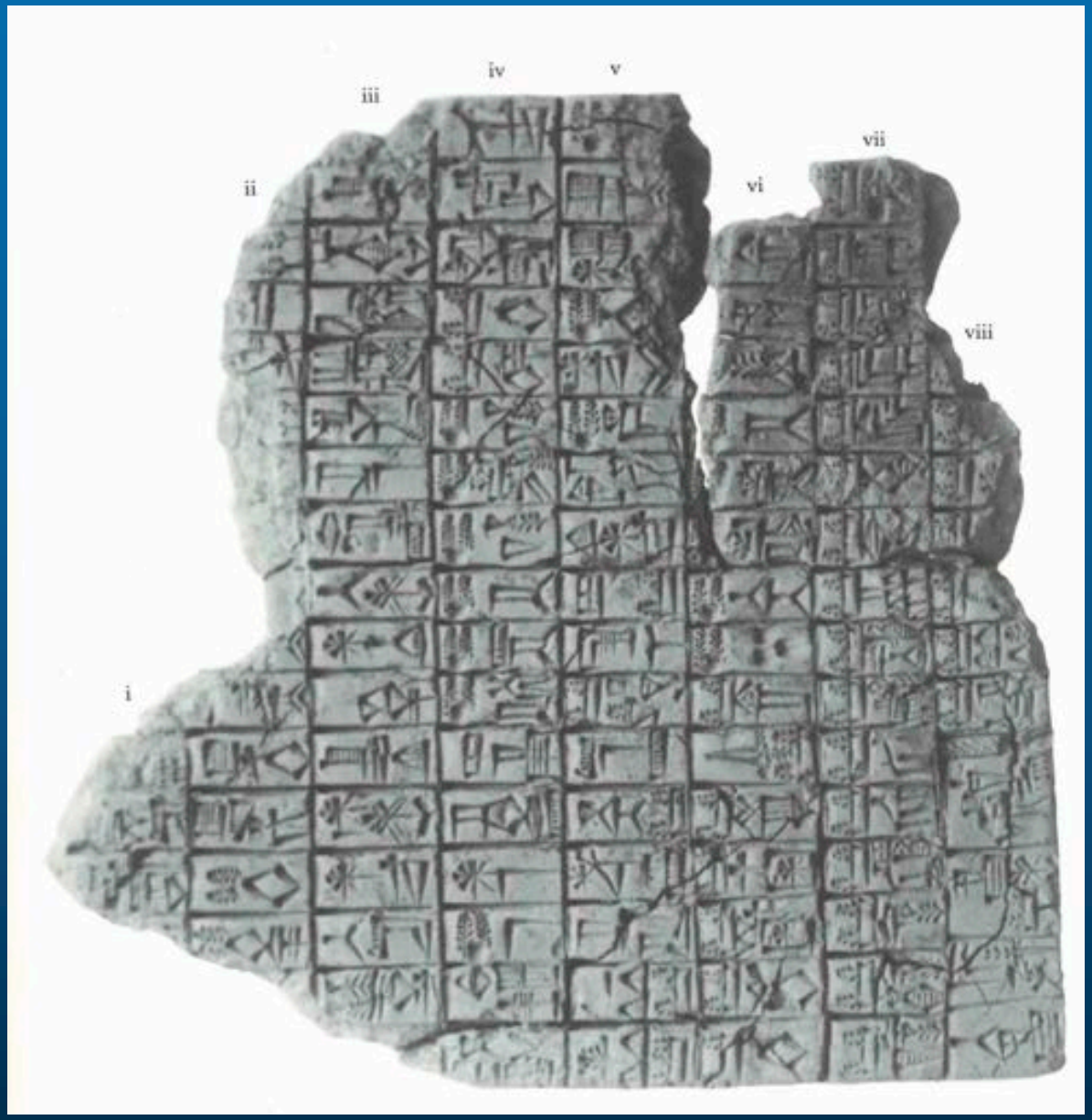
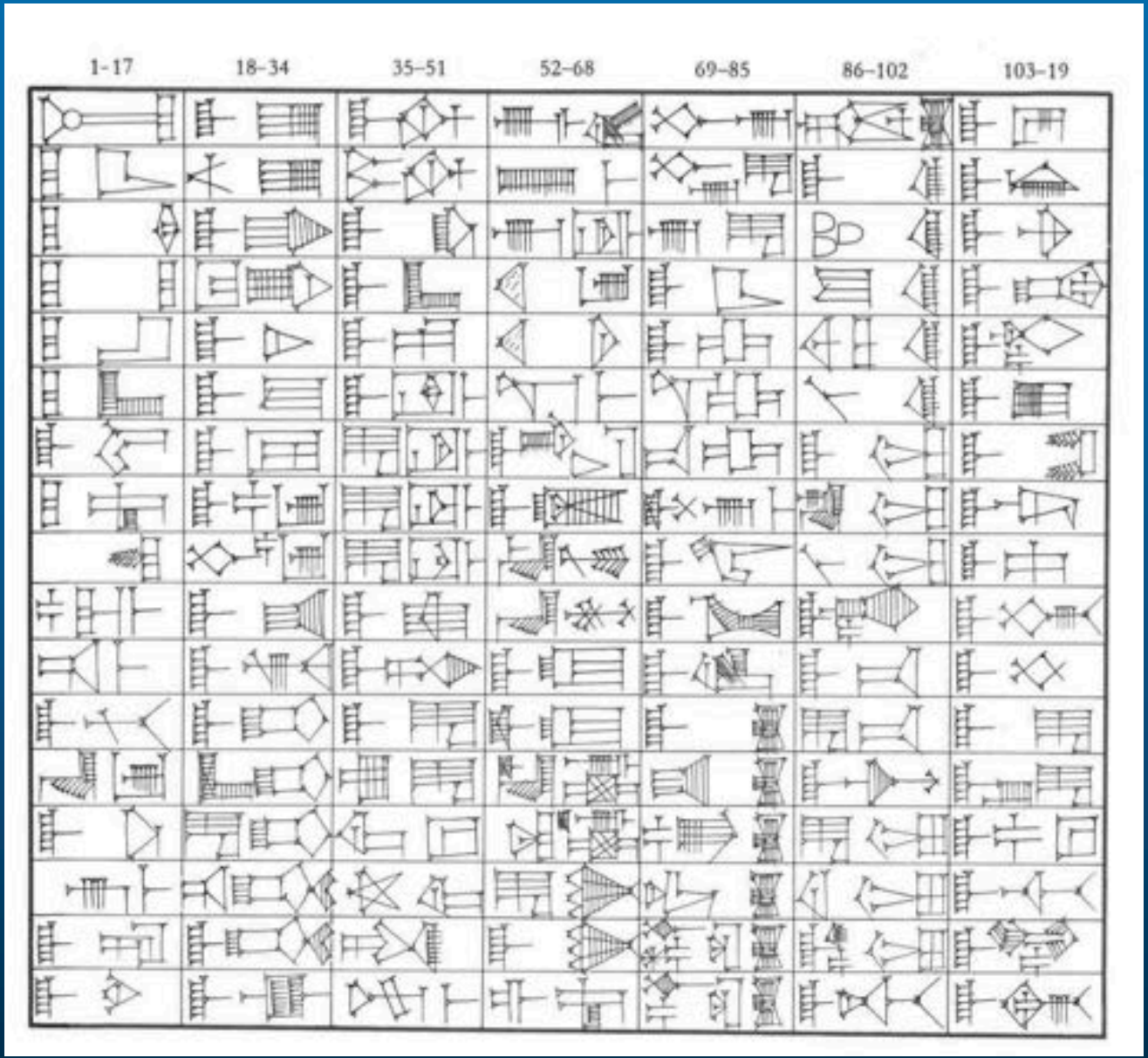
Abu Salabikh 1976

Abu Salabikh

List of garlic and onions: IAS 23



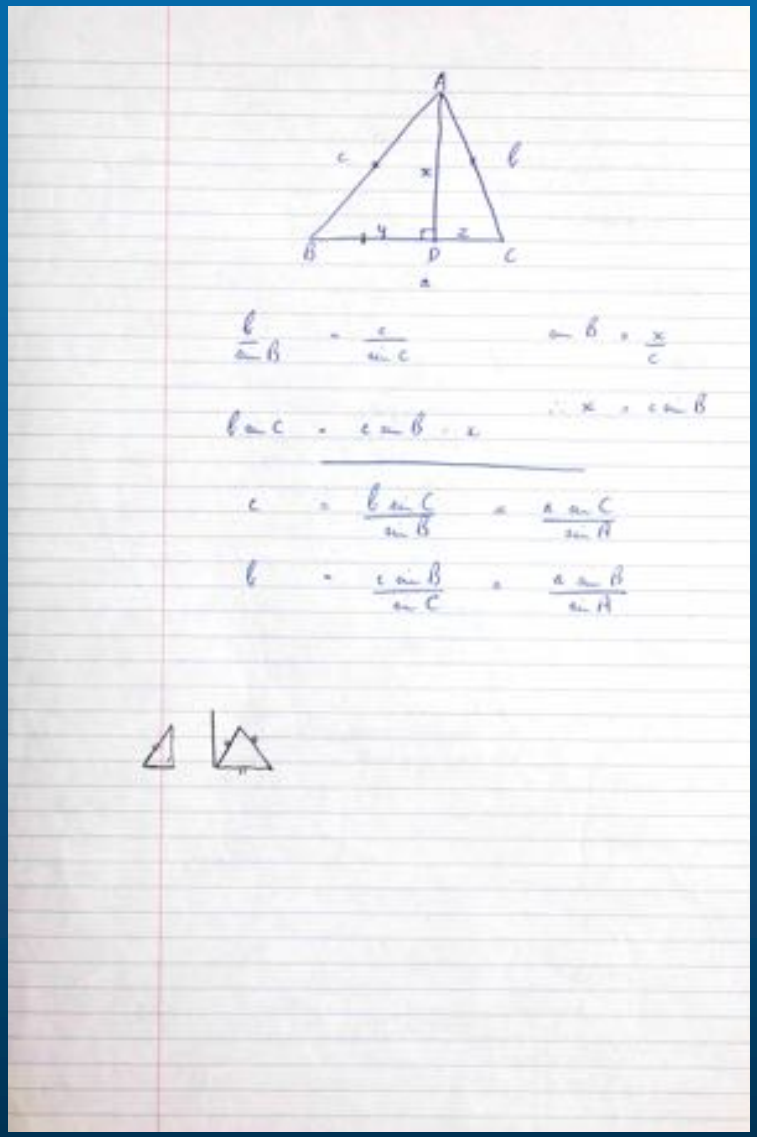
The list of professions
(R.D. Biggs, Inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh, No. 1)

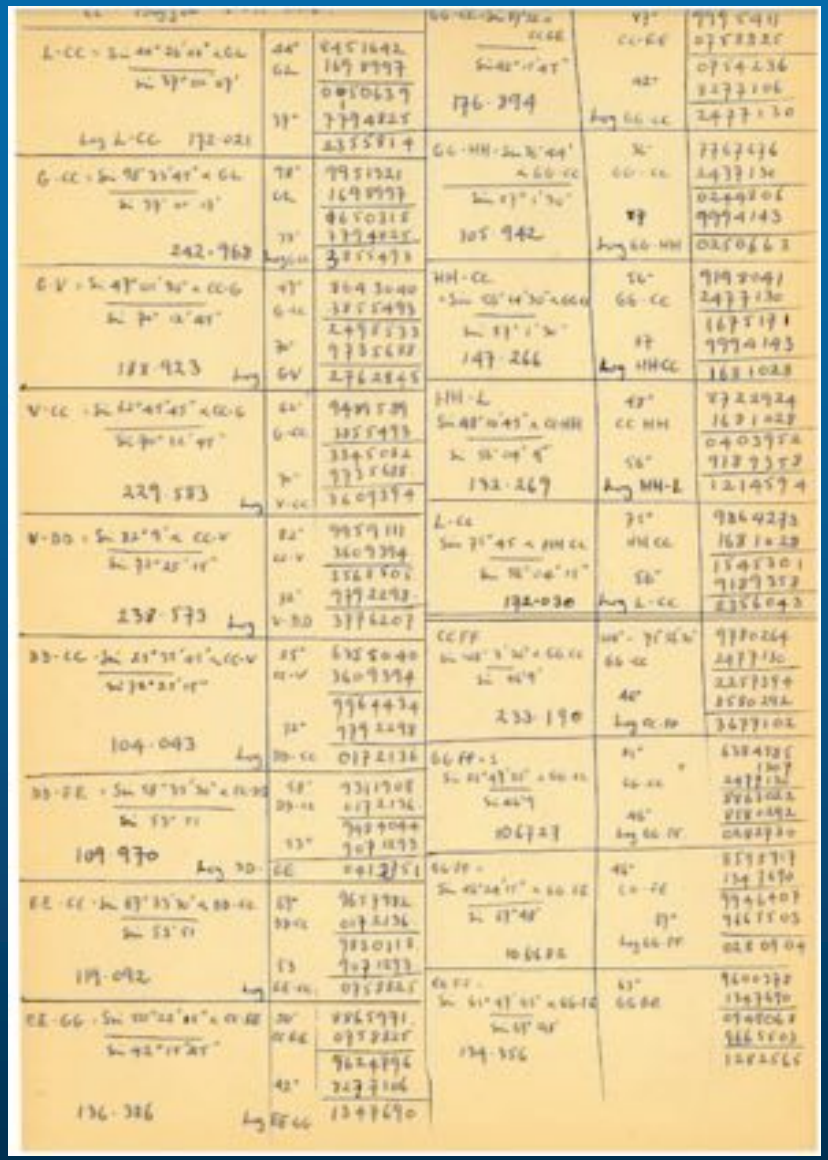


The view from the BSAI roof over west Baghdad (1971)

