

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.

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### T. Karrāna 3, T. Ħirbat Sālih:

2<sup>nd</sup> Campaign 1985

The 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

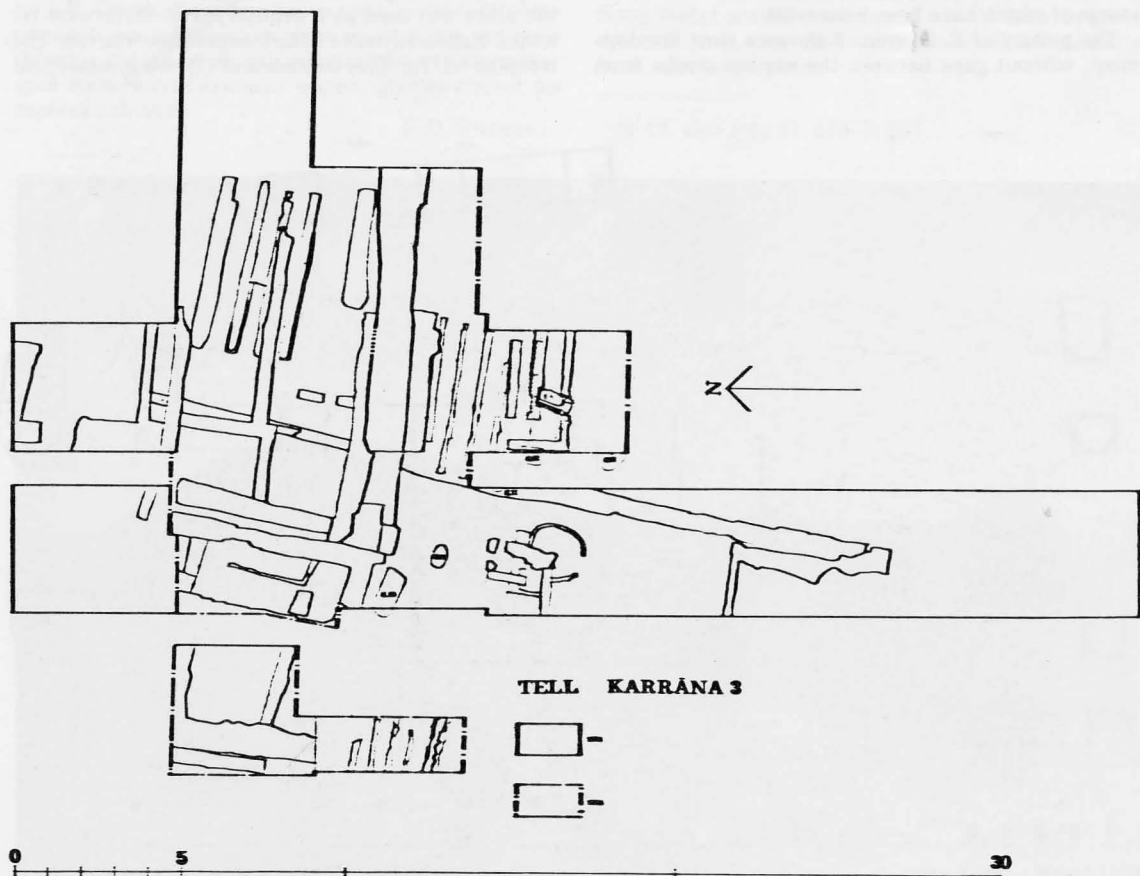


Fig. 117. Tall Karrāna 3. Schematic Plan 1985.

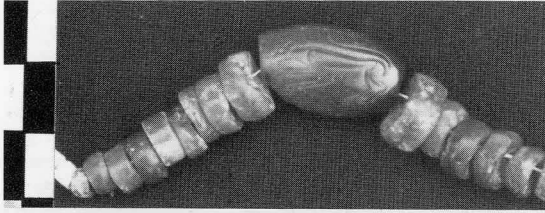


Fig. 119. Tall Karrāna 3. Beads from Burial 13.

extended in the vicinity of the granary of level 2, which was fully excavated. In some of the squares already excavated in 1984, work was continued down to virgin soil. Two new squares were opened W of the excavated area (fig. 117).

The earliest preserved level following immediately upon virgin soil is now represented by two mud-brick walls of modest dimensions, a fire-place with some sherds of cooking pots, and seven children's graves.

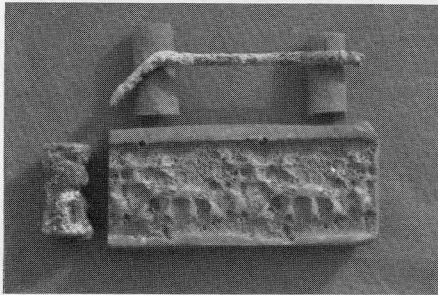


Fig. 120. Tall Karrāna 3. Copper Pin and Seal from Burial 10.



