

REPORT ON THE 2005 SEASON OF THE KÜLLÜOBA EXCAVATIONS

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I. Introduction

The large prehistoric mound of Küllüoba is an irregular oval some 250 x 150 m, rising nearly ten meters above the plain level in the rolling cultivated fields of the upper Sakarya (Sangarius) basin just north of the Phrygian Highlands: 35 km SE of Eskişehir, 15 km NE of Seyitgazi and 1.3 km south of the village of Yenikent (Figs. 2, 18).

The mound itself—on the northern slope of an ancient stream bed, now dry—is comprised almost exclusively of prehistoric deposit; our ten excavation campaigns suggest that all phases of the Early Bronze Age are represented, underlain by Late Chalcolithic deposit. Stray finds from the Middle Chalcolithic period suggest that there are earlier strata as well. We also suspect that there is a prehistoric cemetery in the fields immediately to the NW of the mound. The latest prehistoric material on the settlement mound itself comes from the late EB III, i.e. the period transitional to the Middle Bronze Age. In the general vicinity there are also late Hellenistic remains; a Hellenistic pavement (Grid AJ 26) and wall (Grids AJ 26 and 22 respectively) appeared this year above EBA deposit in the new soundings in the fields SE of the citadel.

As in 2004, we again had support from two other institutions in addition to INSTAP: the Research Fund of Istanbul University and DÖSİM of the Turkish Ministry of Tourism and Culture. Once more we sincerely thank the authorities of the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP) for the financial assistance we received.

The nucleus of the excavation team convened to reopen and clean the excavation house a few days before the fieldwork began on July 6. Work at the site continued until August 26 with an average 47 workmen (including the cook and her assistant), at which point we were compelled to call a temporary halt to fieldwork (due to bureaucratic procedures with the additional funding from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism

