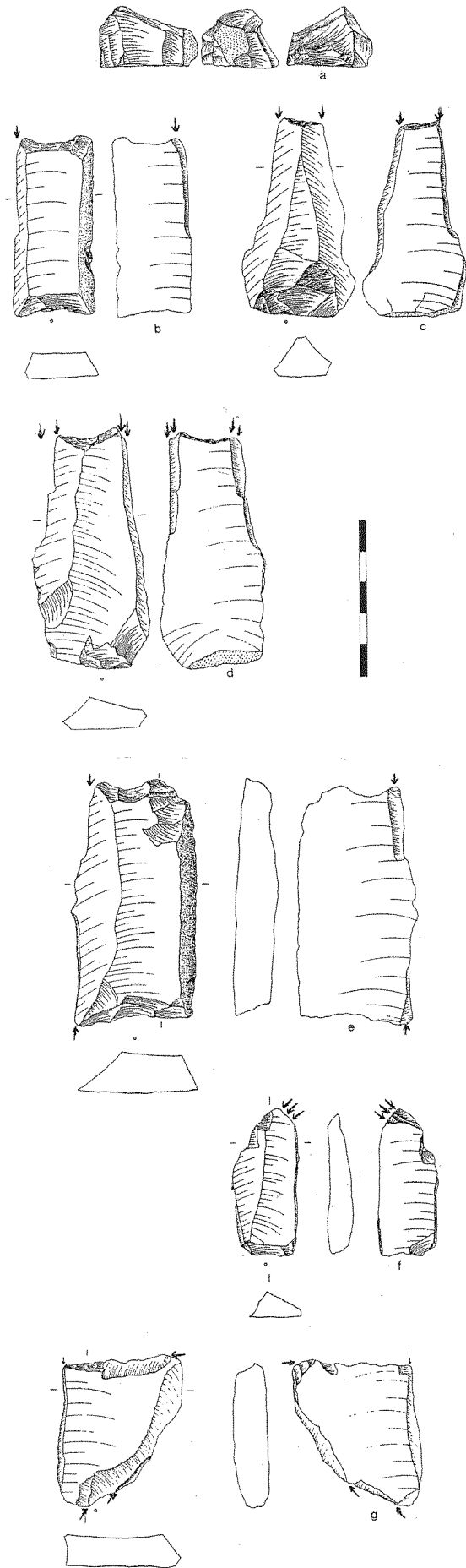


Fig. 3. Lithic artefacts from Wadi Hauran burin sites: core and burins.

Beside burins, microborers are an artefact type that occurred abundantly on all surveyed sites. The majority of these borers were produced on blades with distinctive modifications

of the edges of the piece, characterised by a clear shoulder-like separation between the tip from the basal part of the blank, which was in most of the borers only partly preserved (Fig. 4 a,b,d). Some of the microborers show burin facets, demonstrating the use of burin technology for plan modification (Fig. 4c).

A correlation of microborers and their use in bead production, which has been postulated for other burin sites in the Jordanian eastern desert (Baird 1993; Betts 1986) was supported by the find of a perforated carnelian bead in the direct vicinity of several microborers at site 003 ("Jurassic Garden"). Beside these tool types a high amount of retouched and unretouched blades and flakes were found on the sites. Interestingly, projectile points weren't detected during this survey.

Dating and Discussion

The high frequency of burins on truncation offer the best possibility for a date due to comparable material from surveyed and excavated sites in the Jordanian Black Desert (e.g. Betts 1984: 27) and in the Azraq/Jilat area (Garrard *et al.* 1994: 73ff.). It seems that these burins were produced from the M/LPPNB through to the Pottery Neolithic. A chronological extension of the production and use of these tools into the Chalcolithic period can not be excluded, due to the fact that technological developments in arid regions could have had a different course compared to the rain-fed, agricultural areas (Zarins 1992: 49), which probably also includes a longer duration of specific technologies.

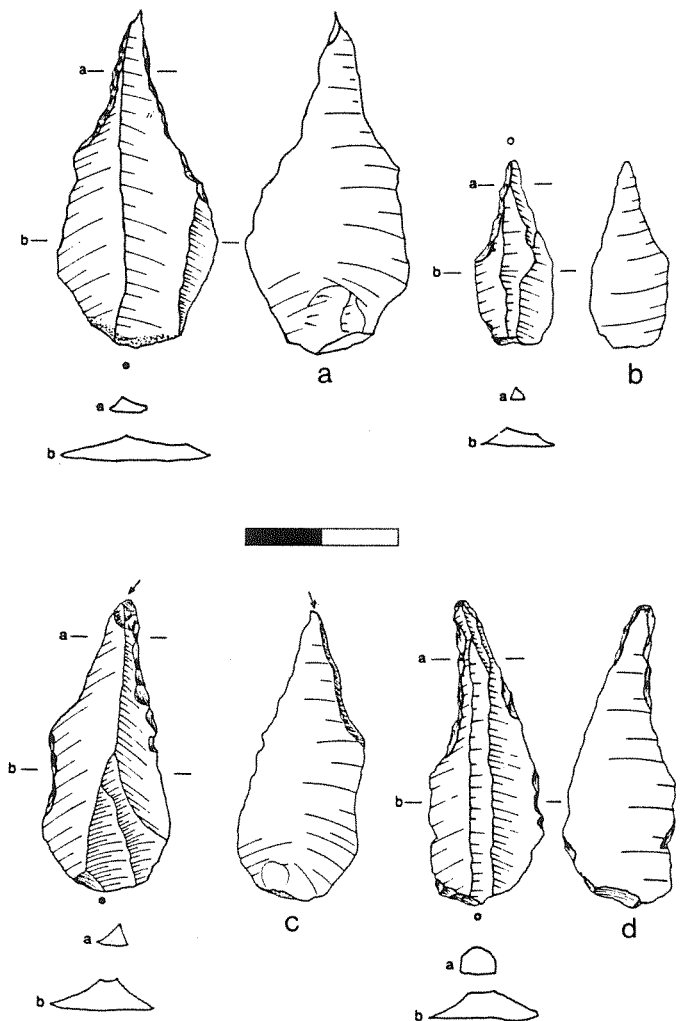


Fig. 4. Lithic artefacts from Wadi Hauran burin sites: borers.