Fig. 122. Tall Karrāna 3. Room with Chamber for Grain.

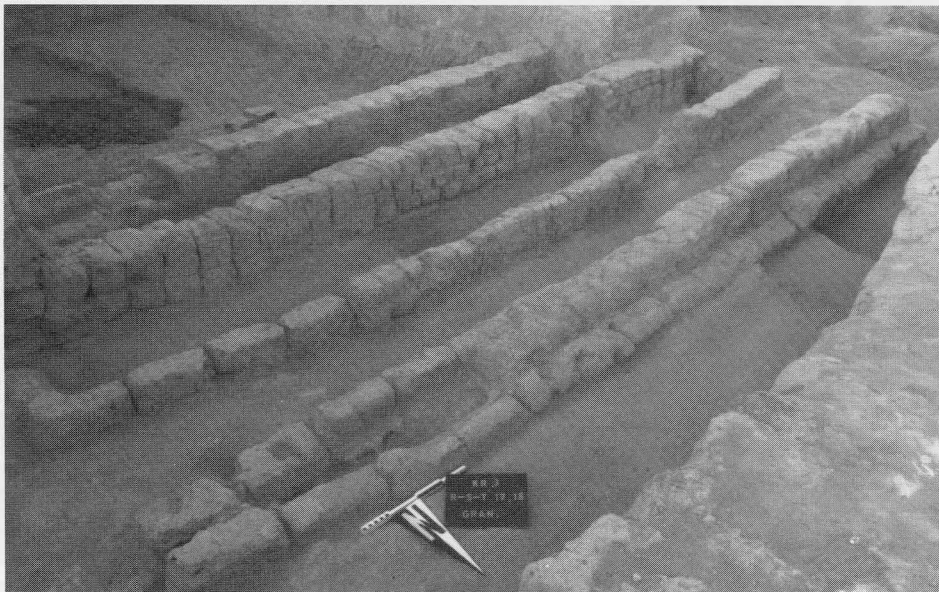


Fig. 121. Tall Karrāna 3. «Granary» of Level 2.

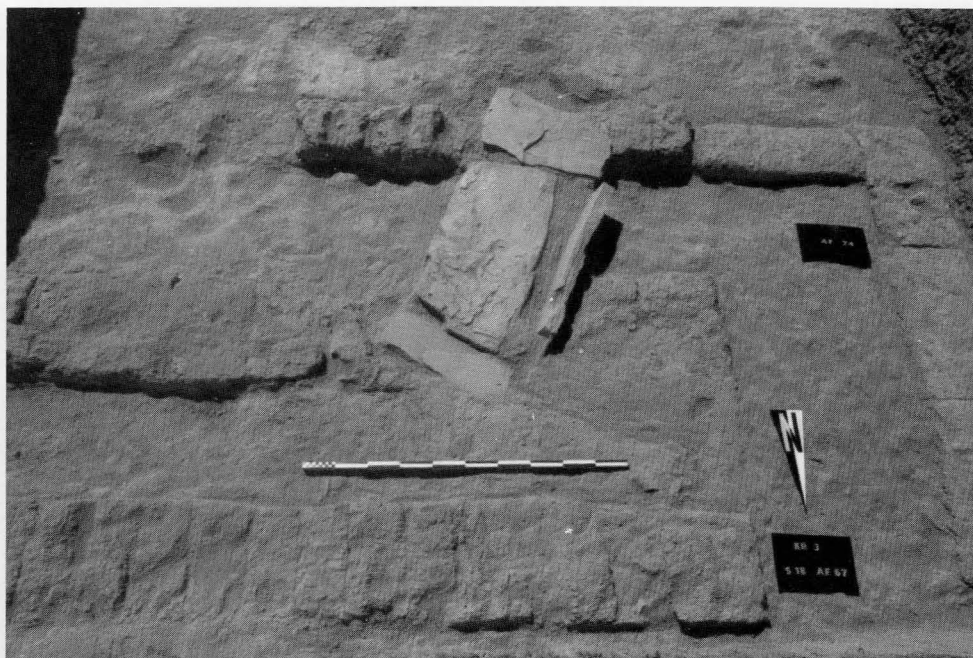


Fig. 123. Tall Karrāna 3. Storage Building and Burial 9.

