TOPRAKLI - 1972 FIELD EXPEDITION DIG-PRELIMINARY REPORT

LUIGI POLACCO

The 1972 Field Expedition digging on the Topaklı "hüyük" (Pls. I-II) started on July 3rd and ended on September 2 nd [1].

Our Mission was composed as follows: Professor Luigi Polacco, Head of Mission – Professor E. Balestrazzi, Dott. S. Salvatori and student M. Trojani Excavation Assistants. Dott. M.G. Trentin attached to Staff for Cataloguing and Storage. Architect M. Balestrazzi, Survey Specialist, Mr. G. Penello Draghtsman, Mr. A. Martini Restoration Expert, Mr. Fiorentin Photographer.

The Turkish Government Inspector was Mrs. Nihal Kologlu of the National Ethnographic Museum of Ankara.

This year, the summer season turned out to be again different: there was very little wind and therefore the temperature was warmer and the degree of humidity was considerably more intense.

On the 29th August a sudden violent storm hit the whole Topaklı valley and the downpour was such that the Kalaycık Deresi overflowed its banks, flooding the entrance of the village where our house is situated. In spite of the enclosure wall, the water seeped in and up through some natural conduits. Whereupon our Staff members had to take speedy action with whatever emergency means came to hand in order to plug up the most threatened sources of damage (all the villagers were engaged in the same work on their own houses) and our timely action enabled us to ward off the worst, but, nevertheless, both courtyard and ground floor on the courtyard side were unavoidably covered in 30 centimeters of water and mud. The damage was considerable. Although we were able to bring equipment from the scientific laboratory, the warehouse register books and all the material from the Field Expedition dig into safety just in time, a series of crates with material from the 1968 and 1969 Expeditions as well as baskets containing paleontological finds from various expeditions were completely submerged.

This is the second time that our Mission has been subjected to experiences of this nature [2]. Seeing that the ground floor of our quarters is below the level of the river bed, and that the river has no proper embankments, such a calamity is fatally destined to take place again in future –

[1] *Topaklı* 1967 *Kazısı* in "Türk Ark. Derg." XVI 1967, p. 177 ss.; *Topaklı. Prima campagna di scavo* 1967. *Notizia preliminare* in "SMEA" VIII 1969, p. 76 ss.; *Topaklı. Campaign of Excavation* 1968 in "T.-A.D." XVII 1969, p. 165 ss.; *Topaklı. Campagna di scavo* 1968. *Notizia preliminare* in "SMEA" X 1969, p. 54 ss.; *Topaklı. Campagna di scavo* 1969. *Notizia preliminare* in "SMEA" XIV 1971, p. 7 ss.; *Topaklı. Campaign of Excavation* in "T.A.D." XIX 1970 (1972), p. 187 ss.; *Topaklı. Campagna di scavo* 1970. *Relazione preliminare* in "SMEA" XIV 1971, p. 27 ss.; *Topaklı. Campagna di scava* 1971. *Relazione preliminare* in "Atti Ist. Ven. SSLLAA" CXXXI 1972-1973, p. 169 ss.

Reports which have been published in "SMEA" and lately in "Atti Ist. Ven. SSLLAA" are quoted as follow in abbreviated form: *Topaklı* 1967 ecc.

[2] *Topaklı* 1968, p. 55.

therefore it will be necessary to shift our laboratories and storehouses elsewhere.

Explorations:

Exploration of the great Roman road, starting at Bel-Kuyu[3] proceeded apace. We further noted how the road followed both Eastern and Western directions. Last year, towards the East, we followed the road as far as the pass over the crest of the hills[4]. From this point it descends and can be perfectly recognized for its double lanes as well as its understructure while it runs for about three kilometres (Fig. 1) till it approaches the Paşalı village. Yet, as we came near the bottom of the Kalaba valley (where Paşalı is situated), the artefact appeared increasingly faint; in fact, from the slope of the hills that separate the Topaklı from the Kalaba valleys broad streams ("fiumare") descend in a South-Westerly direction, and these, in the course of time, have greatly altered the original face of the spot. Today, all over the terrain, there is an arid wasteland, cris-crossed by many drainage brooks which, naturally, are dry in summer. Therefore it is quite understandable how, at the bottom of the valley, near Paşalı, all traces of the road have been completely wiped out. During our next Field Expedition when we resume exploration of this area we shall certainly move over onto the opposite side, the slope situated a few kilometres further East, where, if the road should continue in its monumental form, it would not be too difficult to recognize the traces.

It is not merely from a sense of prudence that we say "if the road should continue" but, to the West, as the road is in effect a work of art, we were able to ascertain definitely its termination. Last year we had identified its presence up to the valley along which it descended down to the Kalaycık Deresi bed (Fig. 2). The position of the valley which opens out towards the North is such that the road is bound to follow its course which corresponds to a wide bend of the river that, at this very point takes the same orientation; furthermore, a careful examination of the surrounding territory persuaded us to discard the hypothesis that the road could pass over the river at the point in which it meets the river on its way down the valley, and it would be even less probable that it could have crossed the river further up the slope (namely more to the South towards Gerce and Topaklı). In ancient times this valley must have been far more shallow than it is now and consequently wider. Where it comes out to the North, a few metres above the bottom of the Kalaycık valley, a humble cart-track, about two metres wide, today begins its course along a hillside. From here no more traces of the architectural construction are to be seen. But it is easy to note (particularly if viewed from a distance) how this cart-track wends its way right in the centre of a strip of smooth, uncultivated land, clearly distinct – both towards the valley and towards the hillside-from the cultived land on either side of it. The width of this strip is not regular, however, and from a rough estimate it could be around an average ten metres. Now, if the Roman road had passed this way, it would have been built partly on natural ground and partly on artificial ramparts; its weak exposition and the consequent facility of deterioration has, with time, wiped out its structure and its exact dimensions but not its course. Some cuts on the rocks which stick out of the ground surface here and there on the side towards the hill and some large, isolated stones on the other, valley side, can, perhaps be attributed to the ancient road.

After about 500 metres, this strip and the relative cart-track come to a complete end; the cart-track then bends with a sharp right angle towards the valley where, after about 30 metres, it crosses the river over a bridge which, owing to the solid

[3] *Topaklı* 1970, p. 28 ss.; *Topaklı* 1971.