The collected material of the burin sites in the area of the Wadi Hauran is comparable to the material of other burin sites in eastern Jordan, and even at sites more to the west in rainier areas such as Amman (Rollefson *et al.* 1982), Abu Snesleh east

of Amman (Müller-Neuhof 1996), the Syrian steppe region around Palmyra (Akazawa 1979), and in western Saudi Arabia (Ingraham *et al.* 1981)⁵. The Wadi Hauran sites represent – in our current knowledge – the easternmost extension of the PPNB/ PN burin site phenomenon.

A correlation of the lithic material with petroglyphs found at these sites is unsafe, since no excavations were carried out to see if there was archaeozoological evidence for the simultaneous occurrence of animals depicted on the rock surfaces and/or their remains in the stratified layers combined with typologically datable lithic material.

Notes

- 1 The team members of this expedition were: Ricardo Eichmann, Margarete van Ess, Abdullah Fadhil, Nazar Abdul Latif al-Hadithy, and Saar N. Shakir.
- 2 The team members of this expedition were: Ricardo Eichmann, Bernd Müller-Neuhof and Saar N. Shakir, Mustafa M.H. Al Azawi (representative of the Iraqi Department of Antiquities) and Khaled H. Hussein (geologist).
- 3 The site is covered by petrified wood of Jurassic age, hence the name.
- 4 A detailed description of the petroglyphs is published in Eichmann *et al.* 2000.
- 5 Additional references on burin sites in Saudi Arabia can be found in this publication.

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Person or Penis? Interpreting a 'New' PPNB Anthropomorphic Statue from the Taurus Foothills

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In this short contribution I would like to propose an alternative hypothesis concerning the iconography of a recently reported PPNB anthropomorphic stone statue. In a beautifully produced book about the ancient kingdom of Kommagene in southeastern Turkey, Hauptmann reports a large and carefully made anthropomorphic statue found near the village of Kilisik in the Taurus foothills, ca. 85 km north of Nevalı Çori (Hauptmann 2000). In 1965 the statue was obtained from a farmer by a member of the nearby excavations of Dörner at Arsameia, and was subsequently transferred to the museum in Gaziantep. At the time it was not recognized as a Neolithic statue, but the shape of the statue, and its bent arms, is more or less similar to the large anthropomorphic pillars from the cult buildings at Nevalı Çori, leaving almost no doubts that it is a PPNB feature (e.g. Hauptmann 1999).

The statue, which has very powerful overall expression, is 80 cm high, and made of gray limestone (Fig. 1). Originally the statue must have been taller since its base is broken. Like the large pillars from Nevalı Çori and Göbekli Tepe, up to three meters high (e.g. Hauptmann 1999; Schmidt 1998, 1999), the sculpture is T-shaped. The head measures 29 x 9.5cm, and of the facial features only a long-drawn nose is indicated. Directly beneath the head, bent arms are indicated in relief at both sides. Like the Nevalı Çori statues, the hands (with fingers indicated) are at the front. The hands surround a large protuberance, which Hauptmann interprets as a navel. He further suggests that a large penis and two thin legs are indicated beneath this navel. The "penis" ends just above a large circular hole. With regard to the penis, Hauptmann sees a parallel in the stone statue of an ithyphallic man, ca. 40cm high, from Nevalı Çori (Hauptmann 2000: Fig. 11).

In my opinion, however, what Hauptmann regards as a penis is in fact a person. I argue, then, that the "navel" represents the head, the "penis" the body, and the "legs" the arms of a human. The hole perhaps indicates a vagina. If you look closely to the right, bent, arm, a hand seems indeed to be indicated. If my interpretation is correct, the Kilisik statue would then represent a composite figure of two persons, a bit like a totem pole. Such composite statues were probably not uncommon in the PPNB, given the recovery of a ca. 1m high stone figure consisting of a bird on top of at least one human head at Nevalı Çori (Hauptmann 1999: Fig. 14). I would like to suggest, then, that the Kilisik statue is of a composite, ambiguous and perhaps bisexual nature. The "navel" might not only represent the head of the "lower" person, but also the penis of the "upper" person, and as indicated above, the hole at the base might symbolize a vagina. Or maybe the protuberance indeed signifies a navel, and perhaps a penis and a woman's head at the same time. It could also be argued that the hole does not represent a vagina, and that the sex of the lower person (having no breasts) was not indicated. The various alternatives (in order of likelihood) can be schematized as follows:

Hauptmann: male statue with navel, large penis and legs

Verhoeven:

Possibility 1: composite statue, the navel of the upper sexless person representing the head of the lower woman with a large vagina

Possibility 2: composite statue, the navel of the upper sexless person representing the head of the lower sexless person, function of hole enigmatic

Possibility 3: bisexual statue, the penis of the upper male representing the head of the lower woman with a large vagina

Possibility 4: bisexual statue, the protuberance of the upper person at the same time representing a navel, a penis and the head of the lower woman with a large vagina