Before the total station

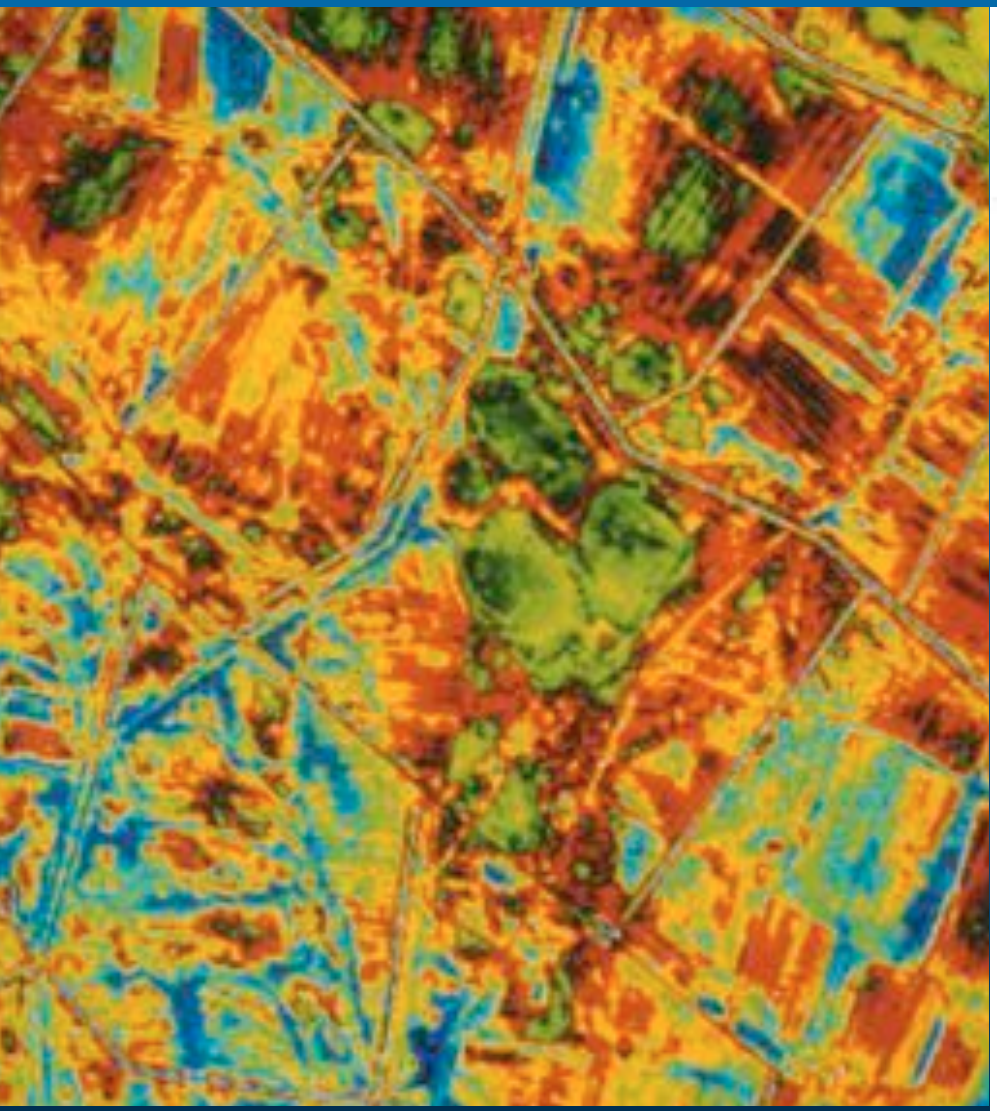
Trigonometry ……. 7 figure log tables

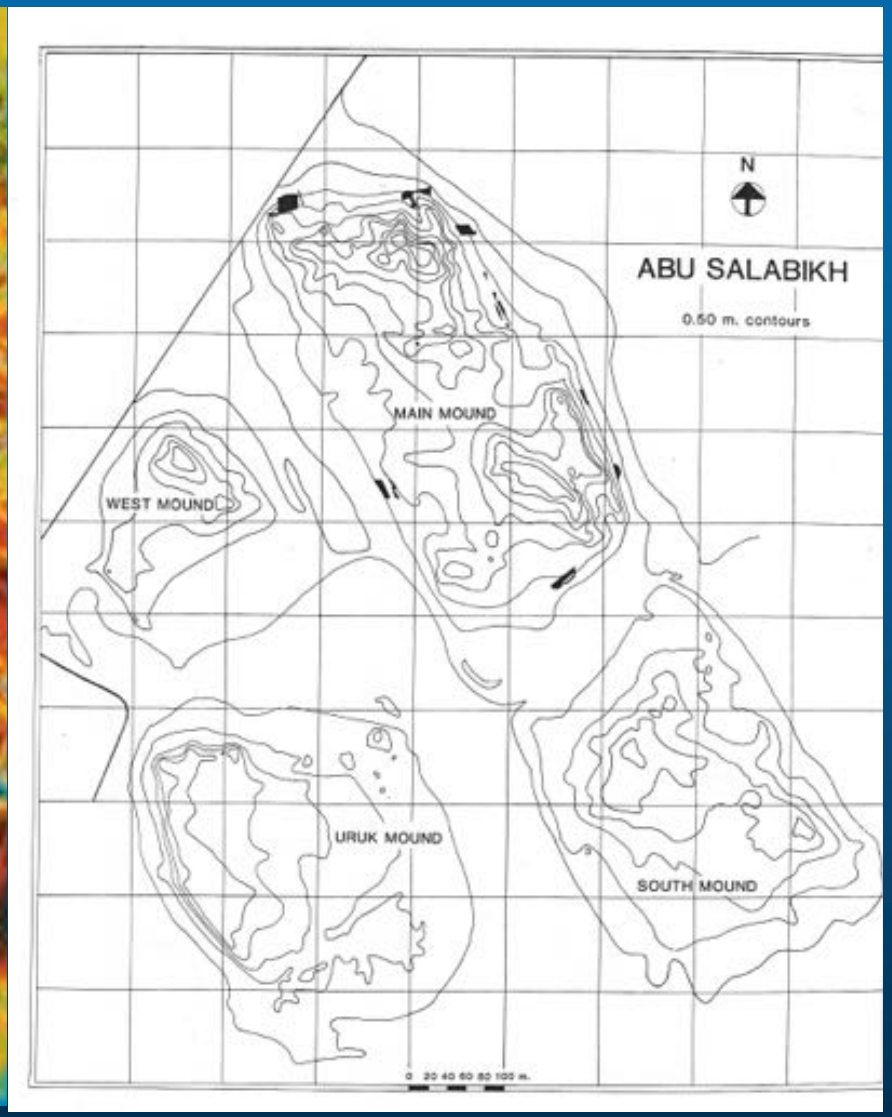




The site from the east

AbS in 1973 from above and below

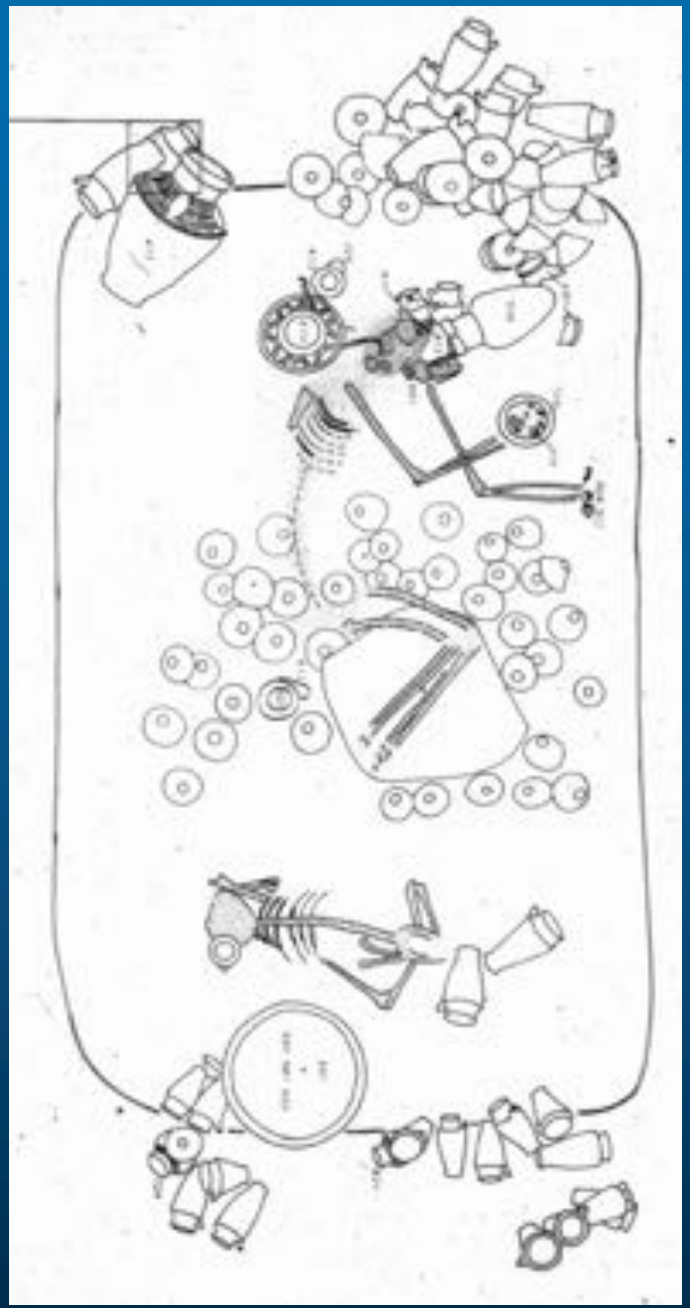




Visitors to the survey, 1973

Room 39, with Grave 1 in foreground

Grave 1, primary inhumation



The pottery from Grave 1

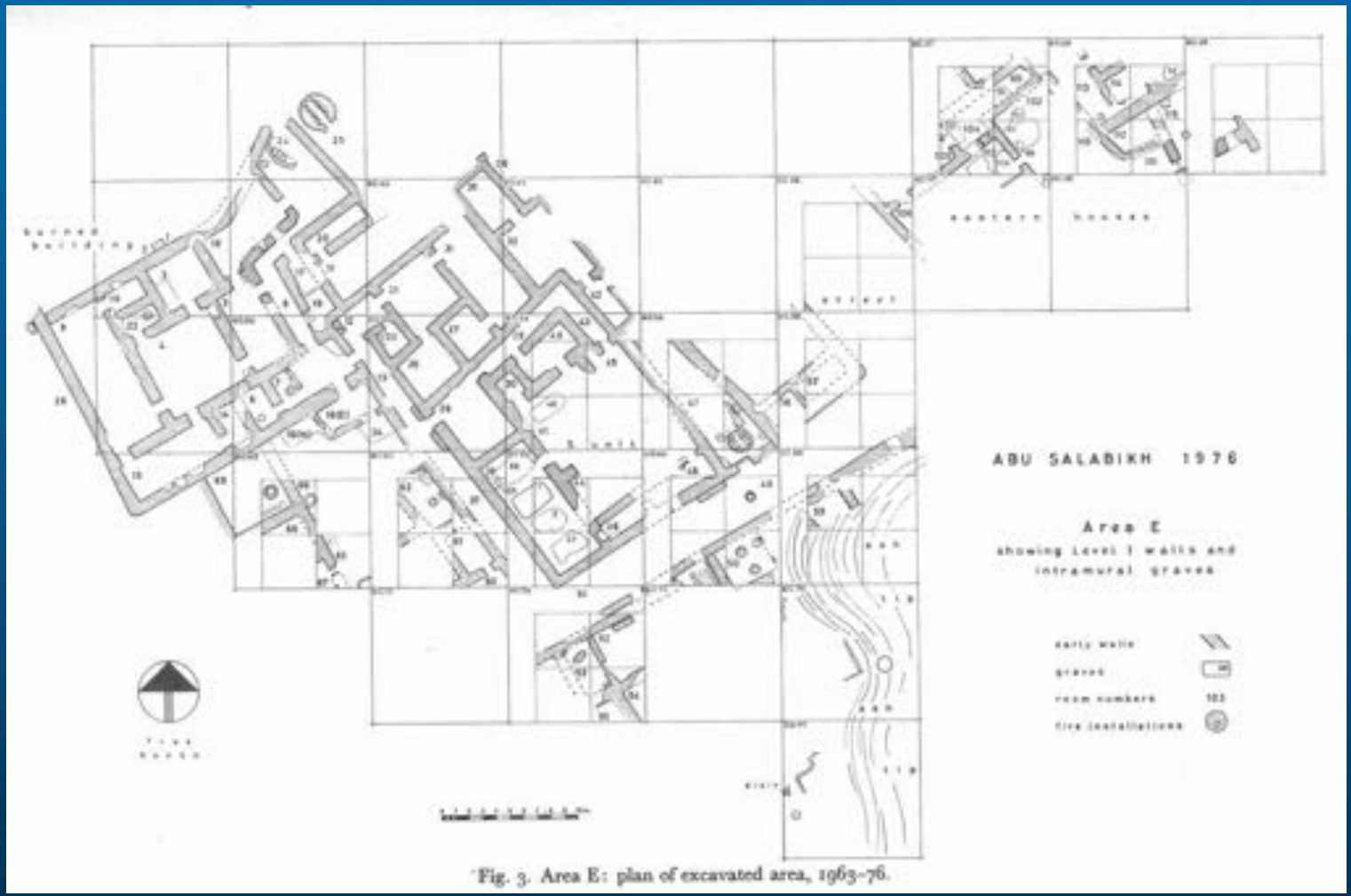


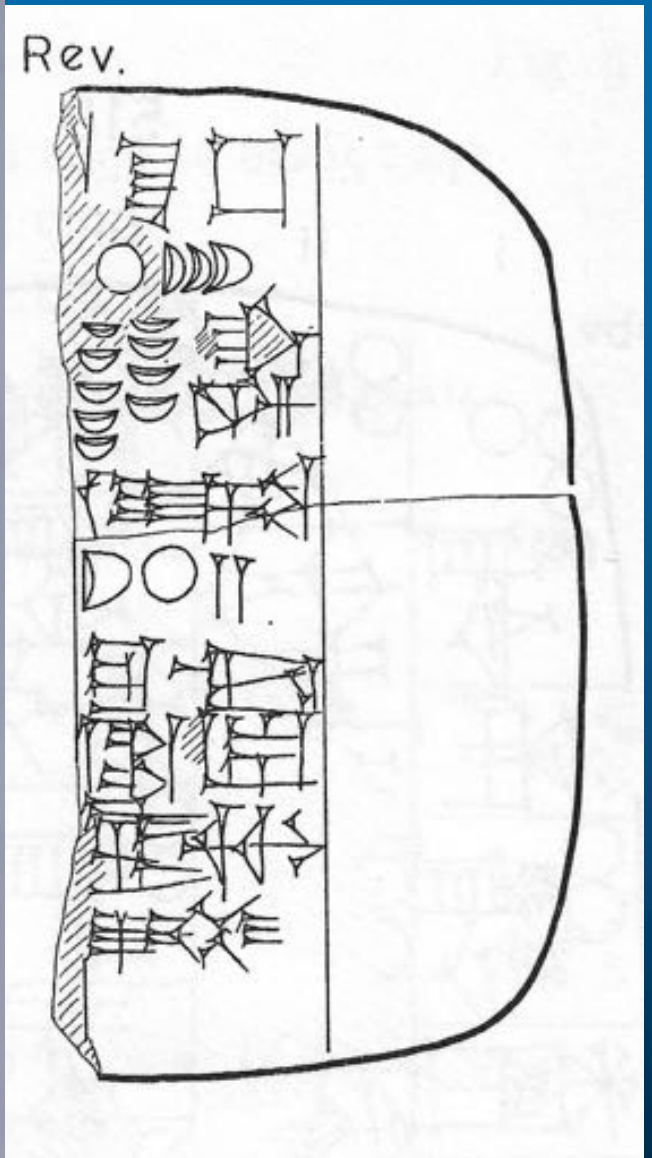
Fig. 3. Area E: plan of excavated area, 1963–76.

