

ments de lames de silex larges, réguliers, aux nervures parallèles qui rappellent le type dit «cananéen» et qui étaient assemblées au bitume pour servir de faucilles.

La faune, essentiellement domestique, compte (par ordre d'importance) de la chèvre, du porc, du mouton et du boeuf.

Plusieurs tombes d'enfants et quelques tombes d'adultes ont été fouillées. Les corps étaient généralement enterrés dans des jarres (dont la paroi avait souvent été soigneusement découpée pour permettre l'introduction du mort), parfois en pleine terre. Ils étaient accompagnés de vaisselle céramique, de taille normale pour les adultes, miniature pour les enfants.

Au fond d'un sondage qui traversait les couches Ninivite V fut découverte une tombe Halaf. Le corps, très mal conservé, semblait être celui d'un adulte, apparemment couché sur le flanc gauche, tête au sud. Il était accompagné de plusieurs fusaïoles, d'un bol peint de bucranes et d'une sorte de palette en os.

Les principaux objectifs des prochaines campagnes devraient être, d'une part d'améliorer notre connaissance de l'architecture Ninive V par l'extension des fouilles à Kūtān, d'autre part de localiser puis de fouiller l'installation Halaf qui, protégée par des couches plus récentes, pourrait être mieux conservée qu'à Ĥ. Derak. En même temps nous souhaitons obtenir quelques informations dans un domaine qui nous échappe encore, le domaine botanique, et déterminer quel était l'environnement ancien, quelles étaient les espèces cultivées.

J. D. Forest.

T. Karrāna 3, T. Ġikān and T. Ĥirbat Šālih:

1st Campaign 1984*

In the framework of the rescue excavation program for the area of the Saddam Dam basin north of Mosul, a German-Italian expedition supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the Italian Ministero della Pubblica Istruzione through the Università di Bologna, and the Centro Studi e Ricerche Ligabue, Venezia, worked from Sept. 1 to Nov. 10, 1984 at three sites on the east bank of the Tigris.

T. Karrāna 3 is a natural hill with max. 3 meters of anthropic sediment approx. 25 m (highest point: 326,51 m above sea level) above the surrounding Wādī Karrāna. (Fig. 115) The heavy erosion has left only approx. 1500 m² of the original settlement.

During the 1st campaign the stratigraphic situation was basically clarified. A trench in N-S direction from the highest point down to the eroded edges of cultural sediments revealed three main levels of habitation, which can be dated on the basis of ceramic finds to the later phase of the Late Uruk and the earlier stages of the Ninevite 5 culture. There are no vestiges for any human activity younger than Ninevite 5 on the tell. Some Halaf sherds were found out of their original context; they may have been inserted accidentally from a different place.

*) Cf. also *Iraq* 47, 232-3; 238.



Fig. 115. T. Karrāna 3: View from North.

The earliest layer of habitation (level 1) just above virgin soil was reached only in small deep-soundings. The only archaeological features were a well-laid compact floor and the burial of an infant of approx. 9 fetal months in a cooking pot.

The next level (2) was essentially represented by a structure with three long parallel walls made of mud-bricks and covered with reed. On the basis of a large quantity of seeds (mostly wheat) found between the walls it should be interpreted as a granary or a drying-place for grain. Full excavation had to be postponed to the 2nd campaign.

A similar construction was found in the subsequent level 3, consisting of four parallel walls preserved for a length of 5.30 m with an interspace of ca. 50 cm. The orientation was the same as that of the «granary» of level 2. Southwest of the «granary» a court-yard delimited by a long mud-brick wall was found, the most prominent feature of which was a large oven formed by a circle of bricks.

While the planimetric arrangement of levels 2 and 3 show clear continuity, there were clear alterations in level 4. The architectural structures still followed a N-S alignment, but the place of the «granary» of level 3 was now occupied by a building, two quadrangular rooms of which have been excavated.

The pottery of T. Karrāna 3 shows a slow development, without gaps between the various levels, from

the predominance of Late Uruk (including vessels with painted decoration) to a majority of painted Ninevite 5 wares. Only very few incised and excised Ninevite 5 sherds were found.

T. Ğikān is one of the largest sites in the Saddam Daḡ basin (ca. 750 m from N to S, ca. 400 m from E to W) and rises at the junction of the Baḡāq river with the Tigris up to a height of approx. 10–12 meters. Since 1982, Iraqi, Austrian, and Japanese expeditions had carried out excavation work on various points of the vast tell. The German-Italian expedition investigated the NE slope close to the highest point of the tell, which is covered by a present-day Yezidi cemetery. A full sequence of the occupational periods in this part of the tell was obtained (levels 1–2 «Akkadian», 3–4 Ḥābūr, 5 Neo-Assyrian [?], 6–7 Abbasid). The most remarkable architectural feature was a 2.50 m wide mud-brick wall in level 5 built on a foundation of shallow stone blocks. The wall runs parallel to the slope which might suggest the function of a town-wall.