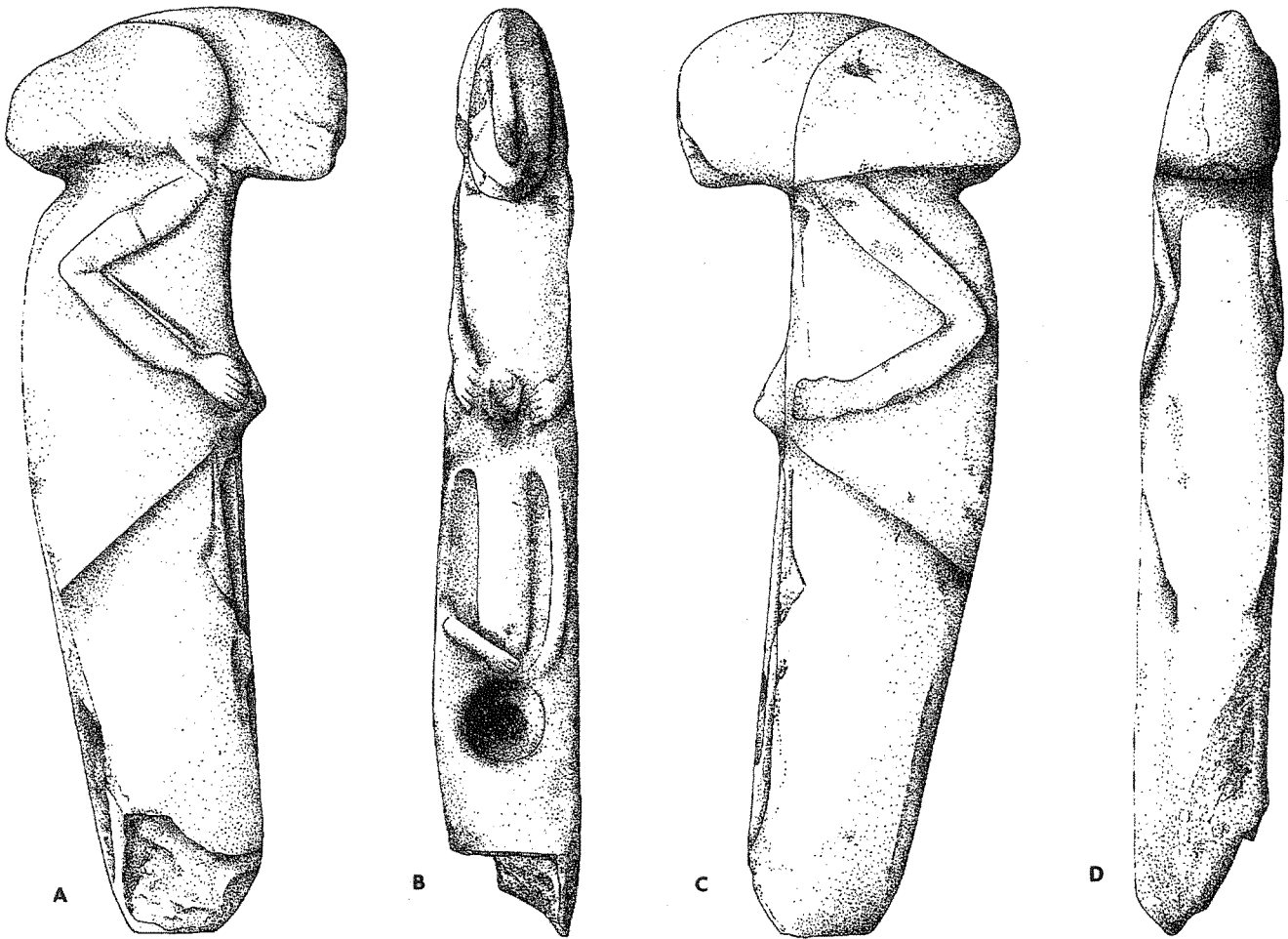


Figure 1A-D. Various views of the anthropomorphic statue from Kilisik. Height: 80 cm. Material: limestone.
Source: Hauptmann 2000: Fig. 9.

Possibility 5: composite statue, the penis of the upper person representing the head of the lower sexless person, function of hole enigmatic

The possible and intricate symbolic linkages between male and female, and penis-navel-head are most interesting, and seem to point to a complex ritual and ideological system. At NevalıÇori and Göbekli Tepe, both in the same general area as Kilisik, the ritual symbolism was also marked by all kinds of complex linkages (Verhoeven n.d.). It seems likely, as Hauptmann argues, that originally the statue was part of the furniture of a cult building. On the basis of possibilities 1, 3 and 4, it can be expected that during rituals in such a building an object (a symbolic penis?) was stuck in the "vagina". Anyway, it seems likely that the statue acted as an important symbol related to fertility rituals, given the probable sexual iconography. Elsewhere I have suggested that during the PPNB fertility (and "life-force") was a very important concept in the ritual ideology (Verhoeven n.d.). This does not have to surprise us, as in the PPNB we are dealing with communities where fecundity and domestication were of basic importance.

Whatever the precise meaning of the Kilisik statue, it is yet another testimony of powerful and evocative ritual symbolism which is so characteristic of the PPNB of South-East Anatolia.

Acknowledgements: I am grateful to Prof. Dr. H. Hauptmann for his kind permission for reproducing Figure 1.

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Göbekli Tepe and the Early Neolithic Sites of the Urfa Region: a Synopsis of New Results and Current Views

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The excavated structures at Göbekli Tepe (southeastern Turkey) so far include no domestic buildings or installations (Schmidt 2001). In comparison with Çayönü or Nevalı Çori, at Göbekli Tepe all buildings can be understood as "*Sondergebäude*", buildings with a ritual function. There are three large enclosures (Structures A-C) in the older layers und several rectangular rooms with terrazzo floors in the younger strata. The dominating element of these buildings are monolithic T-shaped pillars and so-called "Pillar Bases"(Fig.1). It now seems to be more probable that the real function of these

monolithic objects was that of a window or a doorway. The mapping of the surface evidence of pillars and "pillar base" fragments at Göbekli Tepe (Beile-Bohn *et al.* 1998: Fig. 19) indicates that we should not expect domestic structures in future excavations there.



Fig. 1. Göbekli Tepe, Structure B, "pillar base" in filling.

The excavations in 2000 concentrated on Structure B in the older layers (Schmidt 1999: Figs. 2-3). Two huge pillars (pillars 9 and 10) are in the center of an enclosure consisting of stone walls and six additional pillars. The excavation of the structure has not been completed, and only between pillar 9 and 10 was a floor (as expected a terrazzo floor) unearthed. Just in front of pillar 9 a trapezoid limestone slab was inserted into the floor (Fig. 2). However, the surface of the slab is not plain. A shallow channel, starting at the rim, runs into a bowl-like depression in the center of the slab (Fig. 3). It is obvious that it was part of an installation in connection with ritual customs that took place within the enclosure. Several other limestone slabs of similar shape with such runnels and bowl-like depressions are among the surface finds at Göbekli Tepe. There is no doubt that they had been used in a similar context. So far such objects are known from no other site.