"our" tablets in situ

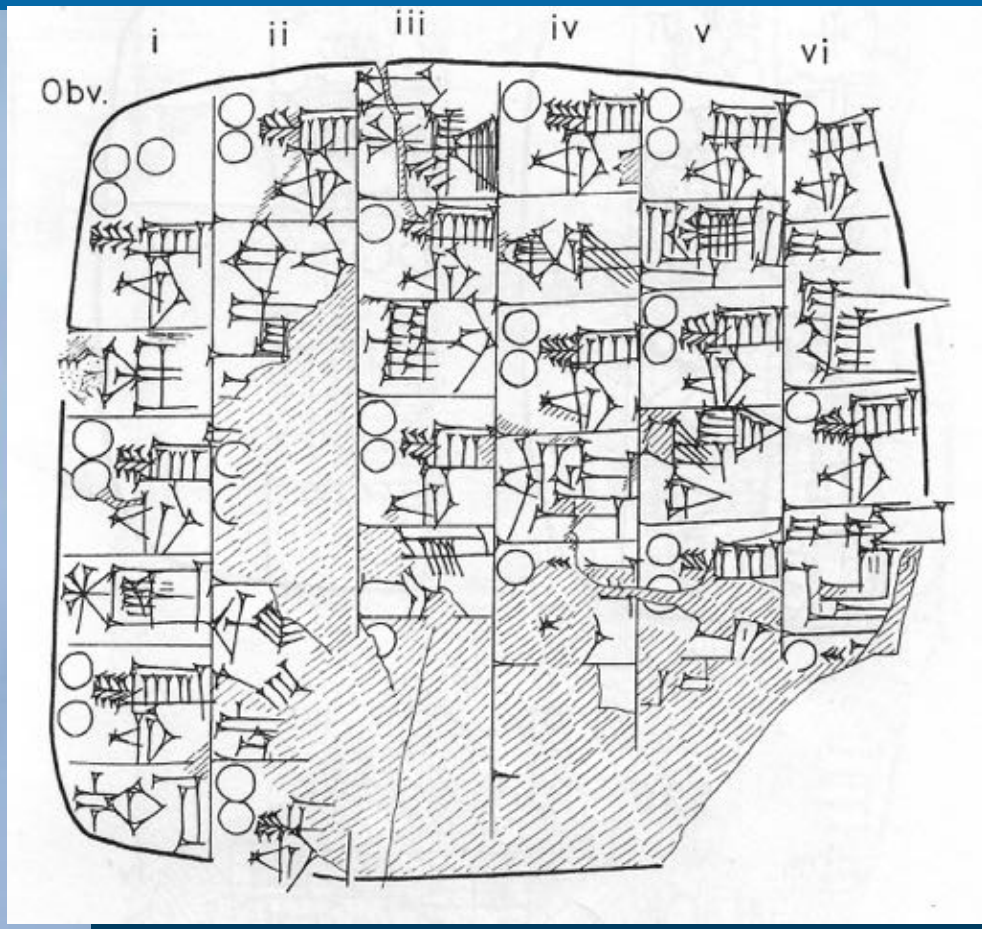
close up,
showing textile impressions

IAS 519: Account of sheep and goats

Grand total: 13,972

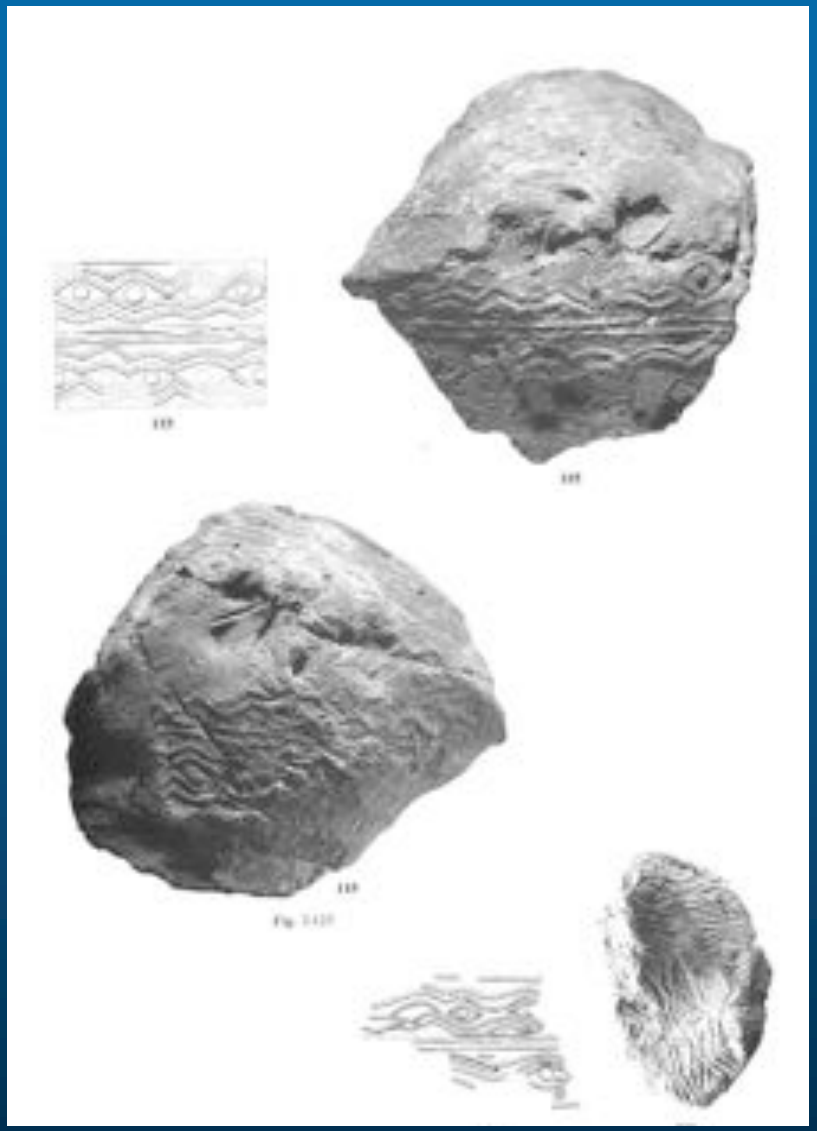


Allocations of field prebends (IAS 518)



Tip lines SE of building

Clay sealings from Ash-Tip



Animal figurines from Ash Tip

Human figurines from Ash Tip

Miniature jars from the Ash Tip

Pottery discs from the Ash Tip

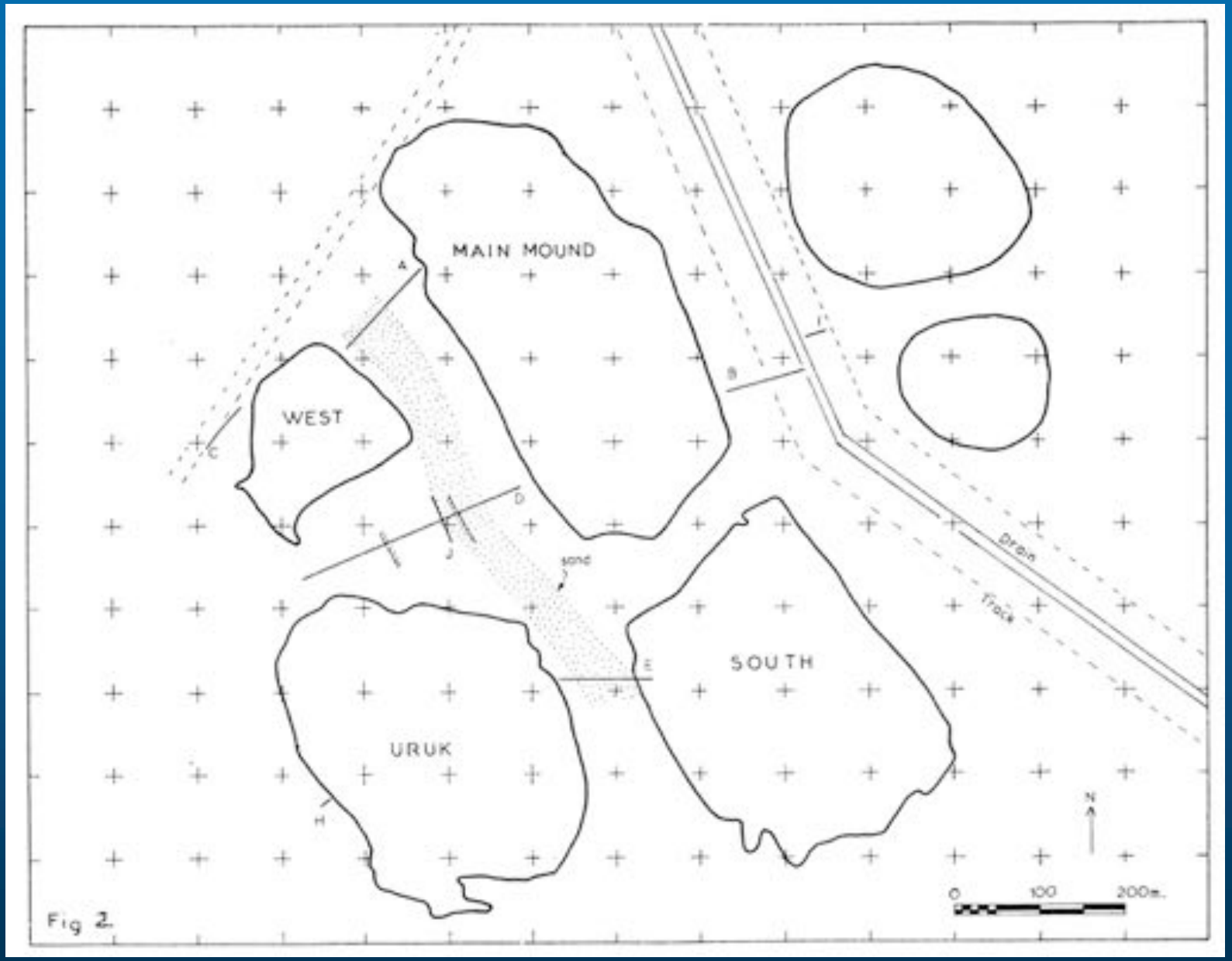

MAIN MOUND
WEST
URUK
SOUTH
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
J
sond
drain
Track
N
0
100
200m.

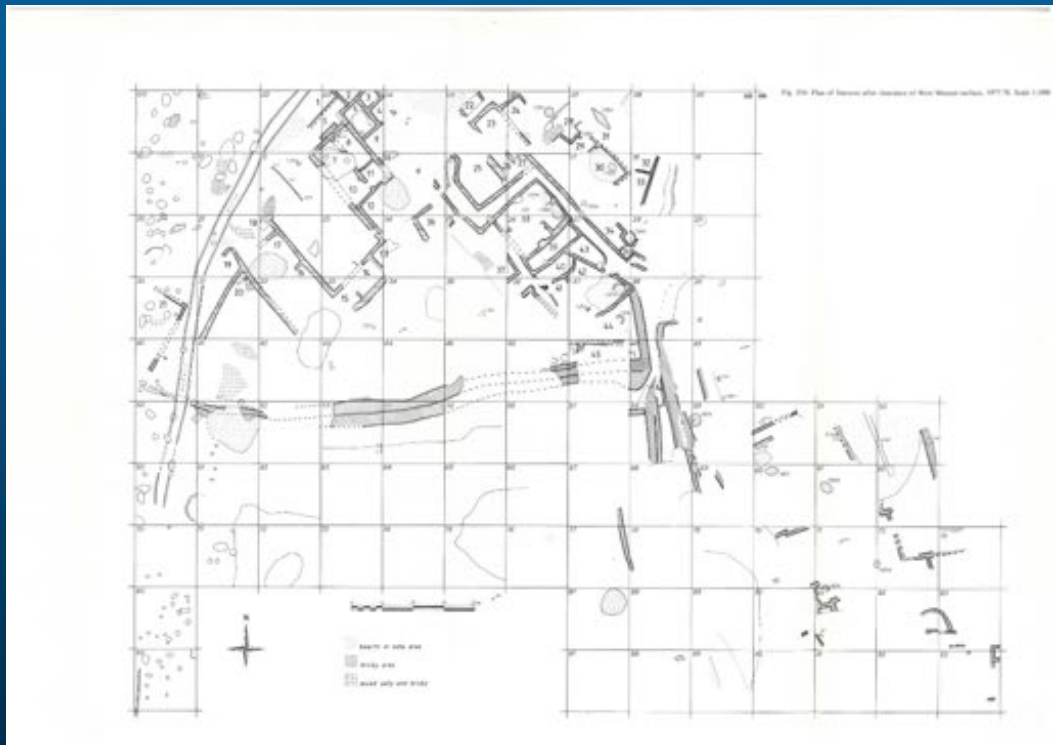
Fig 2.