[4] *Topaklı* 1970, p. 28 ss.; *Topaklı* 1971.

quality of its structure made of irregular shaped blocks firmly connected together, and the presence of a wide and solid support extending to the two bridge-heads for about ten metres, seems so unusual if we consider it in connection with the humble limited cart-track of today, as to lead us to the assumption that it is of ancient make, at least as regards its essential structures (Fig. 3). At the two bridge-heads the support is fan-shaped, measuring 6 metres wide at the base and 3 metres at the top which corresponds to the width of the bridge. The borders of this support can be clearly identified, especially the ones on the side towards the hill and here, an inside line converges in the direction of the border just like the modern horizontal road signs where the central line coverges where the road narrows (Fig. 4). All this does not make sense if referred to the present humble cart-track, but it acquires full historical significance when we place it in relation to the double-lane Roman road. There is a clear spring close to this spot which is noteworthy, particularly owing to a circle of stones around it, which points towards a more important construction that might have had something to do with the road situation itself. Down at the bottom of the spring, we found two pottery fragments not of typical make, which seem ancient. Here the way takes a wide curve, as we mentioned before, and descends. The rock formations that come to the surface at this point have obviously been terraced for this purpose.

West of the bridge, on the left bank towards the town of Kalaycık, no traces of a road were to be found in spite of our repeated efforts to discover them. Did the great two-lane road end here? Is this one of the "*pontes*" cited in the epigraph of Maximinus?[5] In which road network was this important construction inserted?

Miss Trojani, who took part in all these exploratory excursions, will make them the subject of a particular study.

Excursions and Trips:

During our Field Expedition we made the usual excursions to Kültepe, Hacıbektaş, Kululu. When the Field Expedition came to a close, some Staff members belonging to the Mission visited Boğazkale and Gordion, while I took a study trip to Panfilia and Pisidia.

Excavation:

Our general plan foresaw that digging on the Stratum Levels Trench (SLT) should terminate during the present and the next Field Expedition. A lucky circumstance which I shall now disclose in more detail came to bring gereat help to us in our work. At the termination of Field Expedition 1972 we reached altitude – 24,30 namely, we had come to the depth limit of the höyük. Little more than three meters remained to be explored in order to reach virgin ground which can be roughly estimated as on a level with the river-bed, – 28.00. (Pl. II). The fortunate circumstance – which will soon be better explained – was the finding of an imposing enclosure wall (ramparts), far more important and conspicuous than the one we brought to light last year[6]; owing to its bulk we were obliged to quickly terrace the side of the hüyük in the least time possible. Naturally this was also bound to bring about negative consequences. The solid nature and height of this structure forced us to dig towards the far outskirts, and this, at least for the moment, prevented us from examining all the other, more ancient levels, which, as yer, had remained unexplored in the innermost core of the höyük. Yet, even thus, the SLT levels wall has, with the 1972 Expedition acquired its organic and complete physiognomy: we can now confidently state that we

[5] *Topaklı* 1971. p. 91.

[6] *Topaklı* 1971. p. 92 ss.

have an SLT scale at all levels, at least as far as concerns the outer edge of the mound. It will be our care therefore to give, as soon as possible, a special study report dealing with a unified and global critical evaluation of this sector.

The 1971 Field Expedition had brought us – with R level – to an approximate altitude of – 13,10[7]. The Stratum Levels investigated this year have amounted to over 11 metres and the architectural levels that we found came to four (S – V).

As already known, R level showed a strong defensive structure in the form of an embankment upholding a wall: the culture corresponding to it finds many points of contact with the Phrygian even though the presence of Hittite pottery and pottery of Hittite tradition places this wall in a particular light[8]. We have further ascertained the juxtaposition of phases due to successive stratifications of the inner escarp wall (Fig. 5). In proceeding with our excavation we were able to clarify and integrate the whole consistency of the R level defensive enclosure wall. In the initial phase which is of a more organic and monumental nature[9], we ascertained the unity of the inner escarpment wall which is made up of large supporting white sandstone blocks placed in scale one on top of the other; the base was made of blocks in an even larger dimension, most of them placed in a standing position. The main carrying walls appeared well preserved: wall A, 2 meters 20 high, and wall C 2 metres 50 high. The little wall *c* that runs along the side South of C, and which last year we interpreted as being the probable wall of a small drain (when there was a gap at this point in the embankment proper[10], has, this year been traced all the way back along the base of C wall (fig. 6).

Owing to the presence of some very flat stones laid against C wall together with others, and to an obvious bulge of C wall itself with dates back to ancient times, we may make another supposition, perhaps a more probable one, namely that the small *c* wall is nothing more nor less than a reinforcement added to the lower structure of C. The bad state of conservation of the embankment at R level and the need to proceed with digging underneath, induced us to sacrifice this wall. Yet, in order to have a sample, we have kept, near the South wall of our SLT, the entire A wall and its relative embankment section after having cautiously proceeded with what, we hope, is an effective work of consolidation on the surviving structure. This was done by means of cement injections mixed with ashes from the hüyük itself. The next level down (S) as I have mentioned, revealed such an imposing, important architectural monument that we felt it our duty to preserve it in its entirety (Pls. III-V). It is a wall, 4 metres 90 wide, and its height varies quite noticeably but, on the whole, keeps to an approximate 3 metres 20 (Fig. 7). It consists of two facings (or partitions) made of vertical layers of large *e* type sandstone blocks roughly hewn and squared. Between these, a vast amont of rubble mixed with earth and finely pressed stone chips had been poured, creating a compact mass. There do not appear to be any transverse structures here between the two vertical facings to tie them together. The exceptional rigidity, however, of the hard uniform filling, dissuaded us from proceeding to a global investigation either in extension or in depth. We can be certain, though, of the existance of wooden reinforcements because a large fragment of a beam was found embedded transversally in the mass of rubble (fig. 8). Meaning against the East facing (partition situated within the enclosure embankment (or rampart) a vast rectangular room was identified. It did not appear to continue towards the South but probably went

[7] *Topaklı* 1971, fig. 9.
[8] *Topaklı* 1971, Pl. s IV-V.
[9] *Topaklı* 1971, Pl. IV.
[10] *Topaklı* 1968, p. 55; *Topaklı* 1970, p. 32.

on Northwards in view of the presence of a door at pavement level near the South-West corner; at the same time, a small staircase on the West brought us to conclude that the ground outside must have been at a higher level. This room was obviously an addition because, apart from the fact that its North and South walls did not tie up with the great defence wall, its East wall was built in an autonomous manner separate from the great wall, by the erection of another, completely independant wall against it (Figs. 7, 9).

It is not difficult to explain this second particular if we bear in mind the nature of the roof that was used here, which would certainly have been flat and very heavy; far better supported by its own walls rather than built into another wall. This room which, within measures: 5 metres 70 × 4 metres 70, was successively divided into two rooms in a lengthwise sense: one measuring 2 metres 60 and the other 1 metre 40. The latter, narrower room, was paved. In the first, we found traces of at least two fireplaces and in the South East corner, a cupboard containing 32 round clay tablets for gambling purposes. A guard room obviously comes to mind.