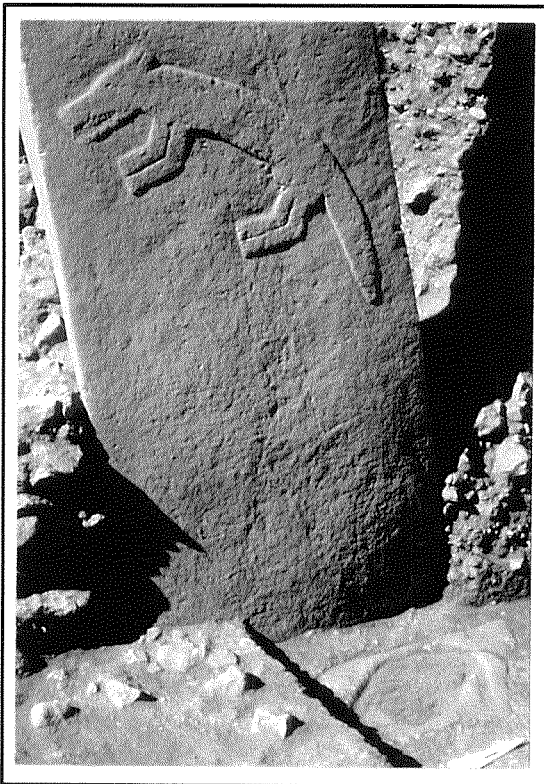


Fig. 2. Göbekli Tepe, Structure B, Pillar 9: in front of it terrazzo floor with inserted limestone slab.

The lack of comparable finds from other sites was true for some years for many other objects from Göbekli Tepe. Only Nevalı Çori and Çayönü provided some convincing parallels. But in the course of time, more places with features similar to Göbekli Tepe have been found. Recently discovered sites are Urfa-Yeni Yol, Hamzan Tepe, and Karahan Tepe (Celik 2000a, b). At Urfa-Yeni Yol a PPN settlement with terrazzo floors was cut through during road construction, and not far away a life-sized human limestone sculpture was unearthed. At Hamzan and Karahan Tepe T-shaped pillars can be observed on the surface of the sites. Two pillars at Karahan Tepe bear reliefs of animals like the pillars of Göbekli Tepe. An anthropomorphic object from Kilisik, found many years ago in the vicinity of Arsameia in Adiyaman province, was published recently by H. Hauptmann (2000 Fig. 8-10; *cf.* Verhoeven, this issue, Fig. 1). The arms, bent at the elbow, are reminiscent of the T-shaped pillars of Nevalı Çori type (e.g. Fig 4).



Fig. 3. Detail of limestone slab.

It is interesting that not one of these sites is located in the Euphrates Valley, despite the fact that intensive archaeological investigations took place there. A single exception is Jerf el Ahmar on the Syrian Euphrates: small pillars with zoomorphic heads remind one in their upper parts of the Kilisik sculpture (Stordeur 2001). Nevalı Çori is near to the Euphrates, but hidden in a little valley, about 3km southeast of the river. Its topographical situation seems to be connected with a distinct hunting strategy. Seasonally wandering animals would cross the Euphrates at fords twice a year, and at Samsat, about 10km from Nevalı Çori, there was an important one. Animals crossing the river at a predicted point and time could easily be hunted. For example, the late Paleolithic Swiderian reindeer hunters of eastern Europe had a similar hunting strategy using the seasonal wandering of reindeer and their crossing of big rivers such as the Vistula (Weichsel) (Zaliznyak 1995: 80). The settlement of Nevalı Çori is close to the Euphrates, but far enough from possible crossing points not to be detected by the animals. The observation that the Neolithic settlements directly near the Euphrates are often from late Neolithic periods (e.g., Gritille, Kumar Tepe, Teleilat) fits well with this view. When herding replaced hunting, the old hunting strategy lost its importance.

These observations might be helpful regarding the question on the nature of all these "pillar-sites" in the Urfa region. It seems obvious that they are early within the PPN period and were constructed not by a true Neolithic people but by a predominantly hunter-gatherer society. The big rivers were for them primarily a hunting ground habitat and not a place for settlements. Regarding Karahan Tepe, it is not clear if it is a true settlement or, more probably, a ritual place like Göbekli Tepe. Karahan Tepe is situated about 50km southeast of Göbekli Tepe, which is also true for Nevalı Çori towards northwest. Çayönü lies at a distance of about 100km northeast of Nevalı Çori. Çayönü, and Nevalı Çori are the best known and most characteristic examples for real settlements within the mentioned sites with many houses and several "Sondergebäude". At Çayönü and Nevalı Çori there are quite

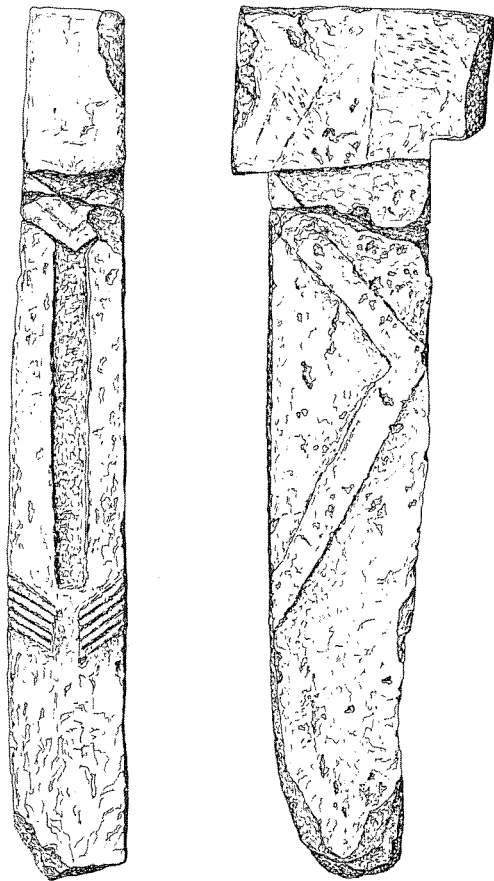


Fig. 4. Pillar with T-shaped top from Nevalı Çori. Height 240 cm (after Hauptmann 2000: Fig. 7).

similar terrazzo buildings, at Nevalı Çori with T-shaped pillars of so-called Nevalı Çori type (arms with bent elbows in relief; Fig. 4). And it has already been supposed that in the Çayönü terrazzo building there also were such pillars, completely destroyed and removed in later times (Schmidt 1997:73, Fig. 3).