Surface clearance, West Mound

The bipod

West Mound

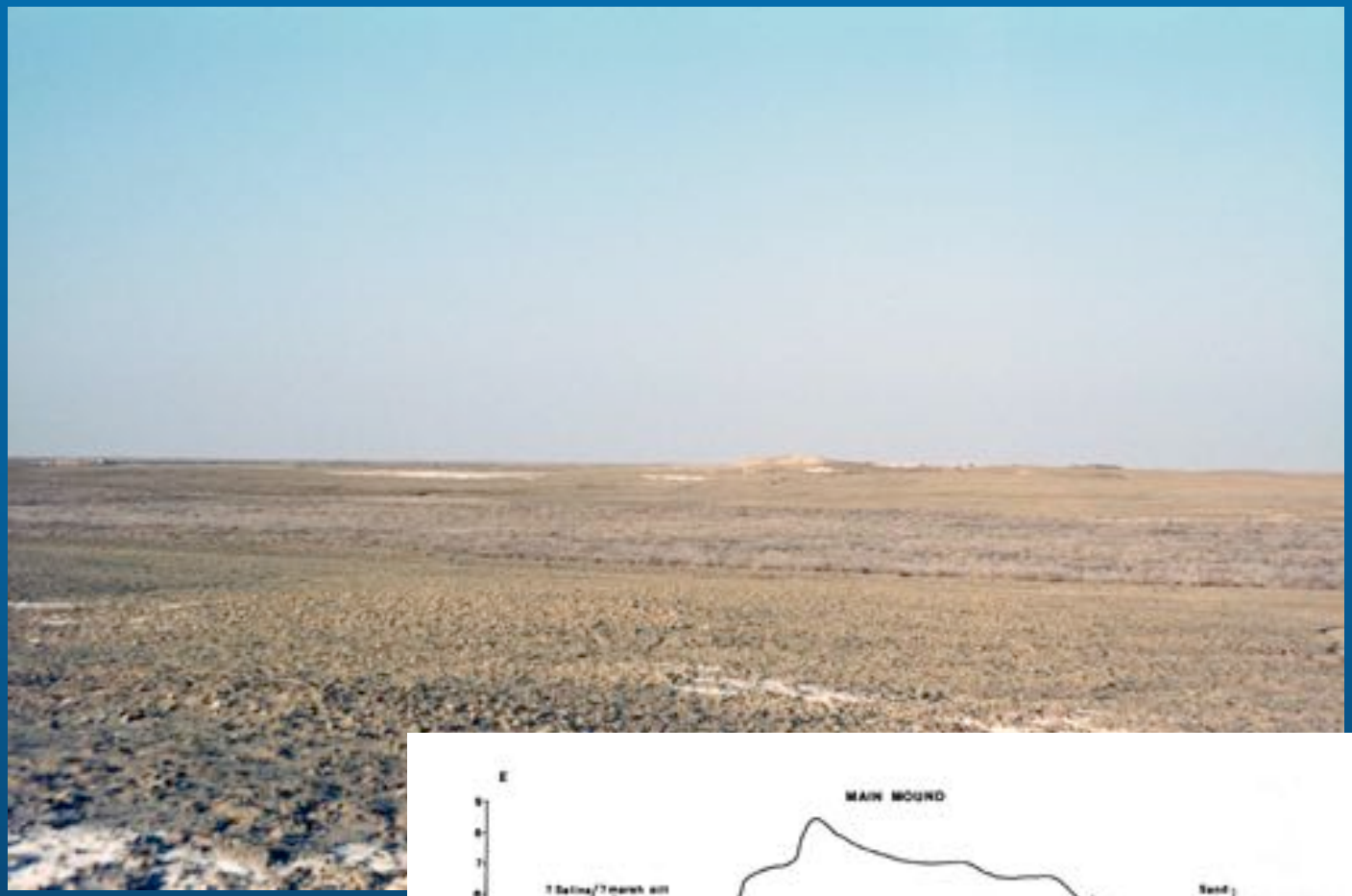
after clearance and after planning

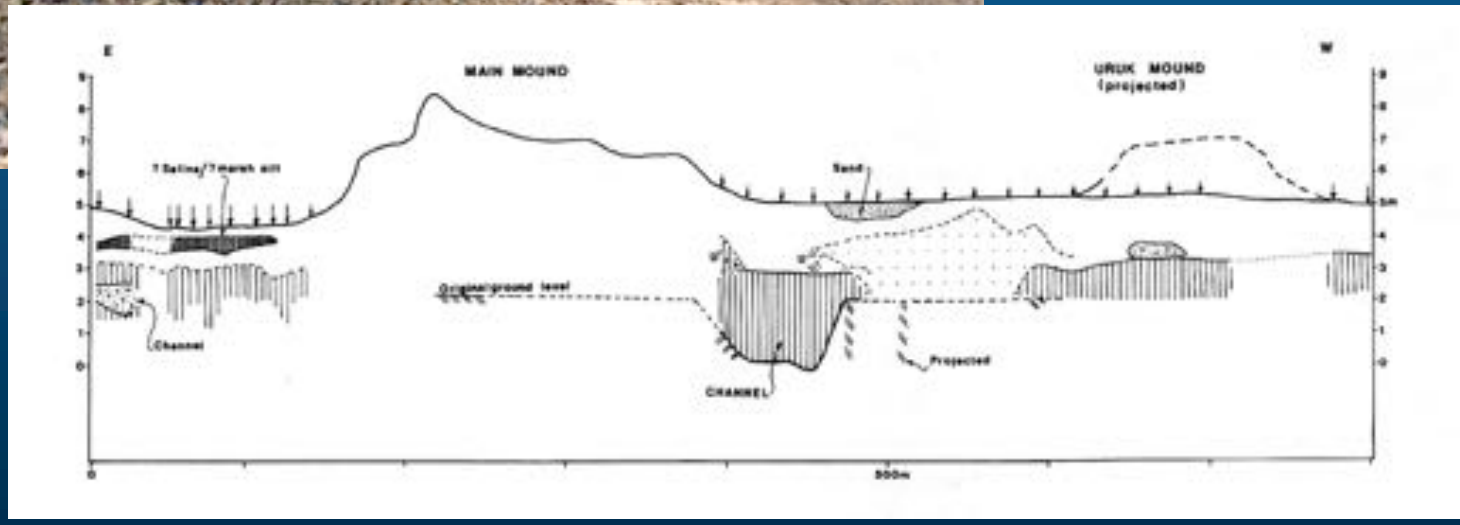


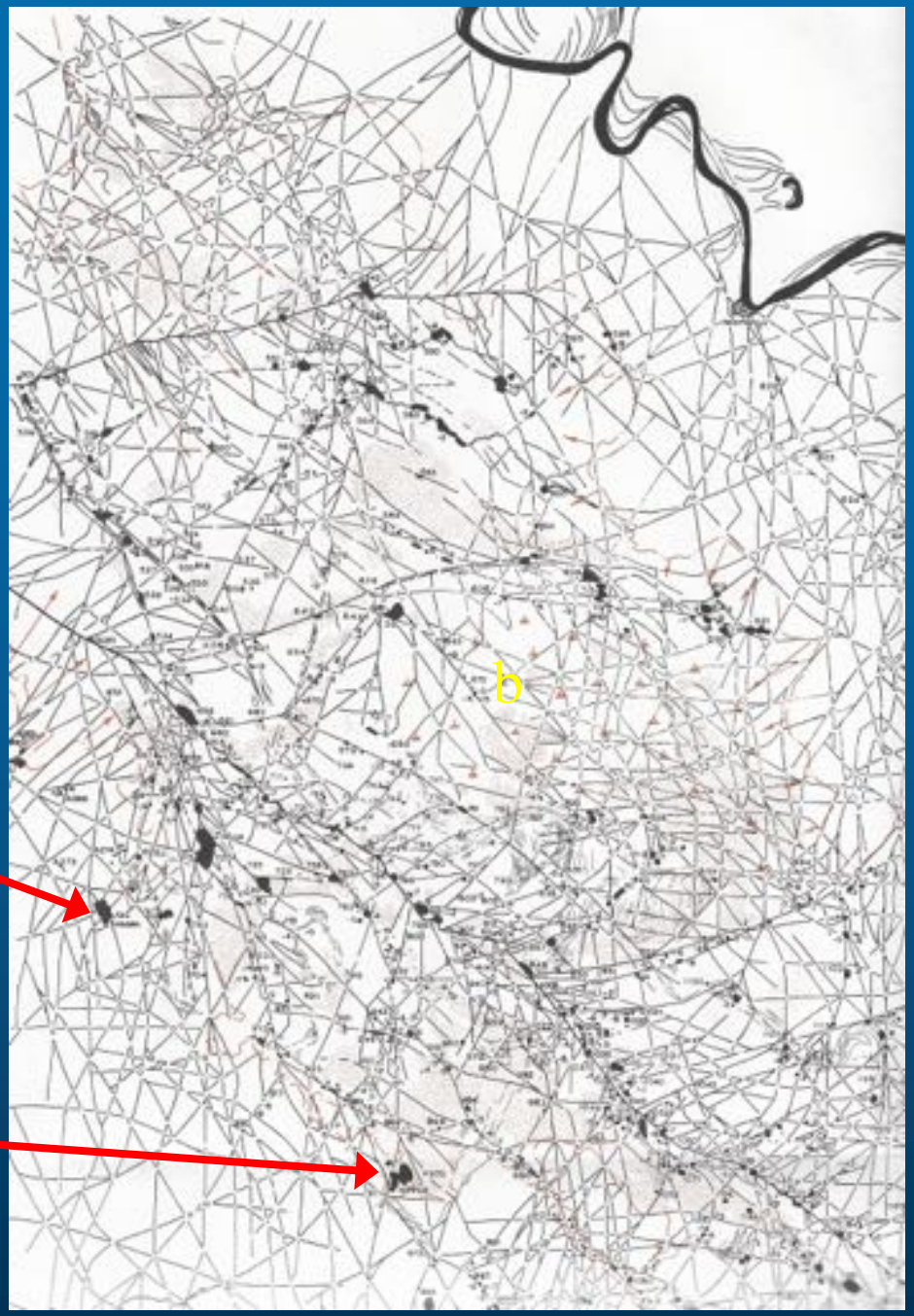
Tony Wilkinson augering (1986)

TJW extracting and inspecting the core

The watercourse between mounds







Abu Salabikh

Nippur

Sites and watercourses north of Nippur

(Adams, Heartland)

What does it cost to go down 1 metre?

(1980 prices)

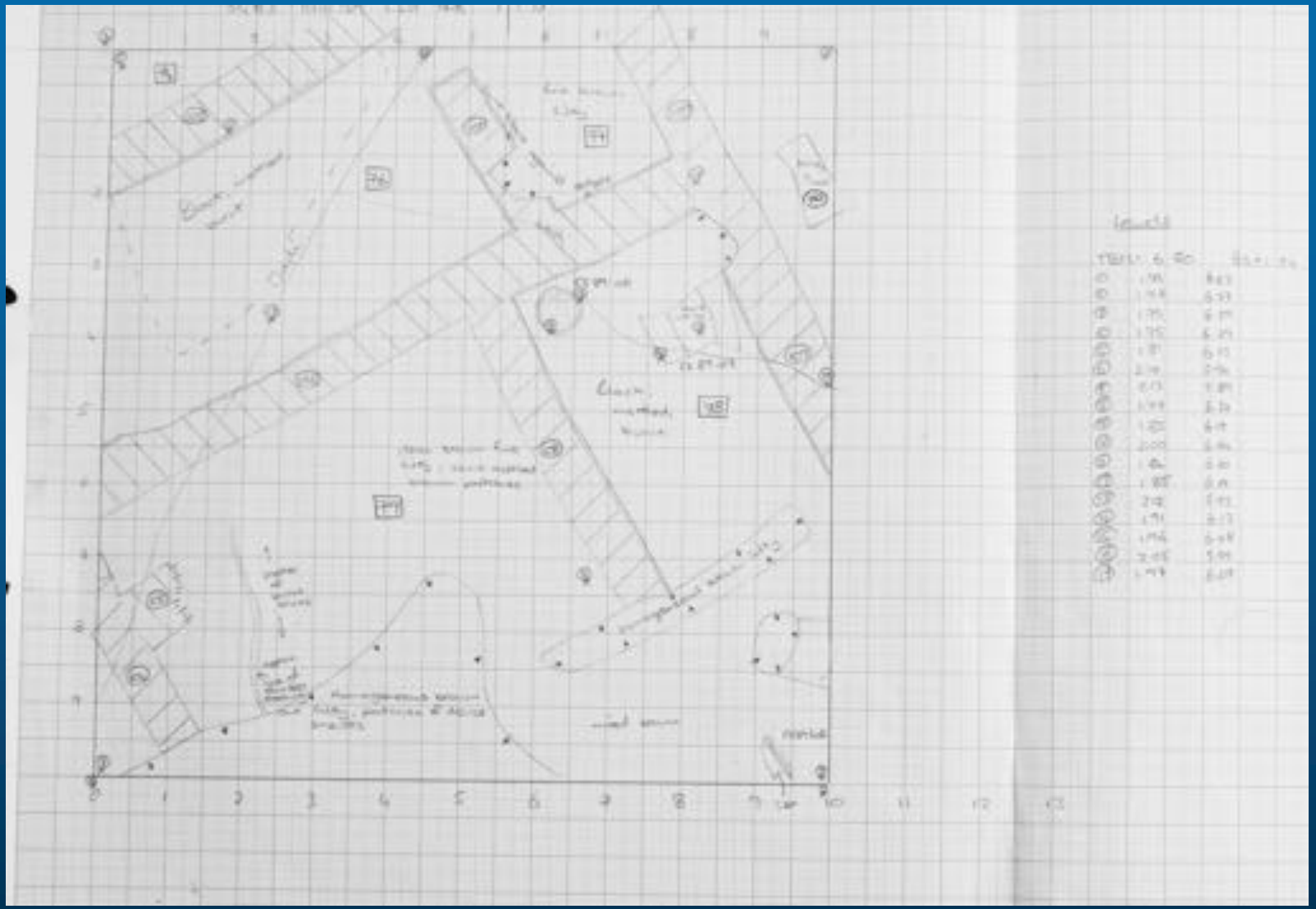
1m sounding	1x1x1m	1 m^3	£75
10 m square	10x10x1m	100 m^3	£7,500
1 hectare	100x100x1m	10,000 m^3	£750,000
Main Mound	100x100x10m	100,000 m^3	£7,500,000

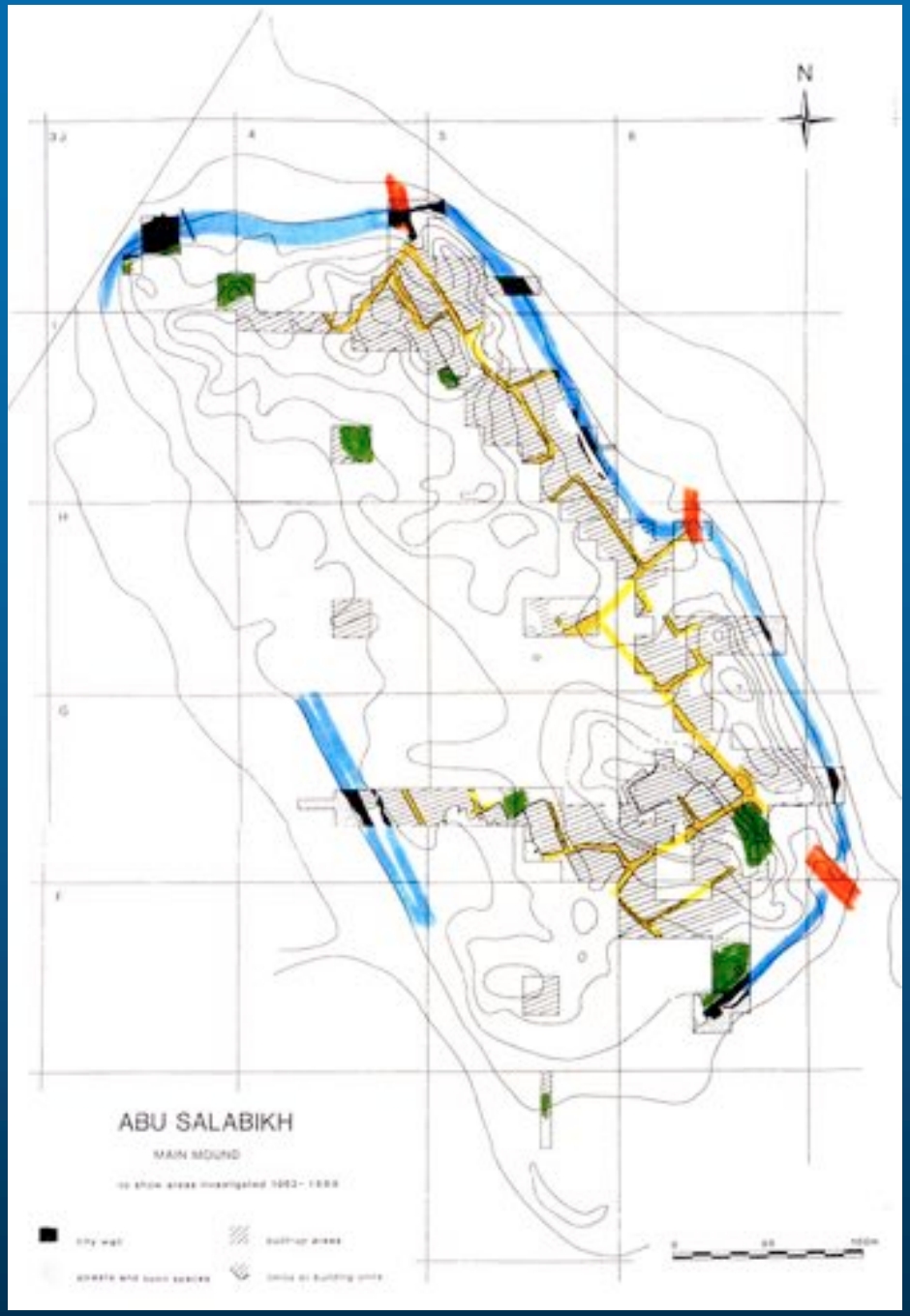
Judicious spraying brings out the colours

“gubale” elicits unwonted zeal

Roger and Heather scraping

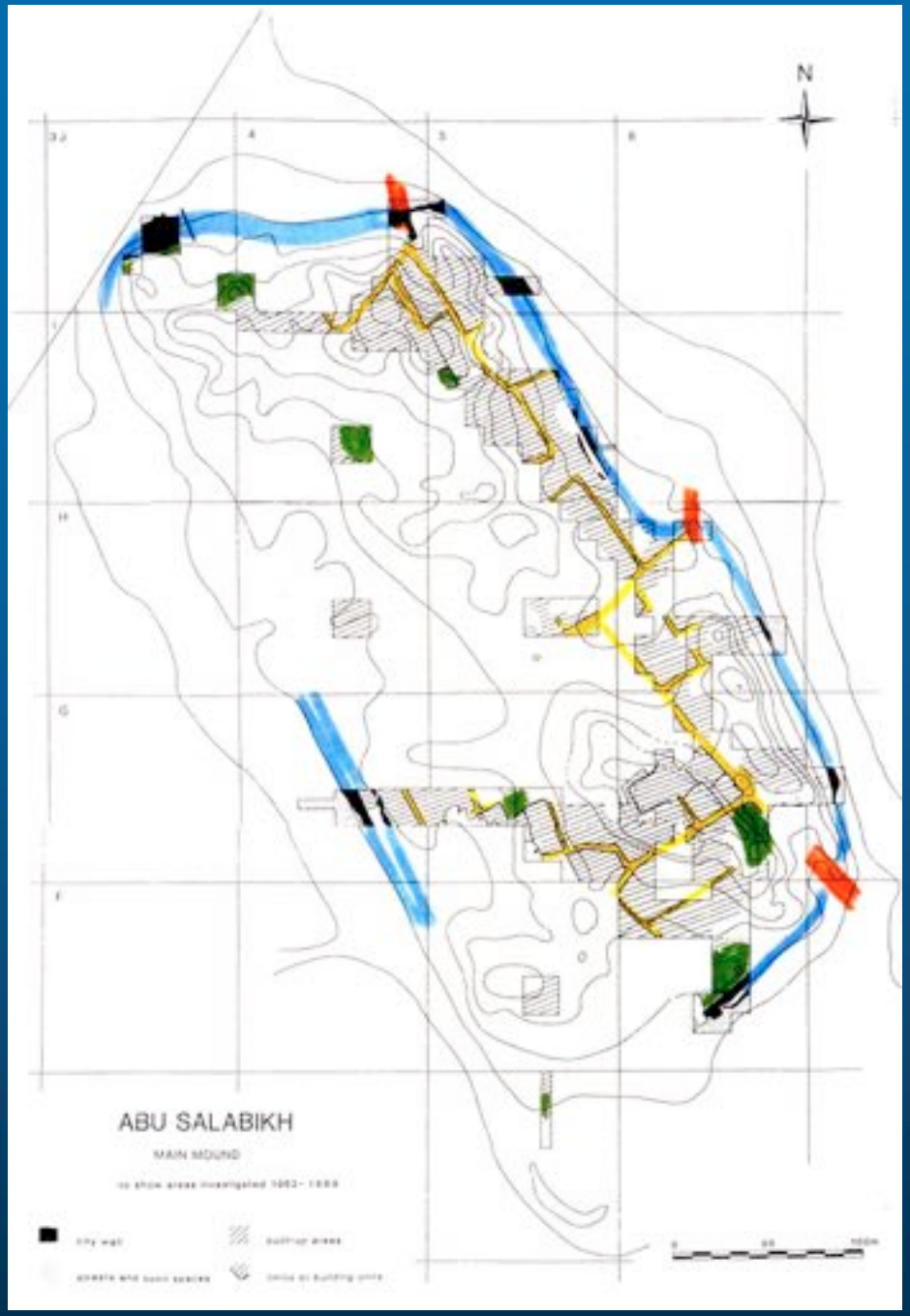
5G63 surface plan– 1:50




N
ABU SALABIKH
MAIN MOUND

The city wall, north end

(flattened!)