T. Ḥirbat Šāliḡ is a low elevation close to Tall Fisna and to the junction of Wādī Fāyda/Wādī Karrāna with the Tigris. In this small tell the remains of a single extended complex were discovered, which was built on virgin soil during the late 1st millennium A. D. Later on the place was used as a cemetery, but there were no tombs visible anymore before excavation started. The complex (cf. fig. 116) consisted of (1) two symmetrical

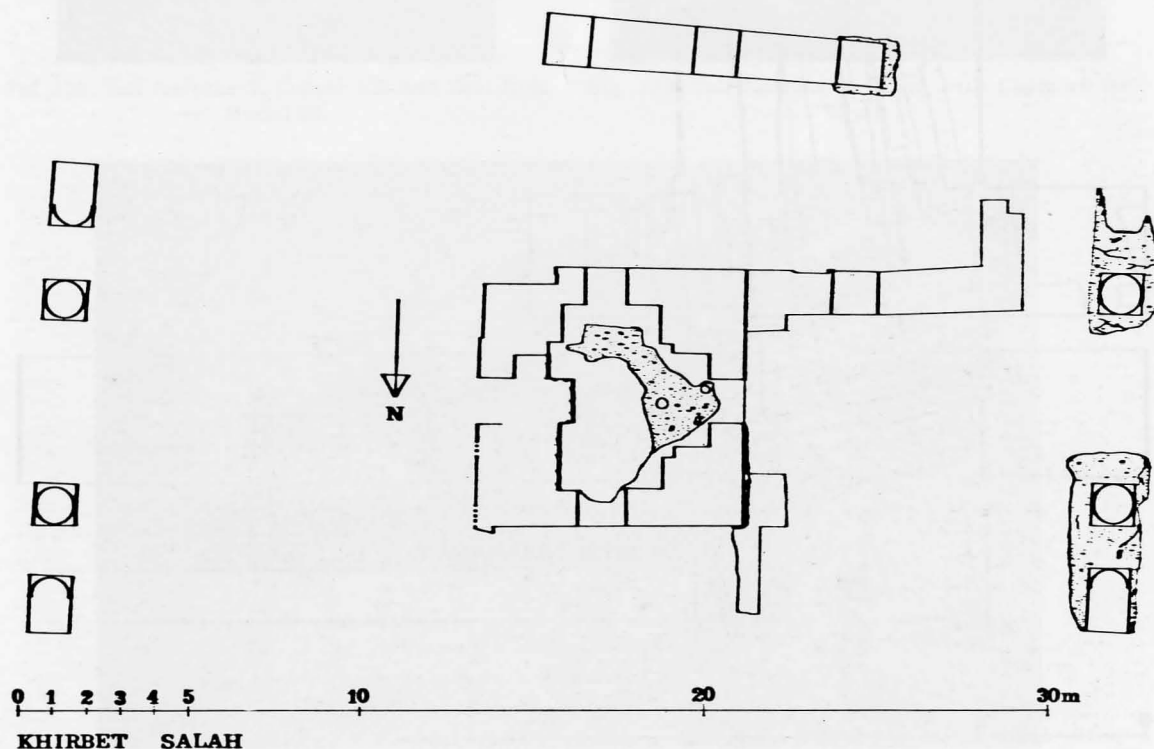


Fig. 116. Plan of T. Ḥirbat Šāliḡ.

limiting structures in the E and in the W at a distance of 32 m made of two pillars with half-columns and two pillars each, built of stones with mortar and covered with plaster, (2) a wall in the S composed by three stone pillars and mudbricks in between, and (3) a central building totally built of irregular stones and mortar, which had a quadrangular shape and a door on each side. Most likely, the building served a cultic function. The connected sherds were finely decorated by intricate and rich geometrical designs of floral inspiration, also by a few zoomorphic motifs, mostly made by use of a mould.

Mario Fales / Sebastiano Tusa /
Gernot Wilhelm / Carlo Zaccagnini.