As the pillars of Nevalı Çori type are well known from Göbekli Tepe, a close connection seems to exist between the three sites. All "pillar sites" obviously followed very similar ritual customs. The real character of Karahan Tepe can not yet be determined, which also is true for the sites of Urfa-Yeni Yol and Hamzan Tepe. But all these sites are not in such a dominating "strategic" position as Göbekli Tepe and they don't have such a deep stratigraphy (Göbekli Tepe: 15m). There seems to be a functional differentiation and also a hierarchic stratification between these places, with Göbekli Tepe on top, surrounded by satellite sites.

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New Books and Dissertations

Verhoeven M. and Akkermans P.M.M.G. (eds.)
2000 *Tell Sabi Abyad II. The Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Settlement. Report on the Excavations of the National Museum of Antiquities Leiden in the Balikh Valley, Syria*. Istanbul, Nederlands Historisch-Archaeologisch Instituut.

Bonogofsky Michelle
2001 *An Osteo-Archaeological Examination of the Ancestor Cult during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Period in the Levant*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Department of Near East Studies, University of California, Berkeley, California.

Abstract: This dissertation focuses on fifty-five plastered skulls from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Period in the Levant, and what such skulls may suggest about a so-called ancestor cult ca. 8,500 years ago. Early discussions of plastered skulls excavated at Jericho in 1953 suggested that the skulls of elderly men were selected for modeling as part of an ancestor cult composed of male elders and leaders. Based on this initial interpretation, the predominant scholarly view suggested the skulls had been selected based on the sex, age, or cranial shape of the individuals. Some researchers further proposed the skulls were modified in appearance by the evulsion of all teeth and a widening of the face with plaster to produce facial features found in the elderly.

This dissertation reexamines the physical characteristics and intellectual and archaeological contexts of plastered and asphalt-decorated skulls. It attempts to test the hypothesis that these skulls were intentionally selected and modeled to produce a "gerontocracy" of skulls. It uses modern techniques to sex and age the individuals, and to check for the presence or absence of teeth. Physical and scientific reexaminations of the finds do not support claims that age, sex, or skull shape were consistent factors in the selection of skulls for special treatment. Teeth were not all intentionally removed after death. Skulls of children, as well as those of women and men, were also plastered. Any explanation of these objects must take into account that the skulls of women, children, and men were involved. Comparisons with analogously treated skulls in New Guinea and elsewhere in Melanesia are included in order to provide possible alternative reasons for the collection and decoration of skulls in the Neolithic period and to enlarge the terms of reference for the interpretation of the plastered skulls in the Levant.

Yamada Shoh
2000 *Development of the Neolithic: Lithic Use-Wear Analysis of Major Tool Types in the Southern Levant*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Abstract: This study has dual foci: 1) an examination of the developmental processes of early agricultural society and the social background to the introduction of agriculture in the Levant (the Late Natufian to the Pottery Neolithic, 11,000-6,000 B.P., uncalibrated), using lithic use-wear analysis (the microscopic study of lithic edge wear); 2) the technological development of the analytical method of use-wear.

Lithic functions are expected to be an indication of the two major factors that determine the nature of social change: technology and social relations. The social changes reflected in

lithic functions are examined in order to discuss the social backgrounds of the transition to agricultural society. A typologically oriented, selective analysis of major tool types that may be indicative of different economic activities was conducted for use-wear. The archaeological assemblages sampled were from woodland and steppe areas in the southern Levant, allowing a comparison of economic activities by different subsistence sectors (i.e., hunter-gatherers and agriculturalists) in adjacent areas. Experimental tests using replicated tools were also conducted.

As a result of the use-wear analysis, possible intensive engagement in certain artisanal activities was observed in the steppe area. This indicates a potential for trade between the agricultural and the hunting-gathering or less intensive agricultural sectors, to provide essential food subsistence to the latter in exchange for craft products. This type of exchange may be seen as an important background to the growth of a Neolithic farming society. Similar relationships may have existed between hunter-gatherers in relatively affluent areas and those in marginal areas. The competitive relationships between communities to increase their subsistence base may have served as the social background of the emergence of agriculture.

In terms of technological development of use-wear analysis, several new analytical procedures were introduced to enable more secure interpretation of tool function. Computer image analysis is aimed at overcoming another major technical limitation of use-wear analysis, that is, the lack of quantitative description of use-wear polish. X-ray spectrometry of the residue layers on tool edges contributes to the more precise identification of the material worked, as well as to the theory of use-wear polish formation.

TASK Foundation / TAY Project

2000 Archaeological Destruction in Turkey. Year 2000 Preliminary Report: Marmara and Aegean Regions. June-October 2000. Istanbul, The Archaeological Settlement Project.

The TAY Project creates a detailed inventory of archaeological settlements and find spots in Anatolia and Thrace. However, this small publication is an example for another type of effort of the TASK / TAY: to make sensitive for the preservation of archaeological sites. A number of organizations, national and international, have already recognized this engagement. The initiative to publish this issue is an evidence of exemplary responsibility for archaeological heritage in Turkey.

New Websites Oriented Towards Neolithic Research

<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/g.willcox/>

http://www.diplomatie.fr/culture/france/archeologie/ind_djade_elmughara.html (on Early PPNB Dja'de el-Mughara, Middle Euphrates, communicated by Eric Coqueugniot, eric.coqueugniot@mom.fr)

http://www.diplomatie.fr/culture/france/archeologie/ind_cafar.html

Passed Conferences

Colloque international: Le Néolithique de Chypre Nicosia, 17-19 May 2001

Dépt. des Antiquités de Chypre & Ecole Française d'Athènes

Programme

Accueil des participants, Ouverture du colloque

Sophocle HADJISAVVAS, Directeur du Département des Antiquités de Chypre

Roland ÉTIENNE, Directeur de l'École Française d'Athènes

Jean GUILAINE, Professeur au Collège de France et Alain LE BRUN, Directeur de Recherche au CNRS

Thème 1 - Les établissements néolithiques de Chypre

Les sites pré-céramiques

- J. GUILAINE, Collège de France, Paris: Parekklisha-Shillourokambos: périodisation et aménagements domestiques
- E. PELTENBURG, Université d'Édimbourg: The 10th-9th millennium BP wells of Kissonerga-Mylouthkia
- I. TODD, Vasilikos Valley Project, Chypre Kalavassos-Tenta: a reappraisal
- A. LE BRUN, O. DAUNE-LE BRUN, CNRS, Paris: Khirokitia et Cap Andreas-Kastros
- A. SIMMONS, Université de Nevada - Las Vegas: Villages Without Walls and Cows Without Villages - Economic and Site Diversity in the Cypriot Pre-Pottery Neolithic.