The clay finds discovered in these rooms are quite clearly of a Phrygian style, yet we must assume a clear-cut, hyatus between R and S levels (Figs. 19, 20). It can distinctly be seen on the south side of the SLT (Pl. V). In fact, between the blocks at the base of A wall (R level) and the summit of the South wall (S level) various strata – although thin – can be distinguished; to be exact, four of dark earth spaced at intervals with two white strata of very fine rubble and one of crumbled "kerpic" (green brick).

If we interpret the white strips as a superficial consolidation of successive sedimentations (and these taken as a whole after the end of S as they are above S) and we add the strata of kerpic as representing the final seal upon the ruin of S, all this can only have taken place in a considerable lapse of time, however, sufficient to make a clean-cut between the ruins of S and the R structures.

The whole great enclosure wall of S level shows a powerful inclination towards the valley – we are not able to say whether this is a result of earthquakes or due to the sinking of the earth underneath – perhaps both these causes had their effect, and we can easily deduce this, as you will see, because this structure seems to have existed for a very long time. We found that the facing on the side towards the hill was still standing in its original height even beyond the East wall of the above– mentioned room (Fig. 7). The absence of levelling (which is not frequent) brings us to the deduction that the whole structure must have remained for a very long time in a state of complete ruin, thus allowing the weaker materials to dissolve more easily and speedily.

The facing on the side towards the valley too is open to some observations (Fig. 10). It shows large tracts dotted with gaps. The portion that is best preserved corresponds to another wall which descends the slope of the hill at right angles to the wall for about 15 metres 60, equal in projection to the base at 13 metres 85 (Pls. III-IV; Fig. 11). This second wall does not tie up with the facing on the valley side, therefore it evidently was built at a later date (Fig. 12). Furthermore this wall which we shall call "buttress", diminishes in height as it descends in altitude and is embedded, as it were, in an embankment. The outcome of this fact is that the slope of the hill became far more steep than it had been originally.

The reasons for the addition of a buttress wall are therefore two: the first of statics, to give further support to the larger, perhaps far too large wall which had been built too close to the edge of the crest; the second for defence purposes: to form the building frame of an escarpment which should be steeper than the former slope of the hill. Nevertheless, the embankment

into which the buttress wall was embedded, must have given many headaches to the guardians of the enclosure wall. Owing to its slope inclination (approximately 32 degrees) and its dimensions, it must have been very liable to landslides. Obviously it was for this reason that it was reinforced here and there at various points during the passage of time with holding wall structures both in a vertical as well as in a horizontal direction. These intermediate structures were found at different altitudes, without any relationship one to the other that could have revealed an organic plan. We find here stones lined up to consolidate the mass of unshaped earth that is the embankment. It is materially impossible to make a chronological ascertainment of these different interventions which surely must have been carried out occasionally and only in a partial manner as the need arose.

One alone is very striking owing to its significance and shape. At about four metre intervals, steps have been cut in the embankment made of small walls measuring about 50 centimetres high while the slope is lined with sandstone blocks which have left many clear traces to be seen where this facing was most protected: namely at the base of these wall-steps. The step reinforcements are three in number, all clearly visible in all three altitudes (15.80, 18.00, 20.20) and the manner in which the earth stratas are arranged over the buttress wall (Pl. IV; Fig. 11). At the second and third step no traces of wall were found; nevertheless it is necessarily to be assumed that they had been there because an earth step without a facing would not make any sense. This was the most finished form attained in the enclosure wall.

From a technical point of view, the embankment must have acquired a greater resistance to the usury of time once it was diminished and the slope of each single part supported towards the valley by a wall structure and protected by stone facings; then, from the point of view of protection from besieging armed forces, the barriers – represented by the steps along the slope – would have been instrumental in creating a check against the impetus of the besiegers and in lengthening the time allowed for defence.

The last adaptation of the slope shows a lenghtening of the foot of the escarpment at its base for about 5 metres 40 which, naturally, then descends to altitude – 24.00 (Pl. V). The foot of this escarp is clearly marked by a stone base that rises up to cover the slope as well for more than a metre.

To conclude, we can summ up the history of the escarpment in the following four principle phases:

a) Enclosure wall (or ramparts) on the original slope of the hill.

b) Enclosure wall with buttress wall and continuous slope.

b 2) Ditto with terraced escarpment and massif.

c) The lowering and extension of the foot of the escarpment with its consequent heightening and softening of the slope which thus acquires a length of 23 metres 40, equal in projection at the base to 21 metres 50.

Digging on the outside of the enclosure wall immediately presented great technical difficulties. The weight of its enormous bulk and the fact that it was leaning towards the outside (in the outer facing we calculated a projection that varied between 0.40 and 0.70 metres) made it patently unadvisable to continue digging directly at the foot the wall. Therefore, besides keeping the wall foundations in their original bed except for one instance in which we took soundings of metres 1.00 × 0.70 × 1.10 (Fig. 13), we brought the cut of the new terrace even more towards the outside in order to leave a solid base at the foot of the enclosure wall even though it was of a widely irregular nature. Furthermore, in our down wards prog-

ression (Fig. 16) we followed a double criterium: taking advantages of the fact that the buttress wall in its descent divides the SLT lengthwise at approximately the middle (Fig. 14). South of the buttress wall we completely uncovered the Southern side of the wall itself and we proceeded to empty out the embankment up to a point where we succeeded in tracing the original slope, which belonged to the very period in which the enclosure wall was built. The traces of this slope were clearly indicated (Pl. IV) on one hand by the buttress wall foundations and on the other by a continuous oblique strata of very dark earth (a = T) (Pl. V). The summit of the embankment, instead, concerning phases b 1 and b 2, was indicated on one hand by the top of the buttress wall and on the other by a clearcut white line of closely packed earth (which is a characteristic factor of those surfaces which have been subjected to exposure for a long period of time). We were also able to ascertain the procedure followed by the ancient workmen in filling the embankment, which evidently was effected from the bottom upwards through superimpositions of horizontal layers, or layers actually inclined towards the inside. This denotes, above all, the unitarian quality of the work and the consequent chronological unity of the finds. However, we must keep in mind that these were not living stratifications but rather artificial fillings because here the earth was brought in from somewhere else and although, presumably, it came only from superficial stratas and the nearest areas possible (we must not forget that the rampart completely encircled the hüyük!) it could easily contain material deposited there a long time before the construction of the wall.

At any rate, even if we should consider these indications as valid, the pottery fragments are all – without exception – of an average type and Paleophrygian, whilst only those of Hittite tradition increased in percentage.

The picture presented by the finds discovered within the embankment is in perfect agreement with the picture of those found in the room inside the enclosure wall – therefore they are definitely of the same period (Figs. 21, 22).