N
ABU SALABIKH
MAIN MOUND

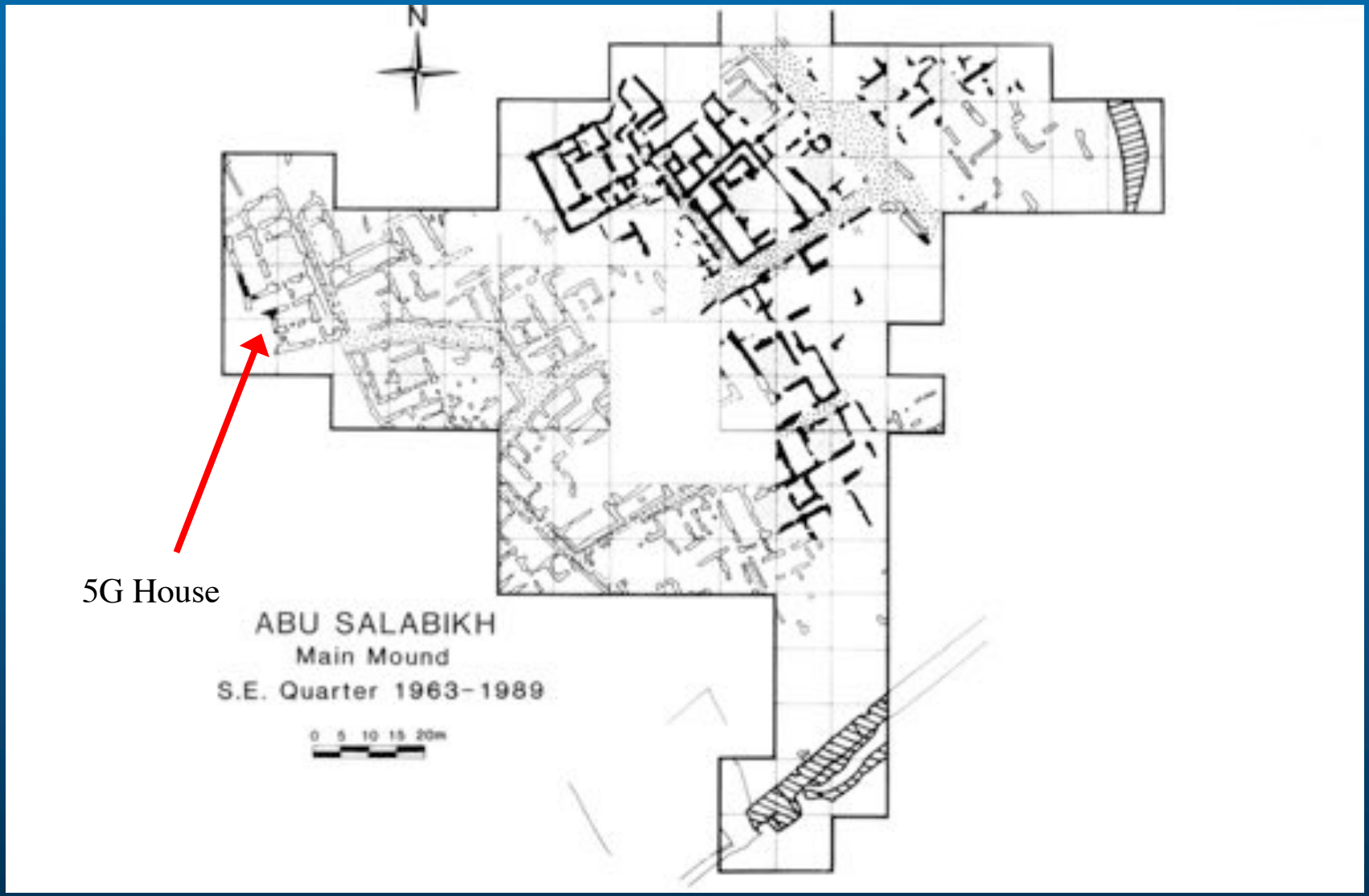
The site
from space
2003

(not snow, salt)