Les sites néolithiques céramiques

- P. FLOURENTZOS, Cyprus Museum: Excavations at the Neolithic site of Paralimni-Nissia
- E. MANTZOURANI, Université d'Athènes: Kandou-Kouphovonos: A Late Neolithic site in Limassol district
- E. PELTENBURG, Université d'Édimbourg: Building abandonment at Late Neolithic Ayios Epiktos-Vrysi

Thème 2 - Aspects de la culture matérielle

- F. BRIOIS, EHESS, Toulouse: Caractères et évolution des industries lithiques précéramiques du site de Shillourokambos
- C. McCARTNEY, Lemba Archaeological Project, Chypre: The Tenta and Mylouthkia chipped stone industries and their interpretation within a redefined Cypriot Neolithic
- S. PHILIBERT, Centre d'Anthropologie, Toulouse: Approche fonctionnelle de l'outillage lithique de Shillourokambos
- L. ASTRUC, CEPAM, Valbonne: Étude fonctionnelle de l'industrie lithique de Khirokitia
- J. CLARKE, University of East Anglia, Norwich.: Some Initial Petrographic Results on the Pottery from Neolithic Cyprus

Thème 3 - L'économie des premiers paysans de Chypre

- S. THIÉBAULT, CNRS, Paris: Paysages végétaux de Chypre au Néolithique - premières données anthracologiques
- G. WILLCOX, CNRS, Lyon: L'agriculture: les données de Shillourokambos
- J. HANSEN, Université de Boston: Aceramic Neolithic Agriculture in Cyprus: Evidence from Macroscopic Plant Remains
- J.-D. VIGNE, CNRS, Paris: Statut des grands mammifères de Shillourokambos, notamment durant les phases anciennes (fin 9^e - début du 8^e millénaire)
- S. DAVIS, National Archaeological Institute, Lisbonne: The Neolithic mammals from Khirokitia and Cap Andreas-Kastros - a view from the Levant
- P. CROFT, Lemba Archaeological Project, Chypre: Cowboys and water-holes: animal remains from the Paphian Neolithic
- J. DESSE et N. DESSE-BERSET, CNRS, Valbonne: Les premiers pêcheurs de Chypre

Thème 4- Rites funéraires et anthropologie

- E. CRUBÉZY, Université de Toulouse: Les vestiges anthropologiques de Shillourokambos
- F. LE MORT, CNRS, Lyon: Les restes humains de Khirokitia: particularités et interprétations

Thème 5 - Idéologie / Symbolique

- J. GUILAINE, Collège de France, Paris: Objets symboliques et parures du site de Parekklisha-Shillourokambos
- A. LE BRUN, CNRS, Paris: A propos de grandes constructions

Thème 6 - Regards sur le Proche-Orient

- D. STORDEUR, CNRS, Lyon: De la vallée de l'Euphrate à Chypre ? nouveaux indices (architecture, symbolique) de relation au Néolithique
- E. COQUEUGNIOT, CNRS, Lyon: Unité et diversité des industries lithiques taillées au Proche-Orient (Levant et Anatolie méridionale) du 9^e au 7^e millénaire av. J.-C.
- JEAN PERROT, CNRS, Paris: Facteurs et critères d'expansion du Néolithique proche-oriental

Final Discussion

The Aegean Basin Between the Balkans, Anatolia, and the Near East: Local Experimentations and Outward Interactions in an Island Society (Rhodes, 23 March, 2001)

During the gathering, the following topics related to the Neolithic were presented (communicated by A. Sampson):

G. Chourmouziades, Thessaloniki University: Aegean and Mediterranean
 G. Kourtessi-Fillipakis, Paris I University: The first populations in the Aegean: data and perspectives
 A. Sampson, Aegean University: Mesolithic Aegean and Near East: Real contacts or parallel evolution?
 S. Katsarou: Aegean and Cyprus in the early Holocene: brothers or distant relatives?
 E. Todorova: A New data about the Neolithization of the Balkan peninsula at the end of the 7th millennium BC
 Z. Kafafi, Yarmouk University: Jordan during the late seventh and the beginning of the sixth millenia BC
 H. Hauptmann, Deutsche Arch. Institut of Istanbul: About the problem of synchronization of Neolithic and Chalcolithic in Greece and Asia Minor
 A.A. Hamid El-Gindy, Alexandria University: Palaeo-oceanographic and climatic conditions in SE Mediterranean during Holocene
 M. Mosa Dorgham, Alexandria University: Planctonic life during Holocene in South East Mediterranean region
 H. Erkanal, Ankara University: The significance of Smyrna region in the prehistoric Aegean
 M. Özdoğan, Istanbul University: From East to the West: temples, cult buildings and cult objects of the Neolithic
 L. Orphanidis, Academy of Athens: Figurine art and intercultural relations in Neolithic Eastern Mediterranean

Upcoming Conferences

4th Workshop on PPN Chipped Lithic Industries (Nidže, 4 - 8 June 2001)

Program

Monday 4 June: Theme: PPN Lithic Technology

Chairperson: Michael ROSENBERG

09:30 Opening

10:00 Leore GROSMAN: Late/Final Natufian occupation at the hilly "core area" vs. the Jordan Valley of Southern Levant: the lithic perspective.

10:20 Anna BELFER-COHEN & Nigel GORING-MORRIS: The Implications of Changes in Frequencies of Standardized and *ad hoc* tools from the Epipaleolithic through Late Neolithic Industries

10:40 Makoto ARIMURA: LPPNB blade cache at Neolithic Tell Ain el-Kerkh, northwest Syria: technological study of pressure blade production

11:00 coffee break

Chairperson: NN

11:30 Philipp RASSMAN: Celts, Axes, Adzes, Chisels and Picks: Bifacial Types or Chameleons?