It is obvious, however, that in order to obtain the objectives set by our SLT, our principal aim in excavating was to reach the stratas under S embankment just as quickly as possible and start cutting at that point; namely to begin work on those levels that chronologically are situated before level S. Owing to the reasons of safety that we mentioned before, we deemed it expedient to effect this work only on the portion North of the buttress wall, to be exact, at 6.00 metres from the enclosure wall at an altitude of – 18,60. In this way, a width of 4 metres 50, namely from altitude – 14.00 (the room inside the enclosure) to altitude – 18,60 has remained practically unexplored (as already stated.) Yet, as the cultural horizon of T level is – as we shall see– still directly tied and akin to the preceeding ones, we must not consider the gap as something which is bound to alter the data that we now have, as far as reconstruction of the SLT scale of levels in our trench is concerned.

We were obliged to use another expedient as regards the buttress wall. Once we had established the value and decided upon the need to preserve in its entirety the structures relative to S level, which included the buttress wall – unique for its dimensions and function – we also verified the impossibility of keeping it completely uncovered (to be more explicit: free from the embankment) owing to the slenderness of its width (about 40 centimetres) and the general irregularities of its structure, justified by the fact that the wall was originally planned to remain embedded in the embankment (Fig. 14).

Therefore, when we had completely uncovered the South side of the wall we left about half a metre of earth against the North side. Thus we increased its

resistance (and we well know from long experience how fragile the architectural structures are, once they are uncovered in the höyüks [11]); thus establishing something equal to important evidence along the SLT axis averaging approximately one metre in width where we would keep under observation the various terracings and the stone castings that we have already described.

In the North portion at an altitude of – 20,65, a large wall came to light, built in a parallel direction to the great enclosure wall of S level (Pl. III; Figs. 15, 16). This wall is of *e* type [12], and formed of the same large stones as the others, summarily squared off. Owing to the fact that only its East facing appeared in our transverse cut on this North portion, we were unable to measure its width. We trust that we shall be able to make a further report on this subject in our next Field Expedition. But the dimensions of the stones and the concordance in orientation make us think that this is another enclosure wall, of a more simple workmanship and of an inferior size than the preceeding one.

The fact that we now found ourselves at a new level (T) was perfectly evident also owing to the nature of the earth which was of a different quality from the preceeding level (darker and of richer quality, similar to the first oblique strata *a* observed in our S trench wall and now clearly visible also in the S and N trenches of the North portion) and to cap our interpretation, the finds were a conclusive feature. Fragments of typical Phrygian pottery – in fact – continue to come to light here, but they are not the chief part any more. Now we have painted fragments, always of a geometric type but with more simple and airy designs: patterns of wide lines, well coloured, we might say, a new type that, according to the current terminology, we could call "Proto-Phrygian" (Figs. 23, 24); and by now fragments of Hittite pottery have also become entirely common.

In the successive U level and the one right under it (V) that we started digging, painted pottery of the Phrygian type disappeared completely and only the other remained (Figs. 25, 26). U level consists of a large wall, 1 metre 40 wide, which appeared at the foot of T wall (Figs. 15-16), and followed the same course. Would this be another enclosure wall? Perhaps so, but of a still more simplified type for its dimensions and its structure: two facings of masonry in large stones, summarily squared, containing double facings full of smaller stones and mud. Inside, the remains of a pavement and of a smaller wall on which T leans.

The stratum readings on our trench are clearly visible also in the case of these levels. At an altitude of – 24,40 the lowest that we have reached during this Field Expedition, the excavation area of the North portion (starting out from U and going towards the East) shows a length of 12.20 metres. Of this, 0.80 metres are situated on V level 1.50 metres on U level 3.80 metres on T level, the rest on S level in conformity with the oblique stratification which we were able to ascertain on our trench wall. This proves with what delicate care and precision we had to proceed in order that there would be no danger of mixing finds and cultures of levels that were in reality situated obliquely in an excavation that was necessarily of a horizontal nature.

In terms of absolute chronology we did not find points of contact that could have given a decisive weight. The hyatus between R and S, the sufficiently clearcut difference in the pottery, the late Phrygian absent in S level, the monumental quality of R structures, lead us to assume that this level enjoyed a very wealthy and prosperous period, followed however by a clean cut. The repeated care shown in the upkeep of this structure may indicate

[11] *Topakli* 1970, p. 28, fig. 3.

[12] *Topakli* 1971. p. 98

a long period of its endurance throughout a length of time that can consequently be dated between the VIII and VII centuries. The hyatus could conceivably correspond to the Cimmerian invasion. As to levels U and V we cannot but refer to an earlier period (*ante quem*).

All in all, the fact seems to be confirmed that the usual classification according to types of Phrygian pottery is not so applicable to the Topaklı culture evolutionary developement and that the process here should be qualified within a horizon that, besides the West, should not exclude those areas to the East of the Halys bend and even further away.

* * *

Our 1972 Field Expedition has opened up great new perspectives concerning excavation on the Topaklı höyük: the imposing character of the defensive enclosure wall at S level deserves to be brought to light for at least some other portions even if not for its entire perimeter. In this matter we feel that we must add an explanation. Last year, we identified the rock ridge that runs half way down the East-North-NorthWest slopes of the hüyük (Fig. 17) and interpreted it as being a road that, at least to the East, led to the gap which we discovered in the defensive enclosure at R level [12]. Now, we are in a position to understand that this road logically was built over the width of the ruin of the great enclosure wall at S level.