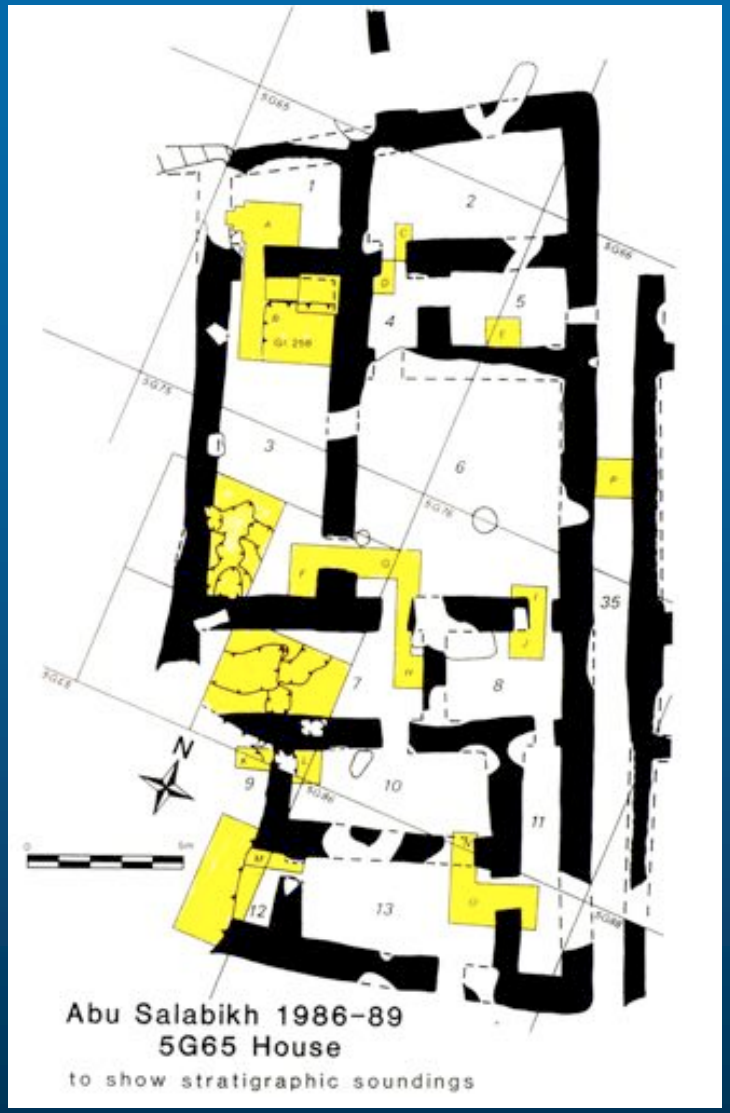
6H House

5G House

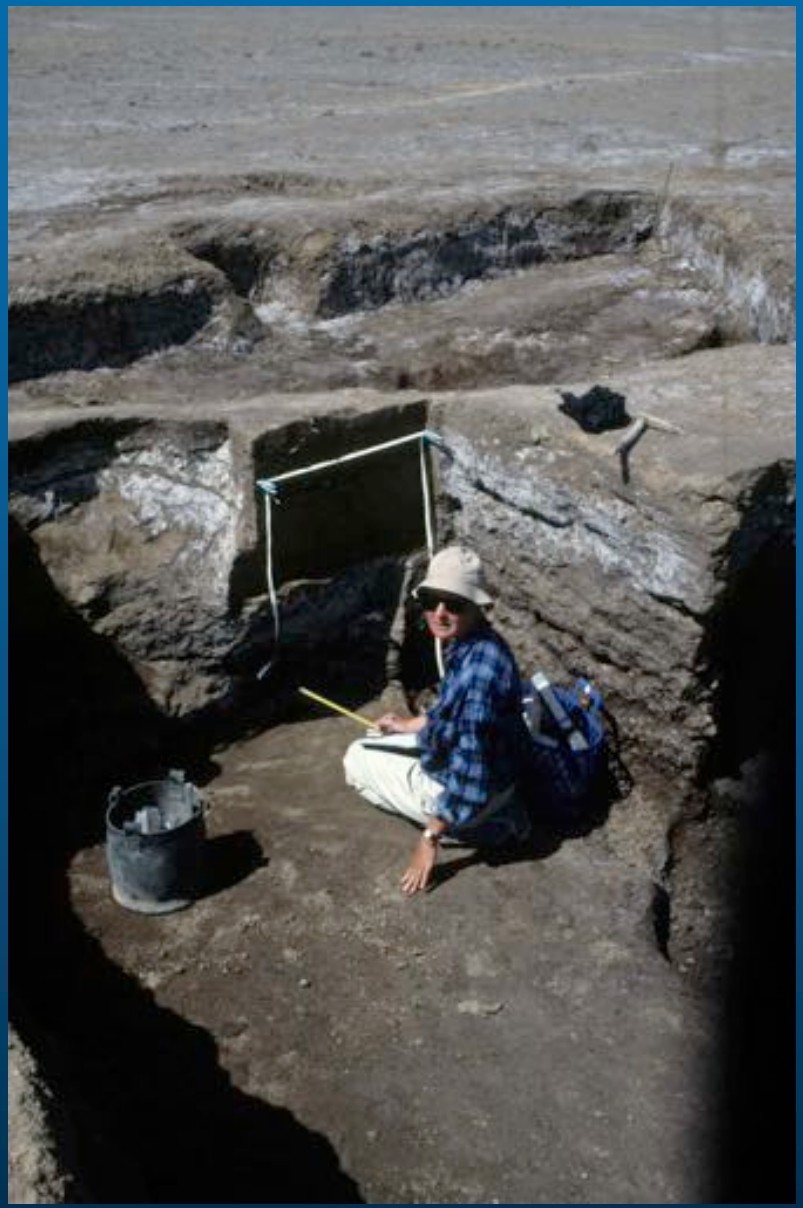
Main Mound
SE quarter



5G House, ca. 2400 BC

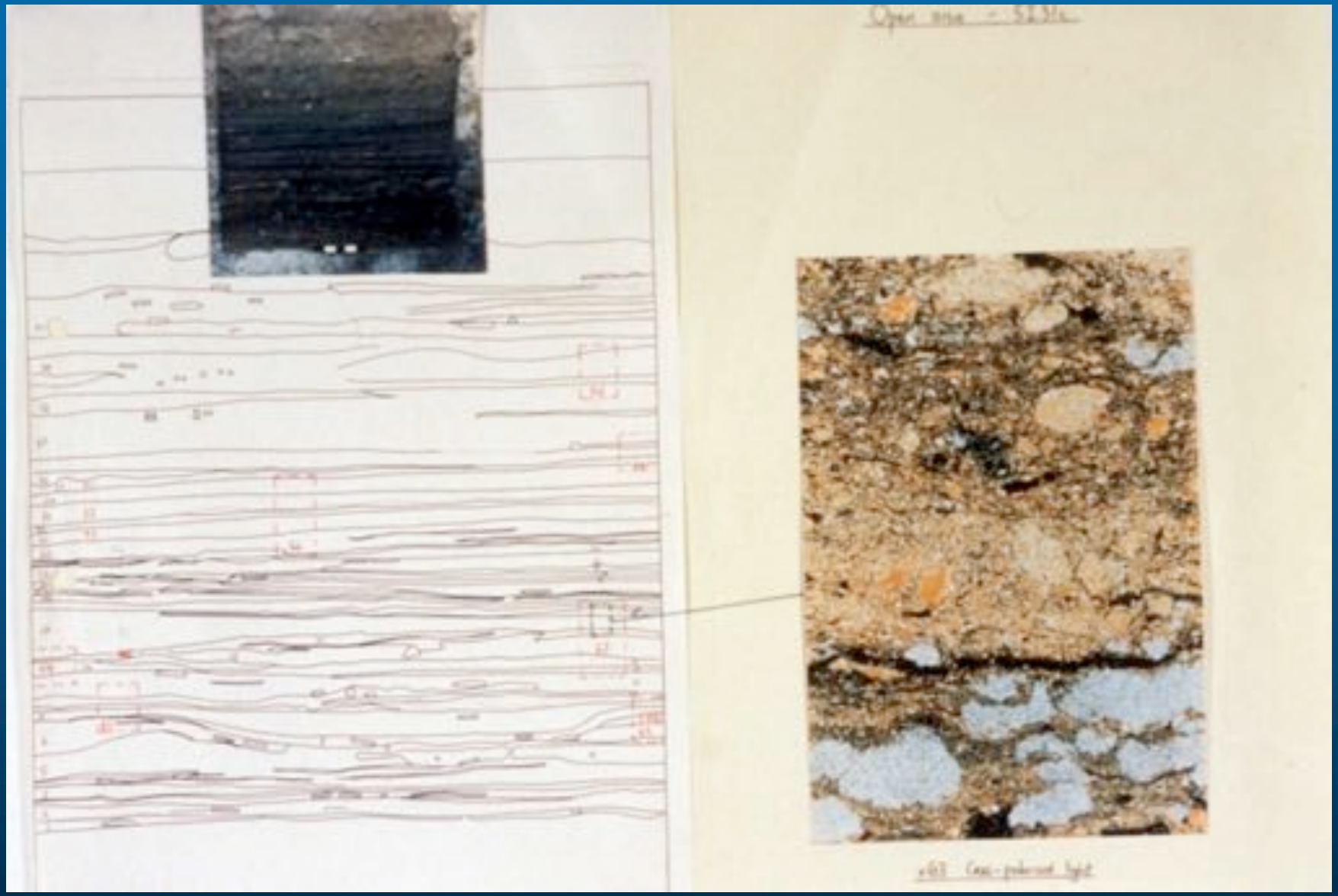


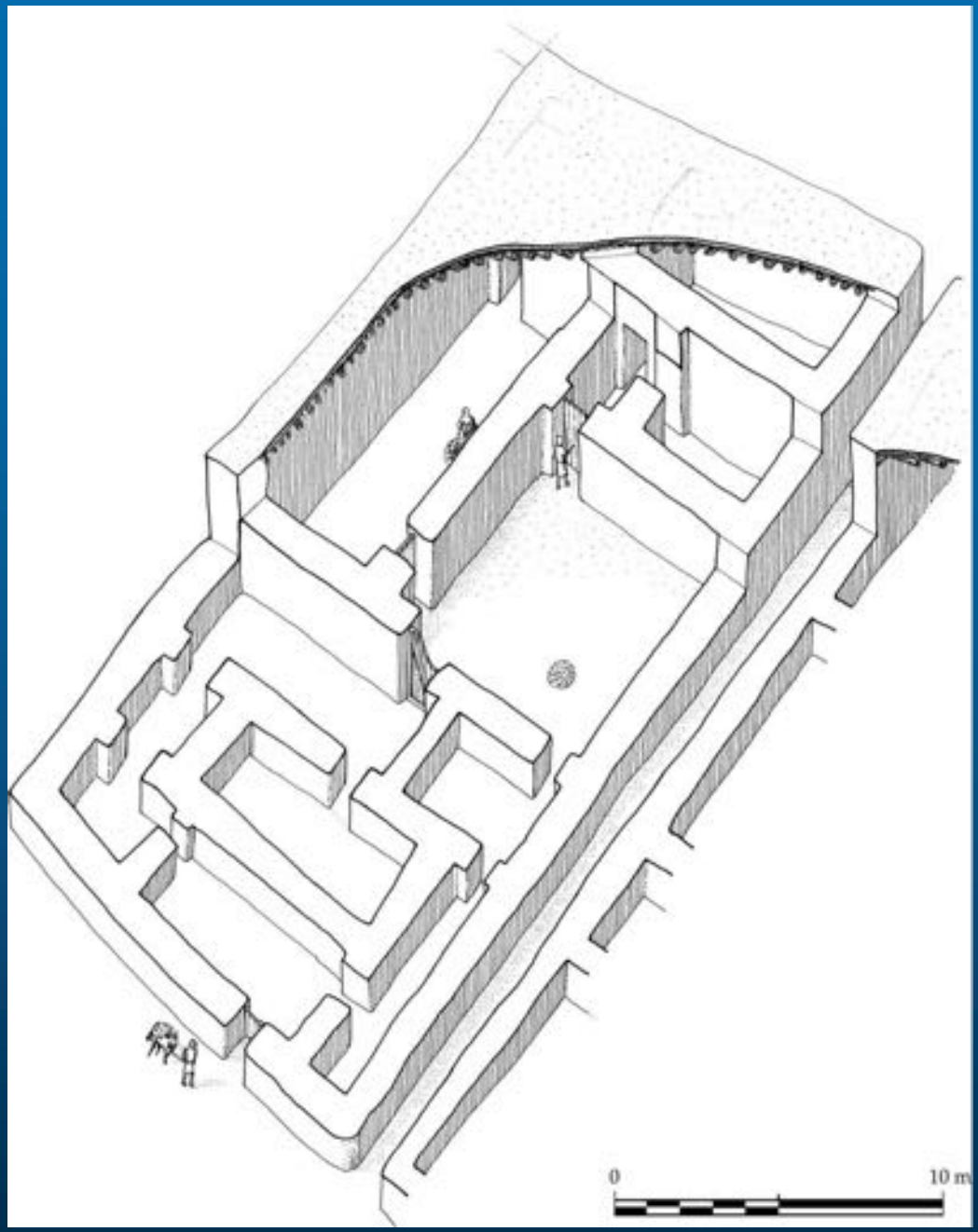
The micromorphologist at work



Sample of successive room floors

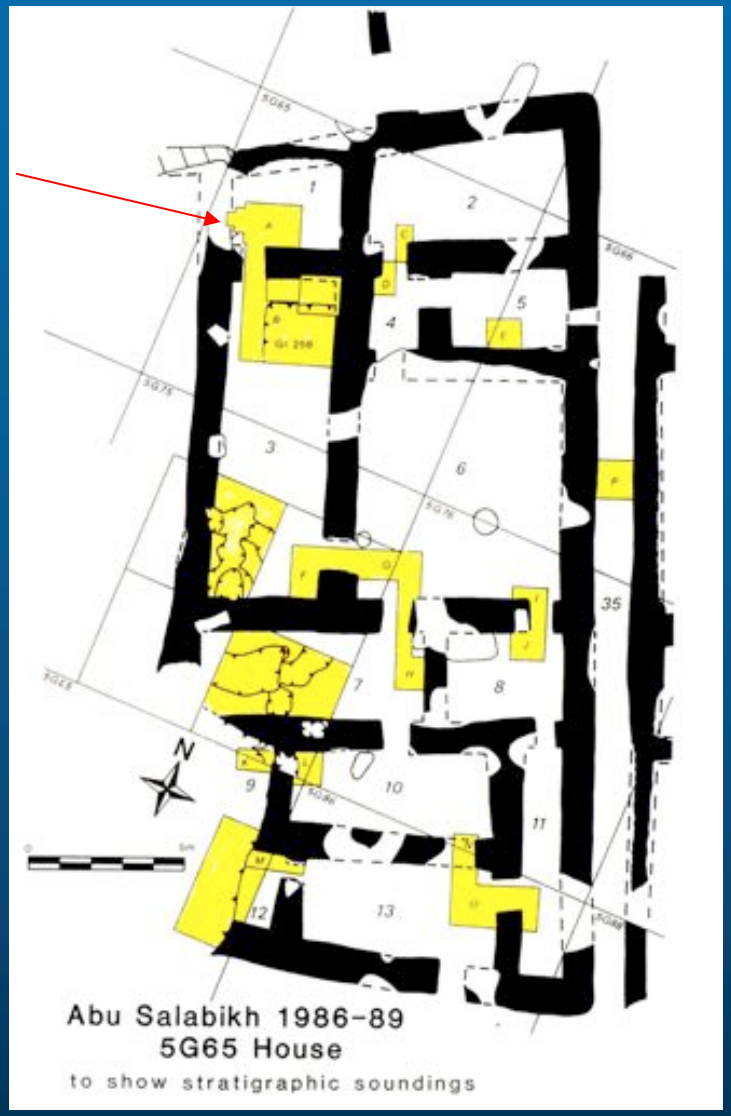
Courtyard accumulations, under the microscope

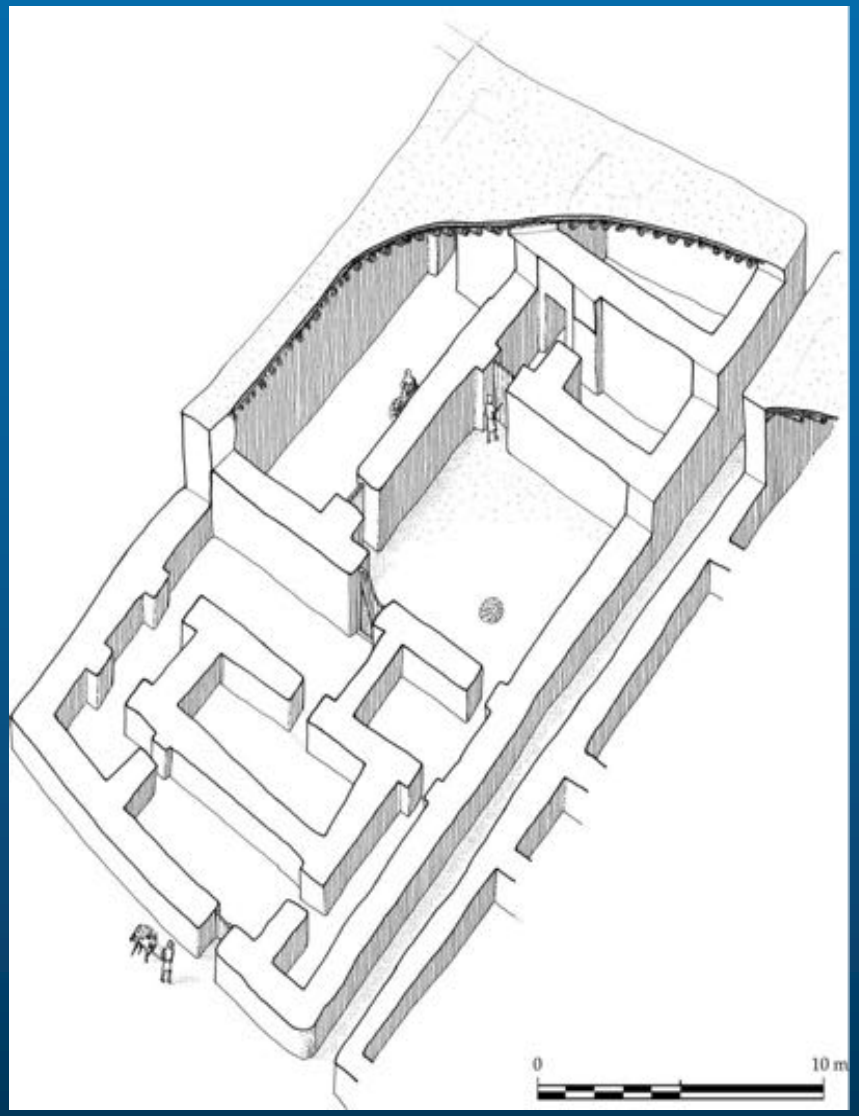



0
10 m

5G House, ca. 2400 BC

Room1
shrine





Clay animals from the 5G House - 1989

The 6H House (Level IC)

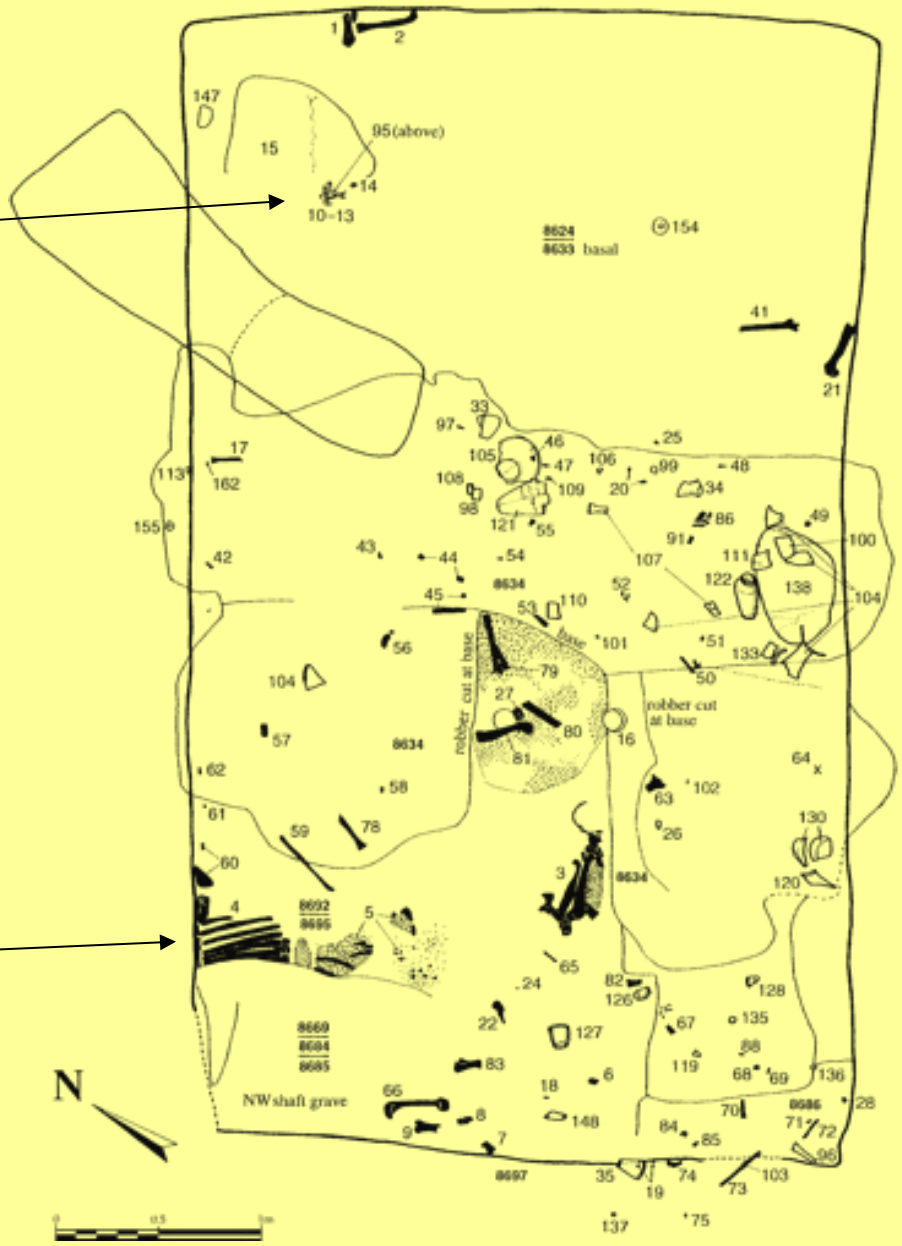
Grave 234

Paul Croft in NW corner

Grave 234

jewellery

equid ribs



Grave 162: the transport compartment

The "Standard of Ur"

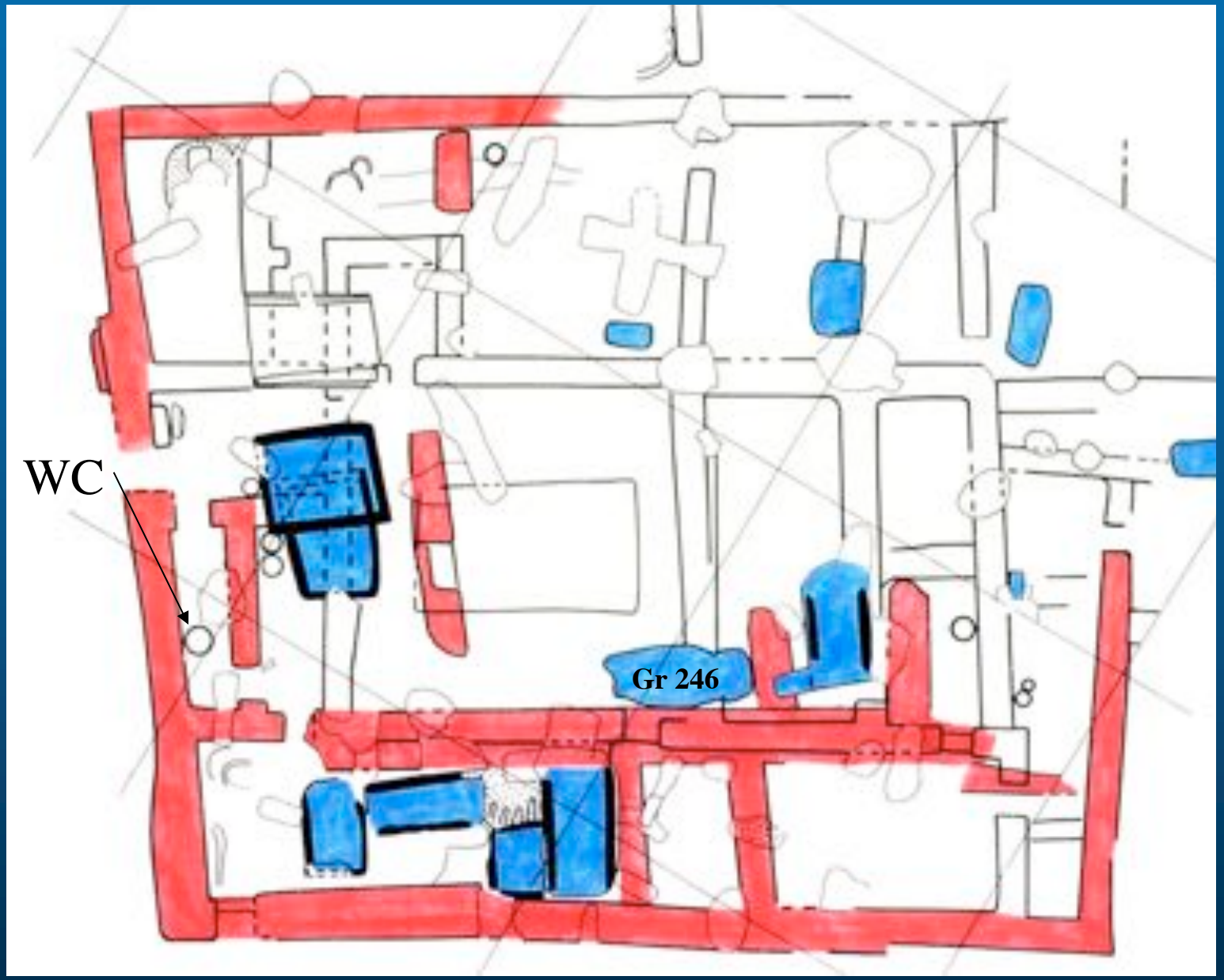
VIII. Sog. Mosaikstandarte, aus Ur, Irak, frühdynastisch, um 2600/2500 v. Chr.; London