11:50 Ian KUIJT & Bill FINLAYSON: Contrasts and Contexts: assessing lithic inter-assemblage variability from the perspective of the pre-pottery neolithic a period occupation of Dhra' and Wadi Faynan 16, Jordan

12:10 François BRIOIS & Jean GUILAINE: Nature et évolution des industries lithiques de Shillourokambos

12:30 Lunch break

Chairperson: Douglas BAIRD

14:00 I. CANEV A. ERIM, C. LEMORINI, M. R. IOVINO, D ZAMPETTI: The Lithic Tools of the Çayönü basal sub-phases: typology and socio-economic: implications

14:20 Didier BINDER: Comportements Techniques dans le PPN de Çayönü (Turquie): un aperçu à travers le filtre des matières premières

14:40 Klaus SCHMIDT: Göbekli Tepe and the Early Neolithic Sites of the Urfa Region-Some Perspectives

15:00 Güner ÇOSKUNSU: Flint and Obsidian Industry of Mezraa-Teleilet (Urfa, Turkey), PPN-PN

15:20 Zafer DERIN, Esref ABAY: The Neolithic of Ulucak (poster)

Chairperson: Stefan KOZLOWSKI

15:50 Douglas BAIRD: A Neolithic Assemblage from the neighborhood of Çatal Hüyük

16:10 Tristan CARTER: The earliest chipped stone industries from Çatal Höyük: Context, form and significance

16: 30 Elizabeth HEALEY: Interpretation of Lithic Assemblages: some approaches used at Domuztepe

16:50 Discussion: Anna BELFER-COHEN, Isabella CANEVA

Tuesday, 5 June: Excursion to Kaletepe and to the obsidian sources, Picnic lunch at the Kaletepe Excavation House, Dinner at the Evim Hotell

Wednesday, 6 June: Theme: Obsidian production and exchange from late Epipaleolithic to Pottery Neolithic

Chairperson: François BRIOIS

9:00 Avi GOPHER, O. MARDER & Ran BARKAI: An Obsidian Industry from Neolithic Hagoshrim, northern Israel.

9:20 Yosef GARFINKEL: Obsidian Distribution and Cultural Contacts in the Southern Levant

9:40 Marie Claire CAUVIN: Circulation des matières premières: que peut-on dire a propos d'un exemple, l'obsidienne ?

10:00 Osamu MAEDA: The Lithic Technology and Obsidian Distribution in the PPN and PN Periods

Chairperson: Nur BALKAN-ATLI

10:50 Frederic ABBES: Debitages d'obsidienne du PPNB final de Qdeir, Syria

11:10 Semra YILDIRIM: Aşıklı Hoyuk projectiles: problems in interpretation

11:30 Nurcan KAYACAN: Obsidian Technology of Musular, Central Anatolia

11:50 Melih EREK: Obsidian Technology of Köşk Höyük

12:10 Discussion: Avi GOPHER - Mehmet ÖZDOĞAN

Theme: Integrative studies of PPN technical systems

Chairperson: Yosef GARFINKEL

14:30 Hamoudi KHALAILY & Elisheva KAMAISKY: The use of sickle blades for decorating pottery in the Wadi Rabah Culture: The case of Tel Dover

14:50 Ofer MARDER, Hamoudi KHALAILY & Ianir MILEVSKI: Parallel lines: Yiftahel and Abou Gosh, economic strategies of two PPNB sites in the Southern Levant

15:30 Juan Jose IBANEZ, Ferran BORELL, Nur BALKAN-ATLI, Miquel MOLIST.: Lithic Tools in Akarçay Tepe (Turkey).

Technical Evolution between 9.000 and 7.000 BP in the Mid Euphrates Valley

Chairperson: Frank HOLE

16:20 Çiler ALTINBILEK, Maria Rosa IOVINO: Obsidian Scrapers from Çayönü: techno-morphological and functional analysis

16:40 Juan Jose IBANEZ, Jesus Emilio GONZALES URQUJO, Amelia ROGRIGUEZ, Miquel MOLIST: The Use of Lithic Tools (Flint, Obsidian and Limestone) in the mid PPNB of Tell Halula (8.700-8.4000 BP, Northern Syria)

17:00 Laurence ASTRUC: From use-wear analysis to intra-site spatial analysis. The case study of the Aceramic Neolithic Village of Khirokitia (VIIth millenium BC)

17:20 Discussions: Yoshi NISHIAKI - Juan IBANEZ

18:30 Gumusler Monastery: visit and dinner

Thursday 7 June: Theme: PPN Lithic Cultural Markers: Spatial, Social and Symbolic

Chairperson: Nigel GORING-MORRIS

9:00 Deborah OLSZEWSKI: An Assessment of Lithic Raw Material Availability, Abundance and Use in the Wadi al-Hasa, Jordan (poster)

9:20 Ran BARKAI: PPNA Flint stone axes as cultural markers: Technological, Functional and Symbolic Aspects

9:40 Stefan Karol KOZLOWSKI: At home and the dump: flint assemblages inside and outside the houses

10:00 Dani NADEL: Stone Caches: Epipaleolithic and Neolithic Examples from the Jordan Valley

Chairperson: Deborah OLZEWSKI

10:50 Olivier AURENCHE & Stefan Karol KOZLOWSKI: The Arrowheads and Microliths Spatial Repartition in the Near East (10.200 - 8.000 cal. BC)

11:10 Yoshi NISHIAKI: The PPN and PN lithics from Tell Seker al-Aheimar, the Kabur basin, Northeast Syria

11:30 Laurence ASTRUC: Points and lusted pieces from tell Sabi Abyad II and Tell Damishliyya, (Balikh valley, Northern Syria): a view from use-analysis (poster)
 11:50 Ofer BAR YOSEF: Tools Bearing Symbolic Value at Nahar Hemer Cave, Judean Desert
 12: 10 Discussion: Ofer BAR YOSEF - Didier BINDER
 13:00 Lunch break
 14:30 General discussion and synthesis: Didier BINDER - Nur BALKAN-ATLI

Friday, 8 June: Excursion to the Neolithic sites, Köşk Höyük, Tepecik, Aşıklı Höyük, Lunch at the Ihlara Valley, Closing Diner at Aksaray

Neolithic Revolution!
New Perspectives on South-West Asia in Light of Recent Discoveries on Cyprus

A conference organised by the Council for British Research in the Levant in collaboration with the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus

20th to 23rd September 2001
 Droushia Village, Cyprus

Early evidence for the presence of Neolithic communities has recently emerged on Cyprus in the form of the so-called Cypro-PPNB of the later 10th millennium b.p. (uncalibrated). Material and environmental remains from sites such as Kissonerga-Myliouthkia, Parekklisha-Shillourokambos and Kalavassos-Tenta have hinted at close affinities with the Levantine-PPNB communities of the adjacent mainland, over a millennium earlier than has previously been assumed. This evidence has far-reaching implications for long-standing explanations and interpretations of the transition from hunting and gathering to food production in the Levant, which may need to be reconsidered.