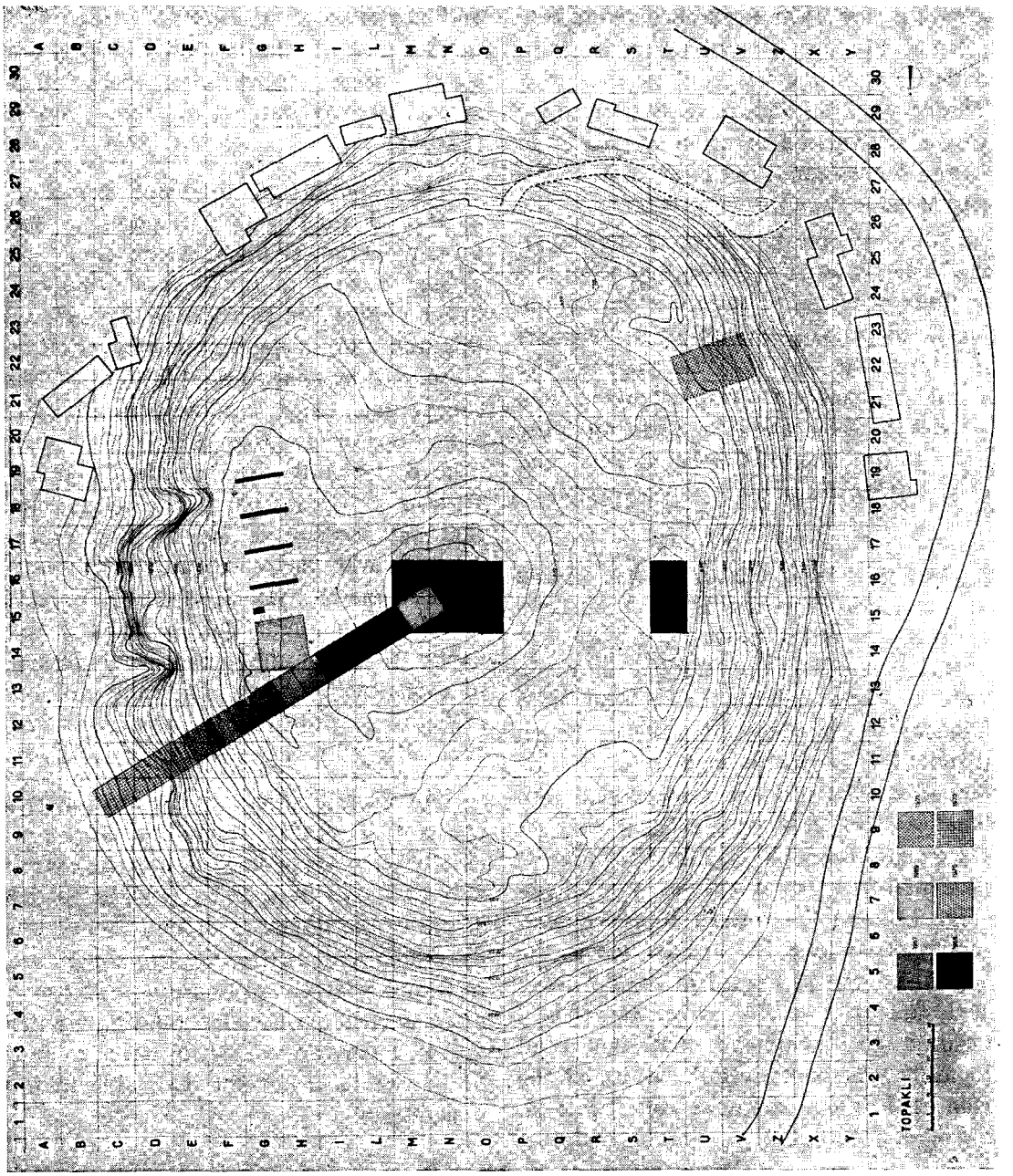
In the wide gash that the villagers cut on the South East flank of the hüyük, in order to find squared stones, good earth and also in the vain search for "treasures" the remains of various buttress walls are clearly visible; these follow each other at an average distance of three metres (Fig. 18).

Furthermore, by following the forementioned ridge which amounts to the same thing as walking along on top of the enclosure wall at the S level, one can better understand the pace and course of this wall and, in the abrupt depression of altitude to be seen to the North West, we can perhaps single out the presence of a large door (or gateway). (Pl. I). The ridge, instead, does not appear on the remaining portion of the höyük: an obvious sign that later settlements had, on those areas, crossed over the enclosure wall which at that time had remained deeply embedded in the mound. This perhaps is the explanation for the great accumulation of earth, without, or practically without any wall structures which was found last year during the excavation of section IV [13].

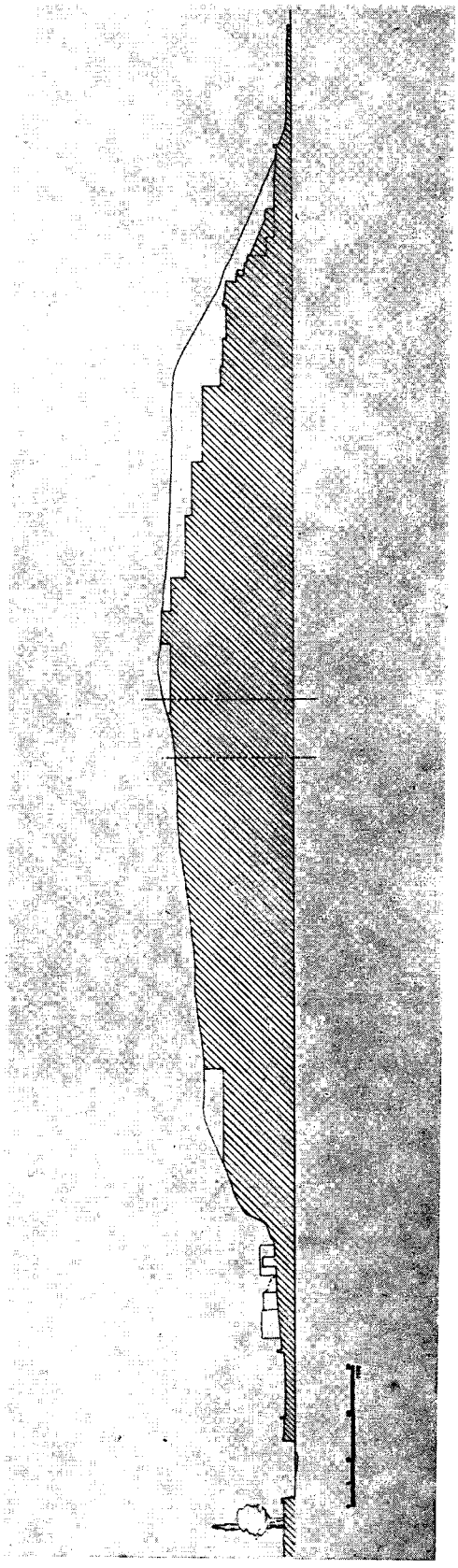
But furthermore, besides completion of our SLT which, I might say, is by now chiefly a matter of form, it appears necessary to return as soon as possible to the centre of the höyük in order to reach the directional core of the city, corresponding to R and S levels and to examine all those more ancient levels which, owing to the fact that they are sealed up inside of our SLT [14] we have not yet been able to investigatei.