Onager hybrids at the zoo
(Schönbrunn)

Jewellery and cosmetic shells
in Grave 234

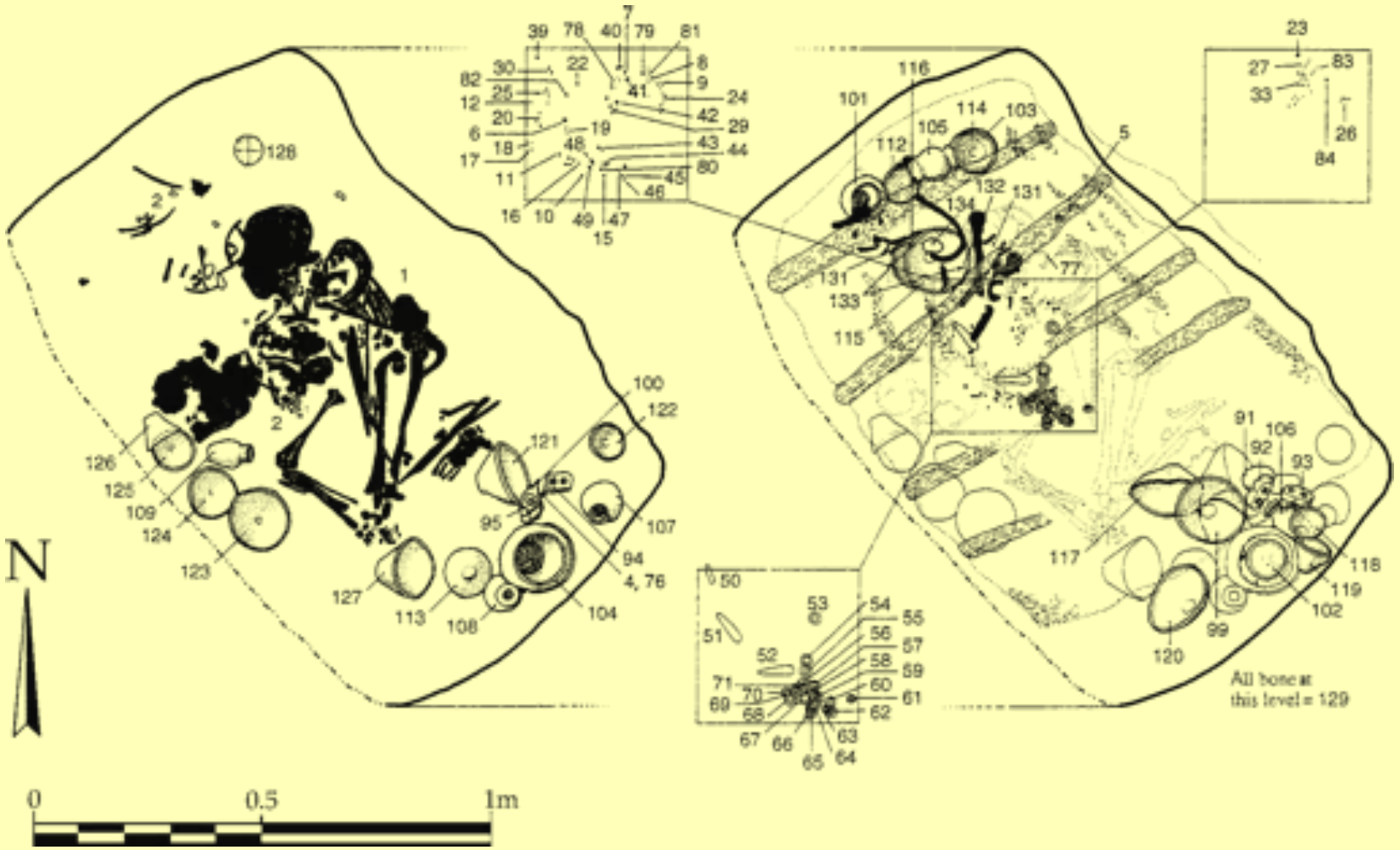
The jewel bag from Grave 234

6H House, Level IB



Grave 246
occupants in situ

Grave 246



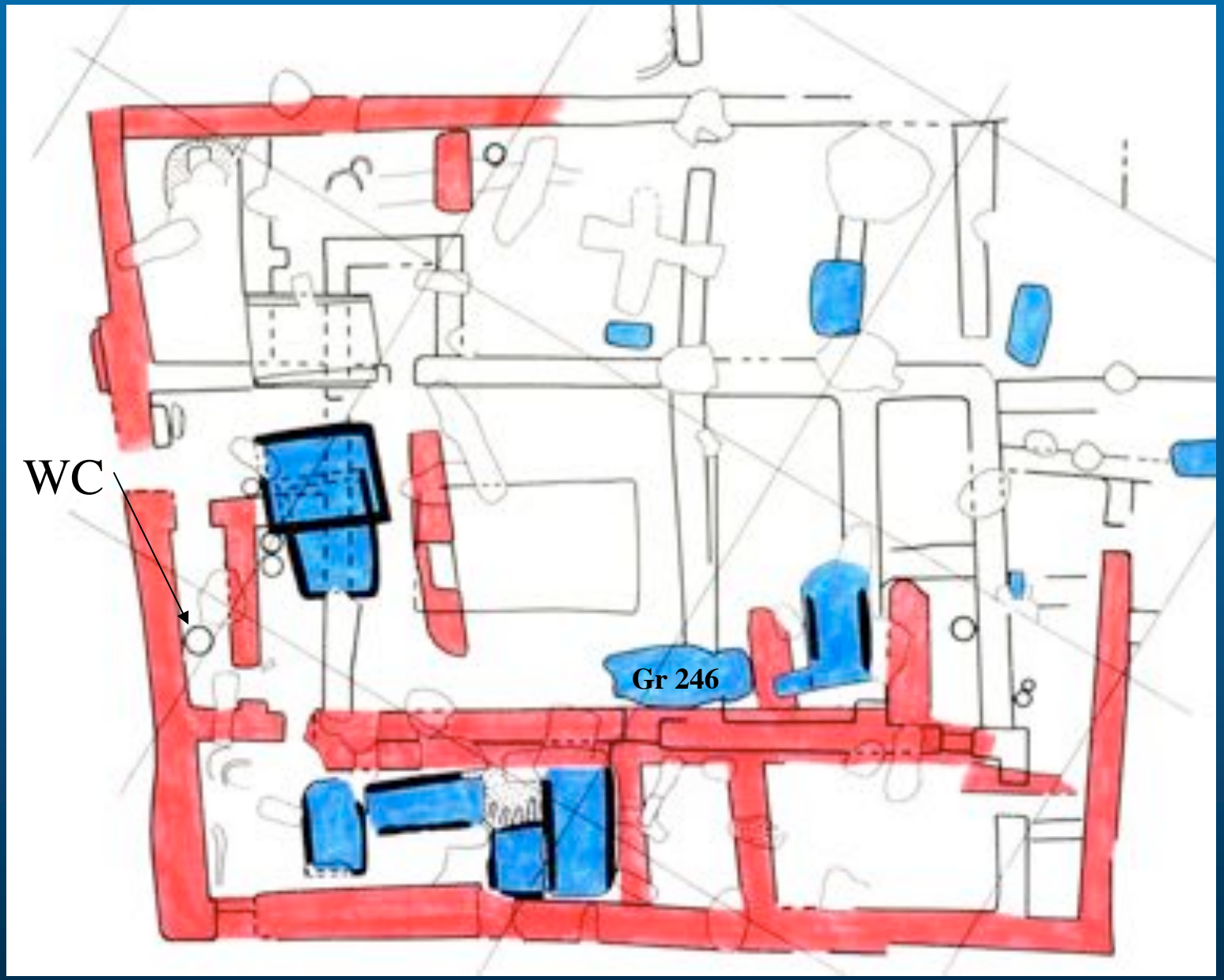
Junior grave goods in situ

Junior grave goods

Beads from Grave 246

The cupboard under the stairs

6H House, Level IB



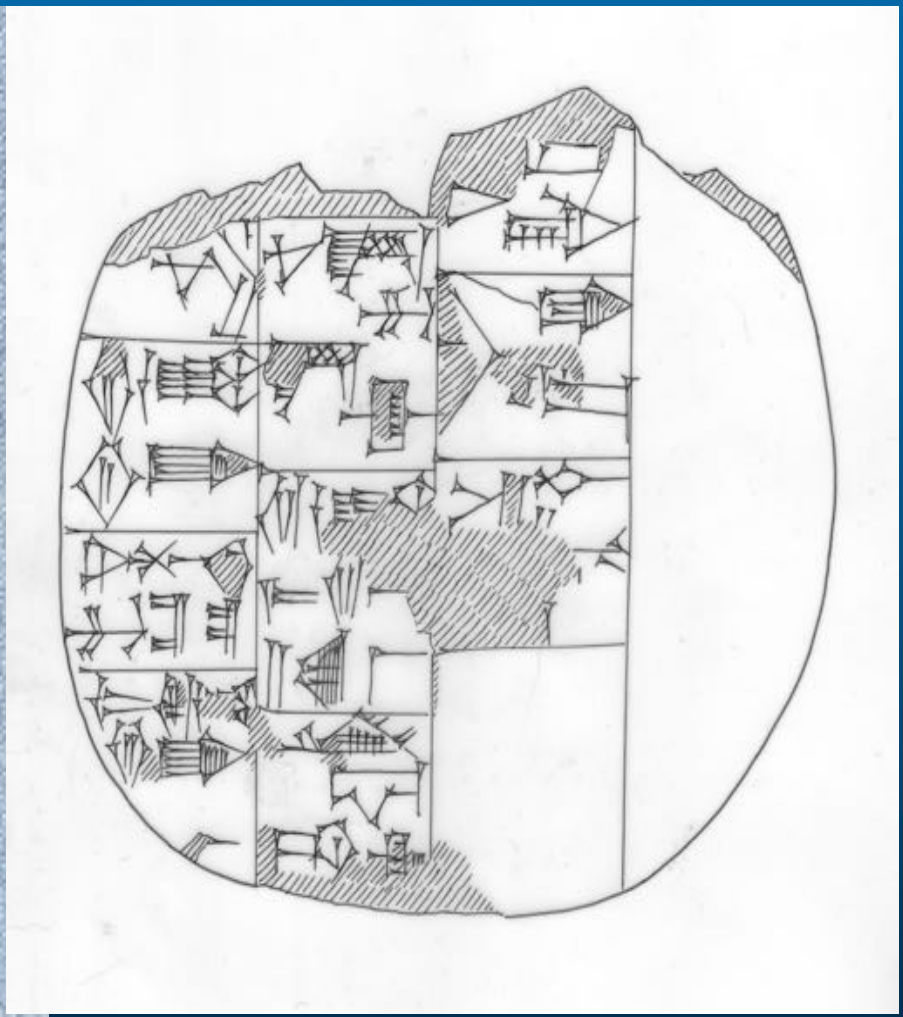
6H House

Helen McDonald and Addai emptying rooms

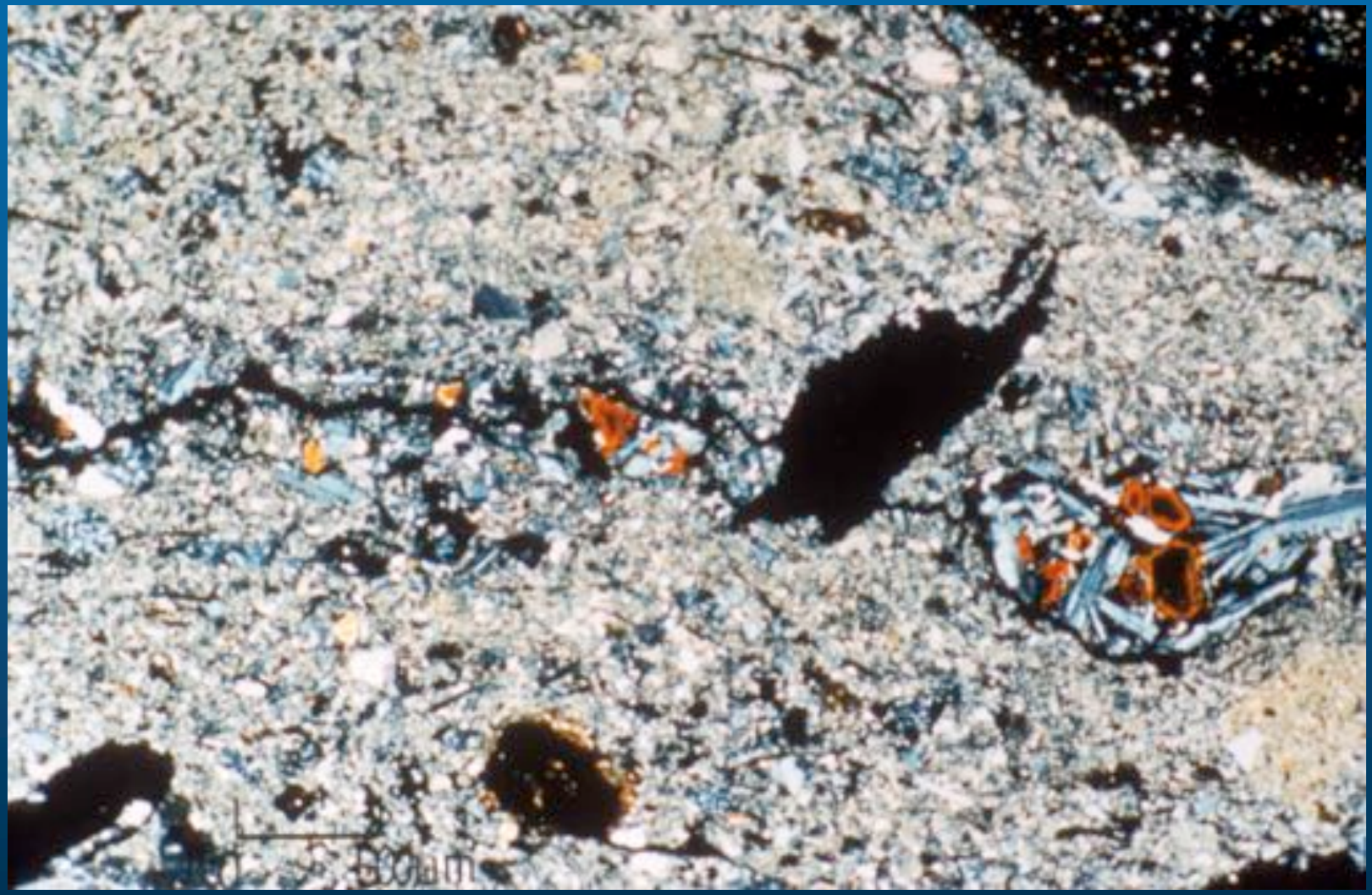
Vertical drain, aka sewer

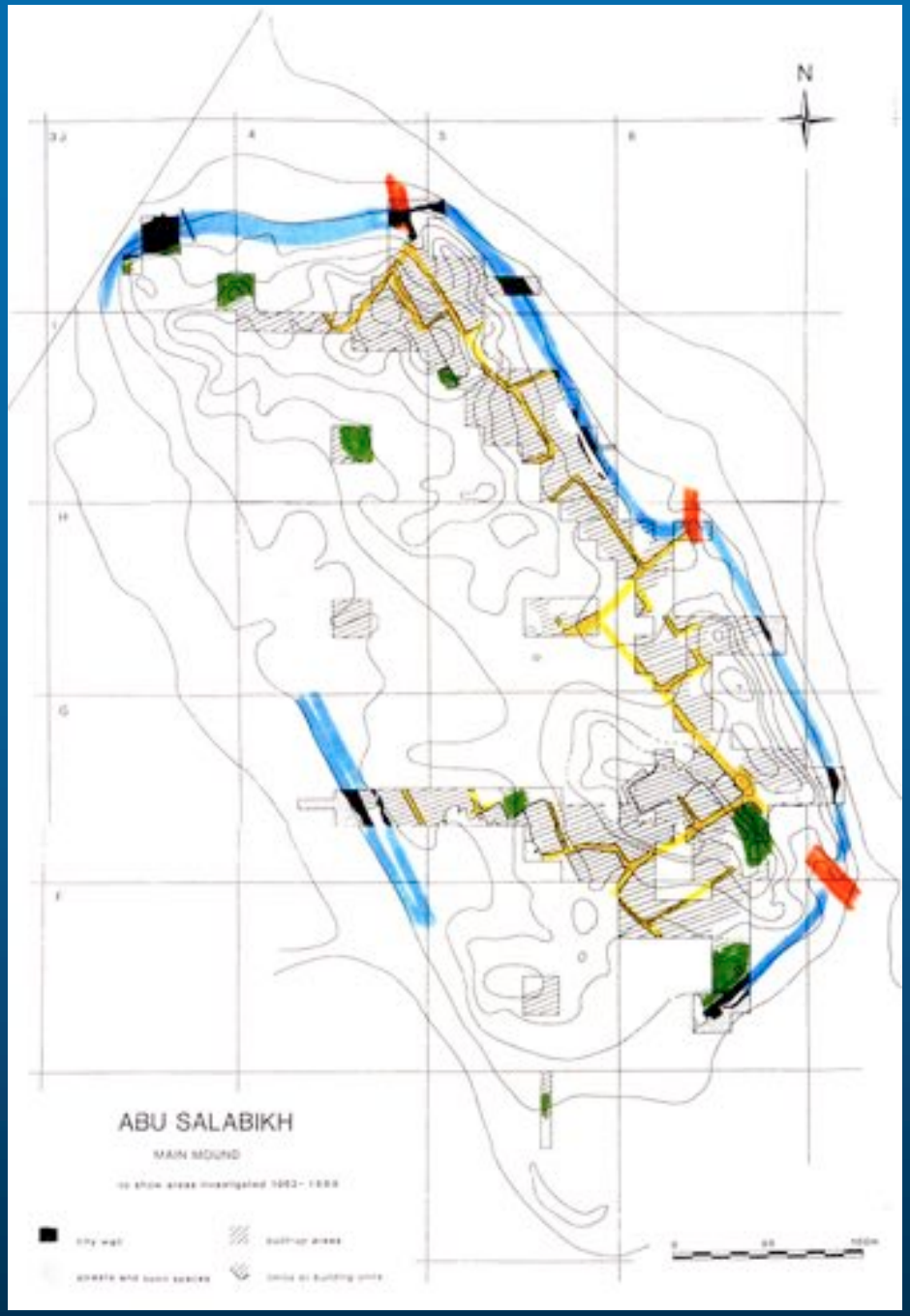
A tight fit
(Addai down the drain)

Incantation interdicting intestinal indisposition



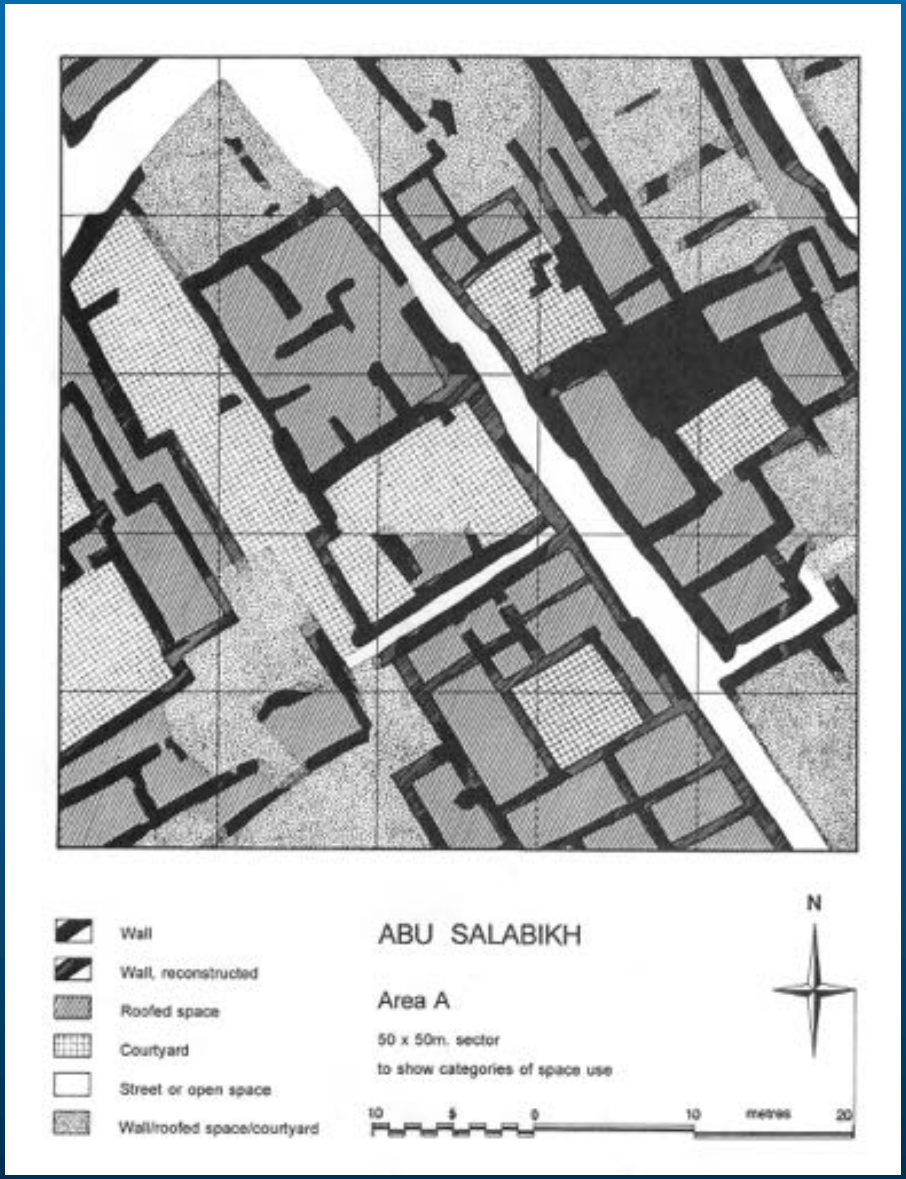
Grindstone fragments from kitchen




N
ABU SALABIKH
MAIN MOUND

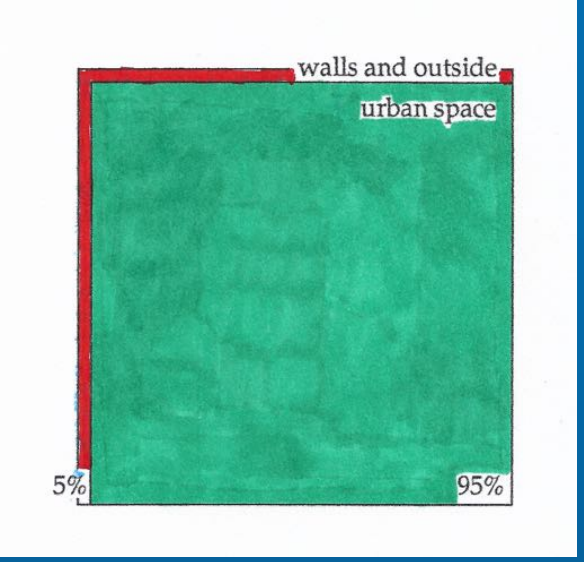
Use of urban space at Abu Salabikh

(Kate Spence dlvt)



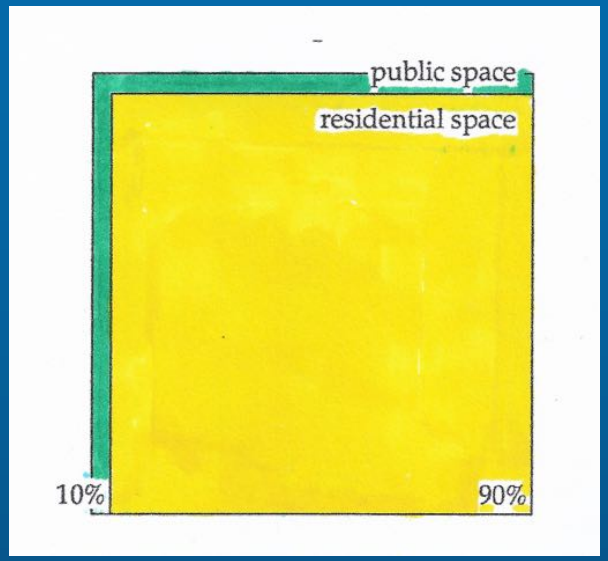
Breakdown of use of space from surface clearance

after CAJ 4, 53



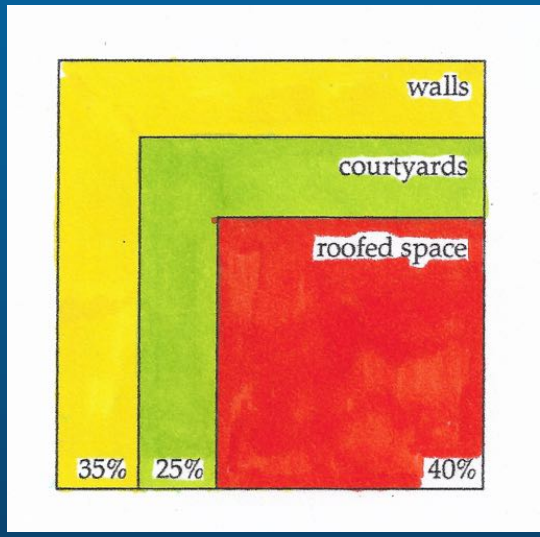
visible mound

city wall etc. 5%
urban space 95%



urban space

public space 10%
residential space 90%



residential space

walls 35%
courtyards 25%
roofed space 40%

Green sherds, red sherds