The Conference, which is aimed at researchers working on the late Epipalaeolithic and early Neolithic periods of the Levant, Anatolia and Cyprus, will be organised along thematic lines. Listed below are themes that are intended to offer participants a broad platform to present ideas, opinions and studies. In addition to providing a forum for the presentation of pre-submitted conference papers, two days of field trips are planned during which the emphasis will be on in-field presentations and debate. We also wish to encourage practical workshops to give specialists working on Cyprus and the southwest Asian mainland the opportunity to discuss their fields in more depth and to compare their materials and approaches.

Themes

- Domestication, mobility and seasonality
- Social complexity, symbolism and cognition
- Diffusion, migration and island colonisation
- Settlement patterns and landscape
- Environment and ecology
- Processes and rates of change

We invite the submission of abstracts of less than 300 words that should be sent to the address below by 1st May 2001. If you wish to hold workshops, have suggestions for themes or know of colleagues who may wish to contribute please contact the address below. All papers given at the conference will be published as a CBRL Monograph, subject to editorial review by the Conference scientific committee.

The conference fee will be 175 pounds, including 5 nights half-board accommodation in a 3 star hotel and all field trips. Limited financial assistance, primarily for graduate students, may be available. More information may be obtained by contacting the Assistant Director, CBRL, P.O. Box 519, Jubaiha, Amman 11941, Jordan; Tel: 00962 6 5341317 Fax: 00962 6 5337197; e-mail: ad_cbri@nets.com.jo .

**The Neolithic of Central Anatolia.
 Internal Developments and External Relations
 During the 9th - 6th millennia cal BC
 (16-17 November 2001)**

Frédéric Gérard & Laurens Thissen, CANeW Project
 (frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr, frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr)

Dear colleague(s),

The International Table Ronde in Istanbul (Turkey) on "The Neolithic of Central Anatolia, internal developments and external relations during the 9th - 6th millennia cal BC" will be held Friday and Saturday 16-17 November 2001. The Central Anatolian Neolithic e-Workshop (CANeW) is an archaeological project on Internet, set up to debate some specific issues concerning the prehistory of Central Anatolia preliminary to the Table Ronde. The workshop makes use of a private discussion list of scholars and has already produced some interesting results that are accessible through the Project's Web site.

Costs and accommodation: The Table Ronde will be held in the Richmond Hotel, a 4 star category (****) hotel with a large conference room, located in the heart of Istanbul, directly on Istiklal Street, close to Taksim Square and all the Research Institutes. The participants are recommended to stay in this hotel for the duration of the conference. An interesting arrangement includes a stay for 3 nights/4 days, from Thursday until Sunday, complete with breakfast plus transfer from the Airport to the Hotel and vice versa - all for the rate of 200 US dollars (double room) or 160 US dollars (single room). For participants with smaller budgets, we recommend a similar package in the Hotel Grand Londres, a historical hotel "de caractère," but with a lower standing and comfort, some five minutes walking distance from the conference place. The rate of the total package, including the 3 nights and breakfast plus transfer from the Airport to the Hotel and vice versa amounts to 150 US dollars (double room) or 100 US dollars (single room).

Participation to the Table Ronde is open to everybody interested and free of charge. Please let us know of your interest before the end of June 2001 by sending a mail to: <mailto:frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr>frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr.

For more information on accommodations, consult our Table Ronde page:

<<http://www.chez.com/canew/tableronde.htm>><http://www.chez.com/canew/tableronde.htm>

NEWS - preliminary results of the project:

The NEW homepage gives you access directly to the CANeW edition part of the Project Web site:

<<http://www.chez.com/canew>><http://www.chez.com/canew>.

- NEW maps prepared especially for the project:

- The Central Anatolian Sites Database:

<<http://www.chez.com/canew/sitesdatabase.htm>><http://www.chez.com/canew/sitesdatabase.htm>

- The Geoarchaeological Maps based on an original geomorphological map and on the Sites Database:

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- NEW chronological data:

- The Southwest and West (Aegean) Anatolian 14C Database:

<<http://www.chez.com/canew/swdata.htm>><http://www.chez.com/canew/swdata.htm> · The Yumuktepe - Mersin 14C Database:

<<http://www.chez.com/canew/mersinyumukdata.htm>><http://www.chez.com/canew/mersinyumukdata.htm>

- The Southwest, Aegean and Northwest Anatolian

Chronological Scheme based on the 14C databases:

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Every change in the Web site will be announced through a mailing list. If you know scholars potentially interested in the project wanting to be included in this mailing list, please just let them send an e-mail with the CANeW word in the [Subject] part to:

<mailto:frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr>frederic.gerard@isbank.net.tr

Let the project be known to other colleagues using the Forward button of your e-mail browser, or recommend it using the specified button on the homepage of the Web site !

Calls for Papers

**Neolithic Revolution!
New Perspectives on South-West Asia in Light of
Recent Discoveries on Cyprus**

Please, see the previous section.

**Recent Studies of Ground Stone Artifacts
in the Southern Levant.**

This announcement is a call for papers for a new session to be held at the 2001 ASOR Annual Meeting entitled Not the Same Old Grind: Recent Studies of Ground Stone Artifacts in the Southern Levant. The panel will be the first in the history of the ASOR meetings to focus systematically on ground stone tools from sites in Israel, the Palestine Authority's autonomous regions and Jordan, and we are soliciting papers that will focus on material from the Upper Paleolithic through Iron Age II. The goal of the panel is to make the results of recent ground stone studies available to the ASOR community, and demonstrate how new techniques are being used to answer questions about social and socio-economic phenomena related to stone tool manufacture, trade, use, and discard in this region.

Please contact Yorke Rowan or Jennie Ebeling for more information.

Yorke Rowan, ymrowan@hotmail.com
Jennie Ebeling, jebeling99@hotmail.com



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