[13] *Topaklı* 1971. p. 99

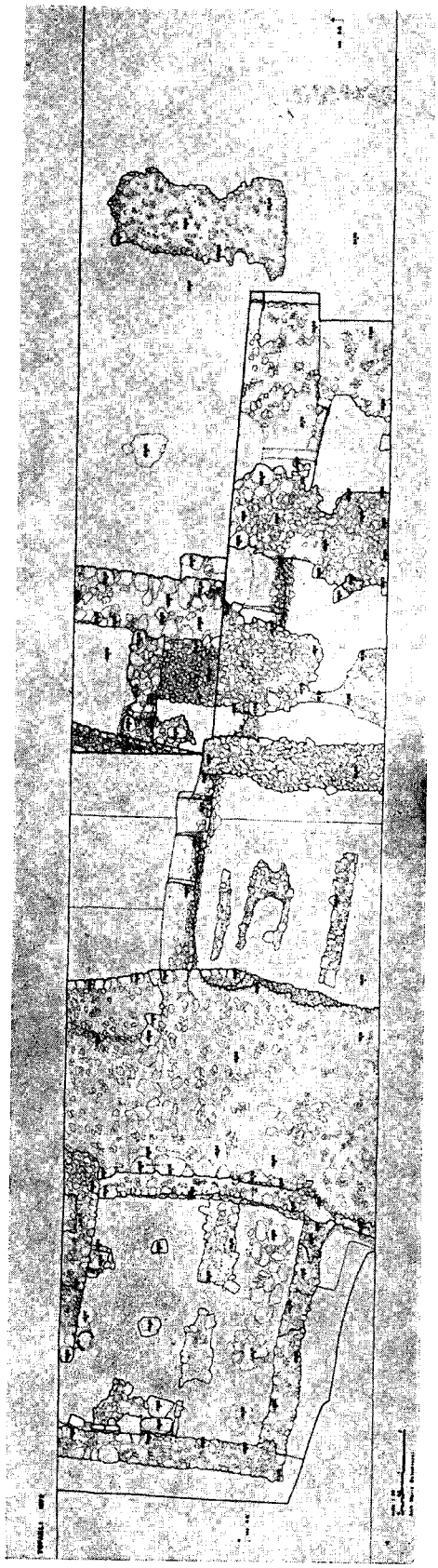
[14] Cf. up p. 7.