T. Karrāna 3, T. Ħirbat Šālīḥ:

2nd Campaign 1985

The 2nd campaign of the German-Italian expedition to the Saddam Dam area took place from Sept. 6 to Nov. 6, 1985. In T. Karrāna 3 the excavated area was

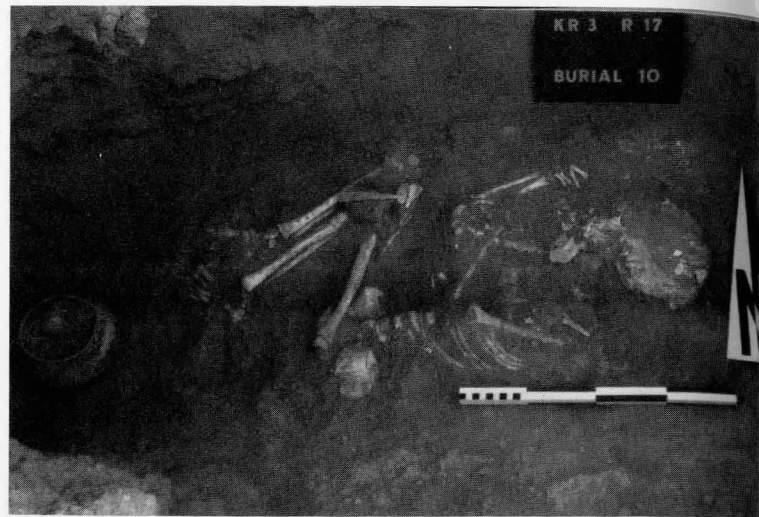


Fig. 118. Tall Karrāna 3. Burial 10.

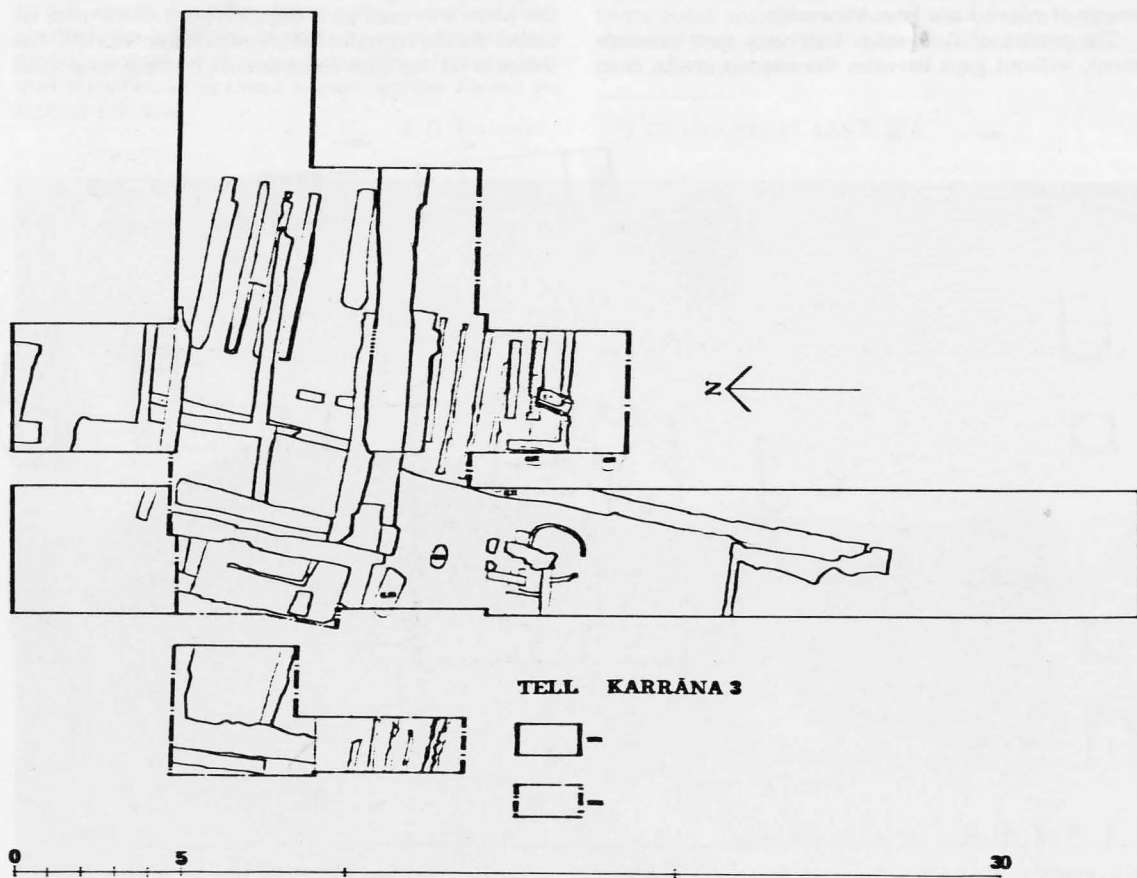


Fig. 117. Tall Karrāna 3. Schematic Plan 1985.