The infants were in their ninth fetal month. They were buried in cooking pots or parts of cooking pots or pithoi in connection with upright stone slabs. The older children (3–7 years old) were buried in grave pits, their bodies lying on the right side in an E-W orientation in a crouched position, the head in the E facing N. In two cases a pot was placed on or close to

the feet (fig. 117). A 3–5 year-old child had a necklace of fritte and carnelian beads including one large polished bead with a remarkably elegant engraving representing a felide (fig. 119). Another grave contained a copper pin and a copper seal representing a man holding a quadrupede (fig. 120).

The structure in level 2 defined as a granary or a drying place for grain, which could not be fully excavated in 1984, turned out to consist of four parallel walls just as the younger «granary» of level 3 (fig. 121). N of the court-yard adjacent to the «granary», there was a room with a chamber east of the door, which contained a substantial number of grains (fig. 122). W of this room there was another room with a well-laid floor and a quadrangular fire-place with rounded corners. S of this room, a structure similar to that of the

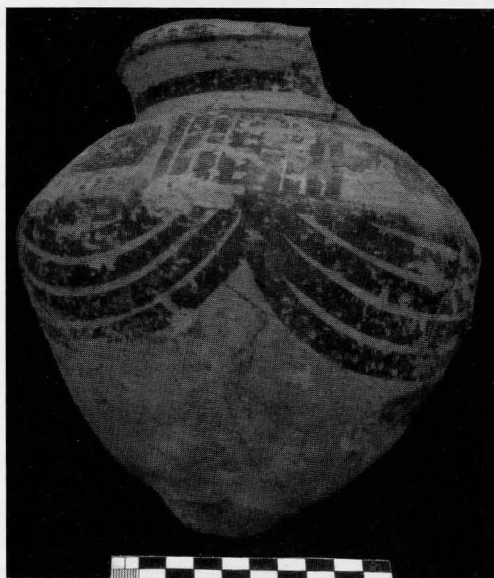


Fig. 124. Tall Karrāna 3. Pot from Burial 9.

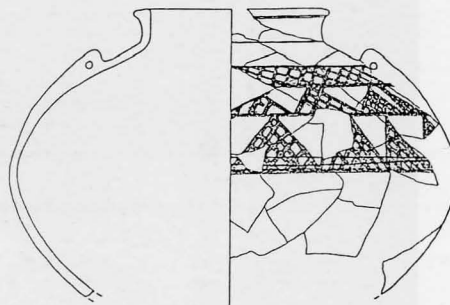


Fig. 125. Tall Karrāna 3. Painted Globular Jar from Level 2.

«granaries» was found. It consisted of five small parallel walls with accumulations of animal bones in between.

Among the remains of the younger levels excavated in 1985 a structure immediately S of the place of the «granary» of level 2 is to be mentioned. It is formed by three parallel walls in E-W orientation at low distance from each other with a wall built of very large mud-bricks at one end of them. The building is most likely simultaneous with the «granary» of level 3. Though no remains point at its function, it must have served storage purposes as well (fig. 123). A grave with a Ninevite 5 pot (fig. 124) was cut into the walls of the building.

The ceramic materials found during this campaign confirmed the view expressed in the report about the 1<sup>st</sup> campaign that T. Karrāna 3 represents a transitional phase between the Late Uruk and the Ninevite 5 culture. More specimens of painted Uruk sherds were found, among which a half-preserved globular jar with nose-pierced lugs and light-red painted decoration stands out (fig. 125).

In T. Ḥirbat Sāliḥ two weeks' work was undertaken in order to clear the central quadrangular building. The inner room showed to be cross-shaped with no traces of built structures. The building must have had

a vaulted stone covering, the collapse of which forms the high filling within the walls. A mill-wheel indicates a re-use of the building.

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### T. Muḥammad ʿArab \*

Tall Muḥammad ʿArab was excavated by the British Archaeological Expedition to Iraq, under the direction of Dr. M. D. Roaf, from November 1982 until April 1985. Preliminary reports on the first two seasons have already appeared (M. D. Roaf, *A Report on the Work of the British Archaeological Expedition in the Eski Mosul Dam Salvage Project*, *Sumer* 39 [1983], 68–94 & M. D. Roaf, *Excavations at Tell Mohammad ʿArab in the Eski Mosul Dam Salvage Project*, *Iraq* 46 [1984], 141–156). The site had a late cemetery of Sassanian date; pits and a gully dating to the Hellenistic period; and village occupation of the Middle Assyrian, Ninevite 5 and Late Uruk periods.

In the final season, the plan of a well-preserved house of the Middle Assyrian period was recovered and the excavation of a stratigraphic sounding

\*) Cf. also *Iraq* 47, 236.



Fig. 127. Tall Muḥammad ʿArab. Grave 50T172 with remains of mud-brick walls which divided the burial chambers.