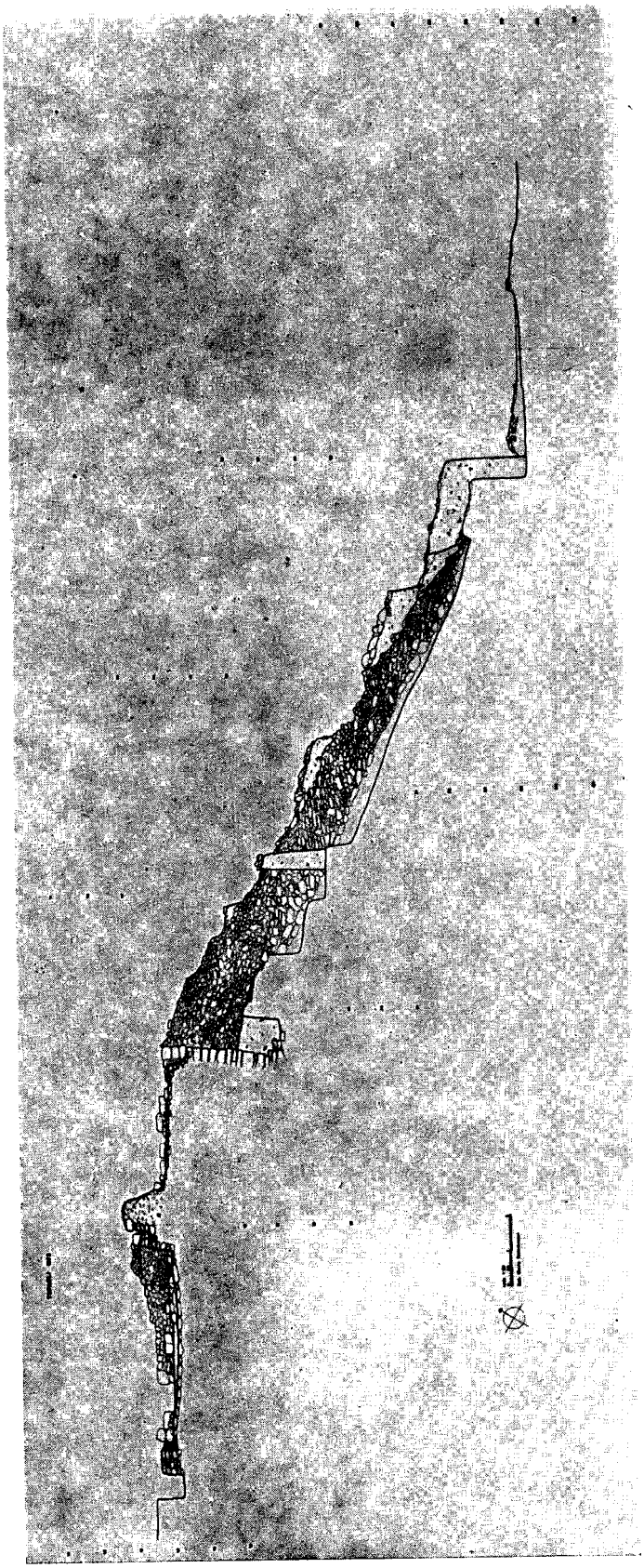
Pl. 1



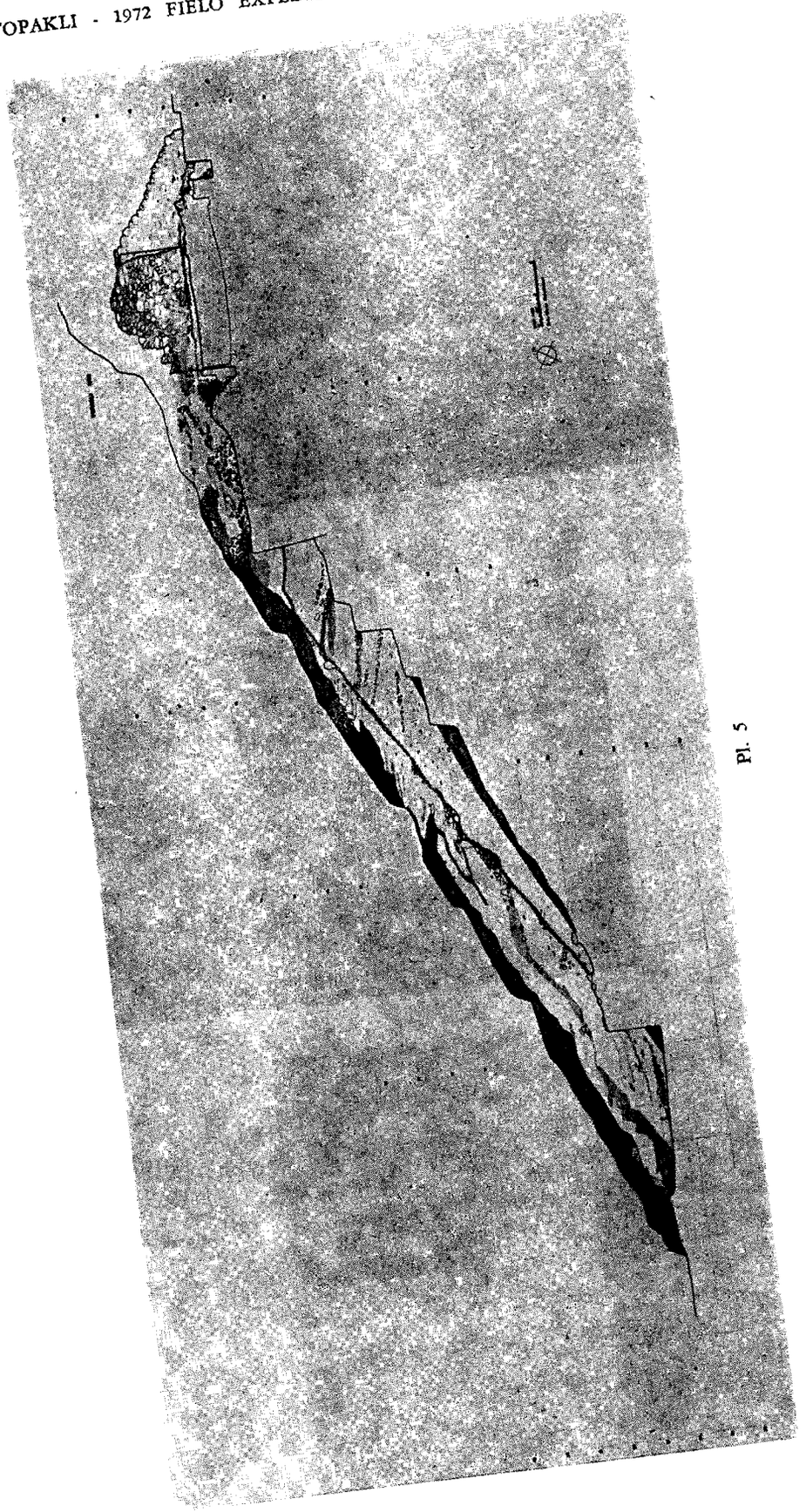
Pl. 2



Pl. 3



Pl. 4



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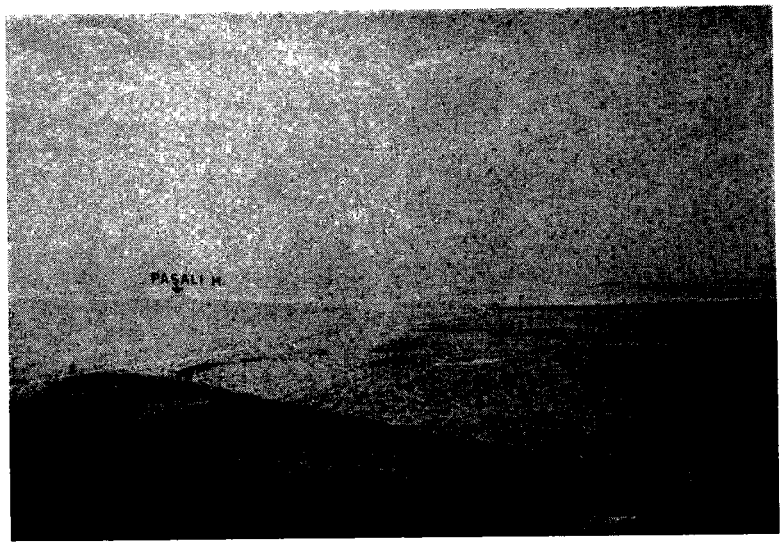
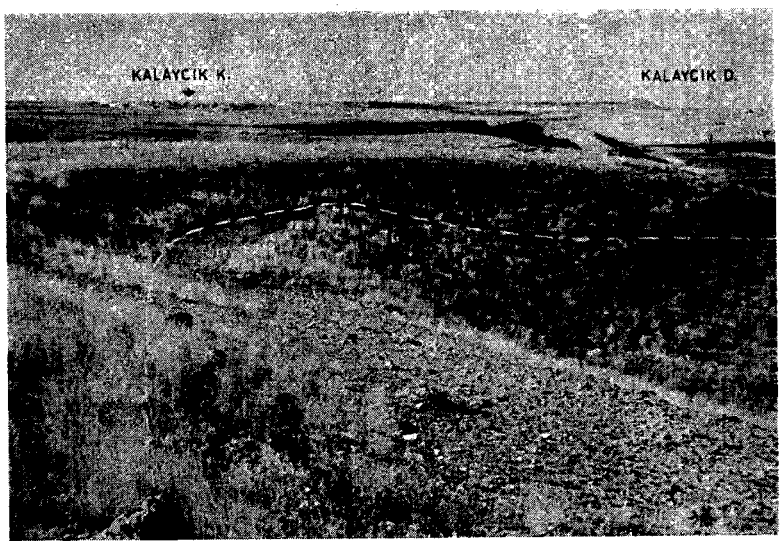


Res. 1

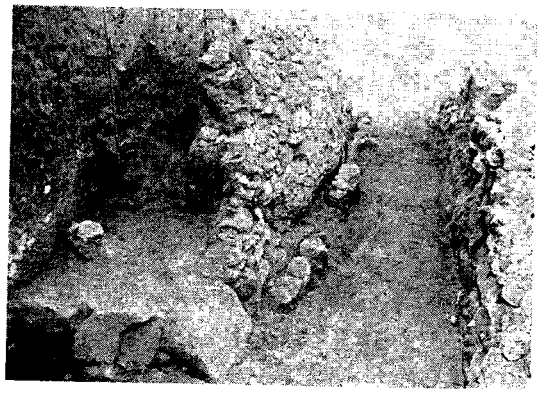


Res. 2

Res. 3

Res.4

Res. 5



Res. 6

Res. 7

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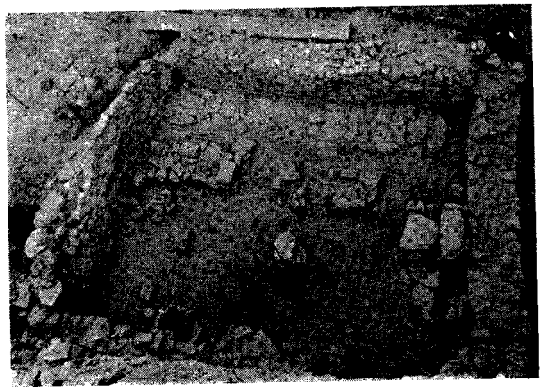
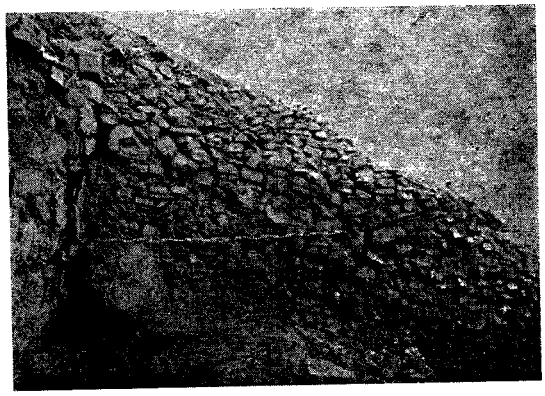