Interior of pottery firing pit

Later occupation at the north end

Kiln rake-out on one of the floors in potter's house

Potter's disc in situ

and spruced up …

Sealings from the potter’ s house

The top of the potter’ s grave

The potter in person?

The city plan in 1989

red: streets

orange: lanes

dark blue: city wall

light blue: city gates

green : rubbish tips

Kuwait 1990

Our thanks for the pictures to:

Peter Barnes
Bob Bewley
Susan Coliton
Mark Dixon
Sal Garfi
David Loggie
David Nicolson
Jonathan Tubb
Chip Vincent
Marcus Woodburn

Abu Salabikh Excavations

The British School of Archaeology in Iraq

Field Directors and Assistant Directors

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Bedr Abbas
Jeremy Black
Juliet Clutton-Brock
Rosemary Ellison
Iris Furlong
Tony Green
David Loggie
Roger Moorey
Joan Crowfoot Payne
Tony Wilkinson
Cuyler Young

The dig house, 2002

Inside the dig house, August 2002

Ahmed, Ahmed and co.

KIA MOTORS

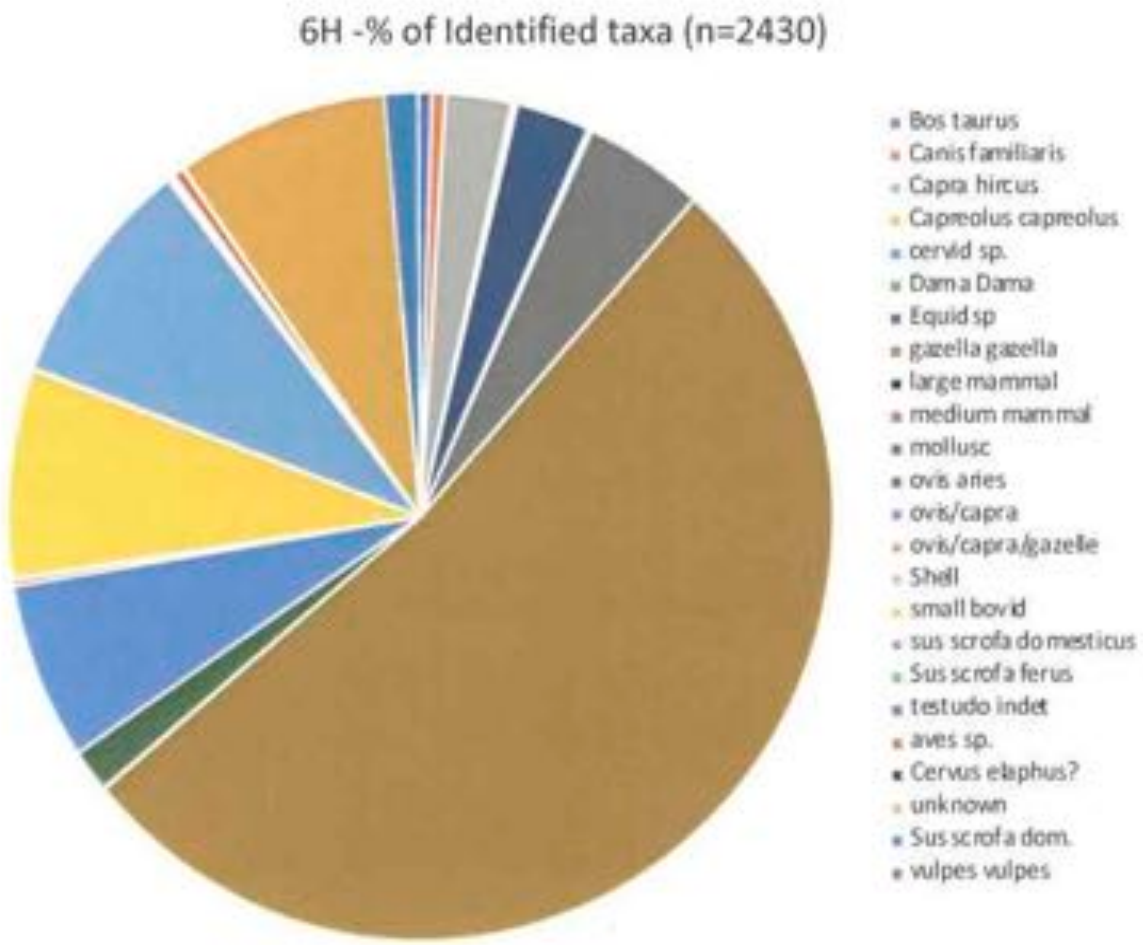
Destination Diwaniyah

Sorted and stored

Bones sorted, Diwaniyah May 2019

Jacob Jawdat, Eleuterio de Sousa, Tina Greenfield, Jane Gaastra

Real animals from the 6H House - 2019



Still to do 2020 ……