Res. 9

Res. 10

Res. 11



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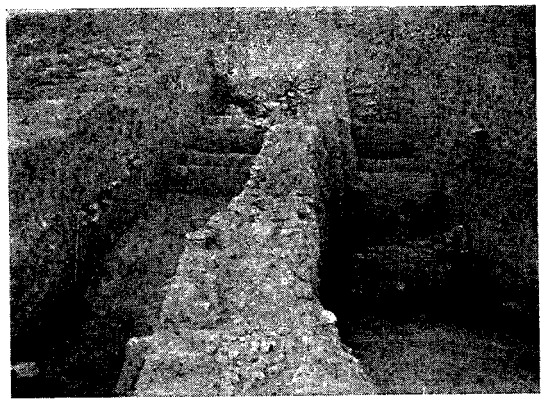
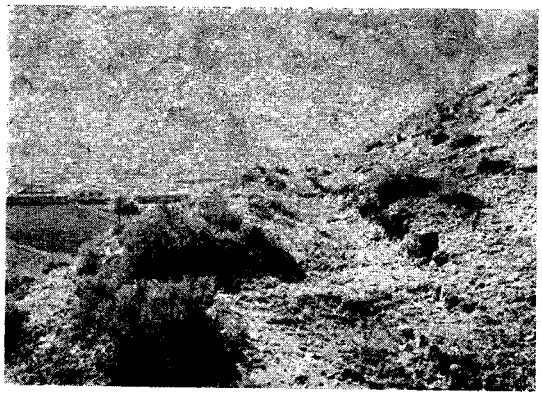


Res. 14

Res. 15

Res. 16



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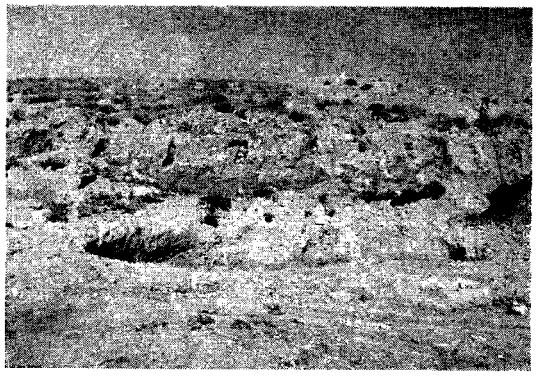

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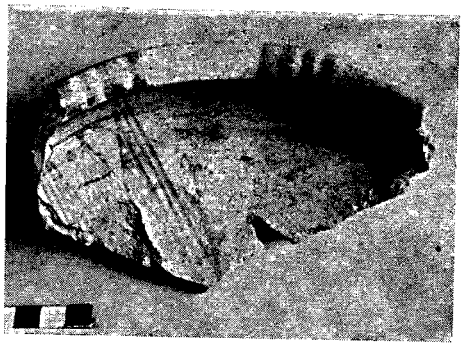

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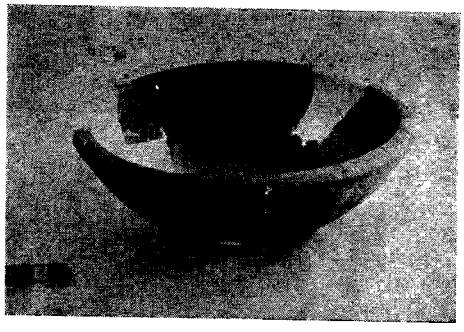

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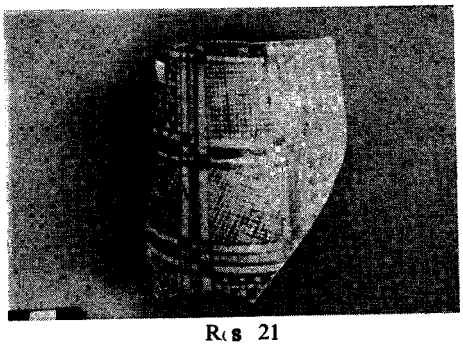
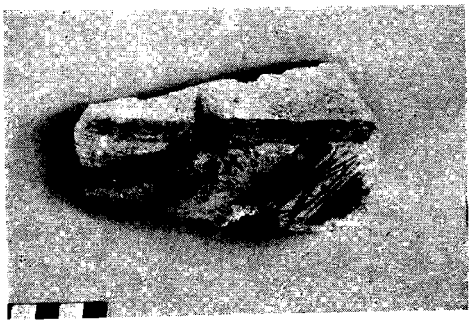


Res. 21

Res. 22



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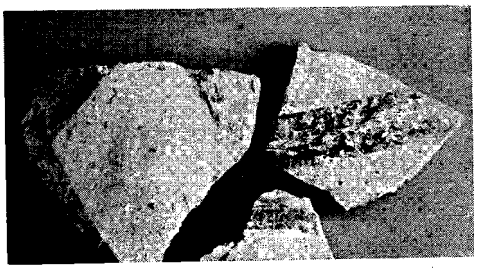

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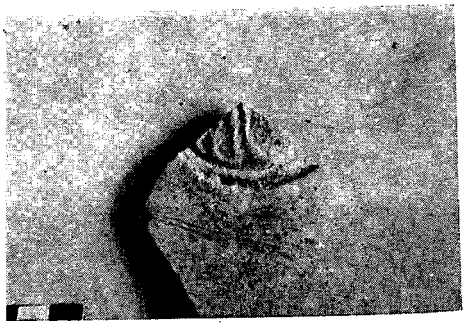
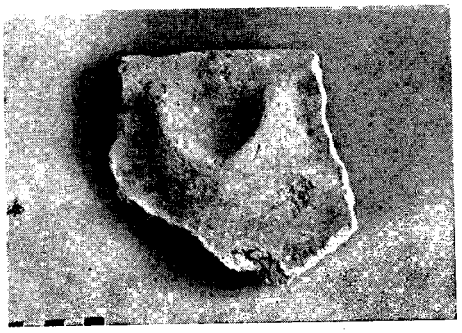


Res. 25



Res. 26