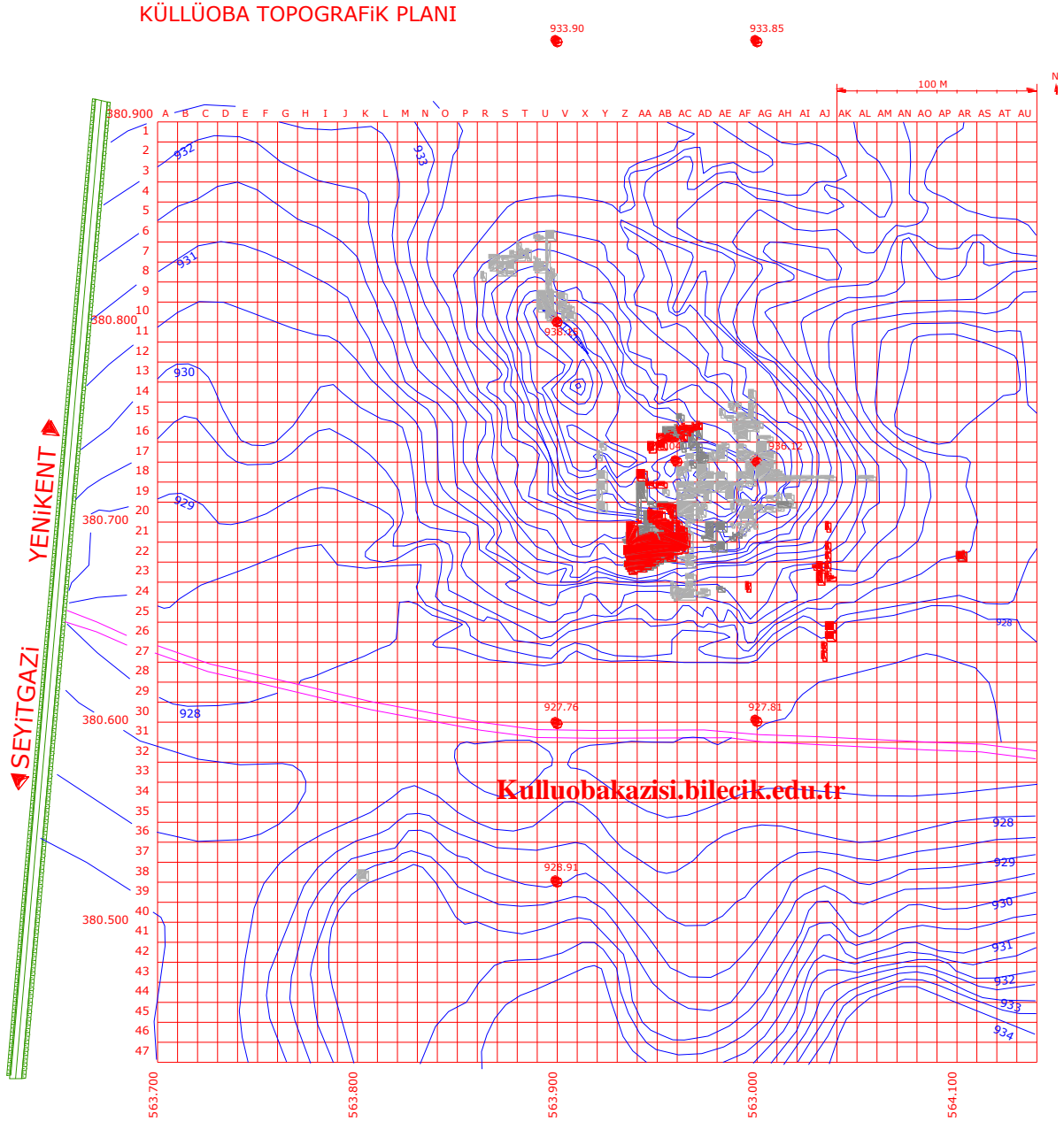


Figure 2. The topographical plan of Küllüoba showing the areas thus far excavated. Red represents areas in which effort was expended this past season.

Participants in the 2005 campaign were as follows:

Prof. Dr. Turan Efe (Director of the Excavations)

Nurhan Turan (government representative from the Izmir Archaeological Museum)

Deniz Ş. M. Ay-Efe (archaeologist and draftsman)

Murat Türkteki (TA in the Department of Archeology, Istanbul University)

Deniz Sarı (TA in the Department of Archeology, Istanbul University)

Hidayet Bakırcı (restorer/conservator)

Dilara Turan (photographer)

Can Y. Gündem (Archeozoologist)

Hasan Ali Ünal, Erkan Fidan, Shizue Miura, Mehmet Sağır, Selen Nur Çalışkan, Beyil

Öner and Delal Aydın (BA in archaeology)

Sim Belik, Serap Bal, Eyüp Akça and Murat Kasar (undergraduate students of archaeology).

II. The Fieldwork in 2005

Once again we opted to concentrate on the eastern sector of the mound; excavation was generally restricted to the southern and northern slopes that fall within in this sector in order to better define both the layout of the EB II settlement on the acropolis and the stratigraphy of the EB III period on the mound. In addition, we opened a series of trenches in the fields to the SE—the “AJ Trenches”—and resumed work in the sondage opened on the small flat mound in the fields further to the east—Grid AR 22 (Figs. 1-2).

II A. Work undertaken to better understand the EB II settlement and search for EB III remains on the acropolis

II A. 1. Investigation of the fortress on the northern slope (Grids A-C 16, AD 16 and Trenches AA 17, AB 17)

The main purpose of resuming work here was to investigate the fortifications of the upper town further westward.

II A. 1 a. Trenches AB/AC/AD 16

Here we enlarged the already excavated area northwards from the surface down and also proceeded somewhat deeper along the outer face of the defense wall in Trench

AB/AC/AD 16 (Fig. 3, upper left/right). The upper part of the earlier fortifications we were able to expose was built of small stones, just like the segment earlier excavated in Trench AG/AH 18. It is to be expected that these rest upon larger and larger courses as the wall descends.



Figure 3. Trenches AB/AC/AD 16 and AB 17. From the west.

To the west, the earlier wall ends at the tower-like projection. Walls possibly forming small cubicles to the east and a stone ramp of larger stones, the upper part of which came to light last year, meet it from the north, east of the “tower.” The stone ramp corresponds to the back wall of a house adjacent to the tower on the east. Stones in the lateral walls of this house had been robbed or removed, deeply enough to partially destroy the early fortification wall. Although only a minor stretch at the northern end of the western wall forming a corner with the ramp has been destroyed, the stones in the eastern wall have been entirely removed. Obviously the gap between the wall and the “tower” which we postulated as the North Gate was only a lacuna due to this disturbance.

We then excavated from the surface downward (in the southern part of Grids AC 16) in a sondage 3.5 x 0.5 m that corresponded to the fill within the house; this digging exposed floor levels one atop another.

We enlarged Trench AB/AC/AD 16 with a further sondage westward (3.0 x 4.0 m) to trace the continuation of the fortification wall (Fig. 4). Here we unexpectedly happened upon a thick deposit of late EB III., unfortunately disturbed (apparently by the same destruction we encountered last year in the NW corner of the “tower”). This cut through the floor of an oven from the late EB III period. After removing the disturbance, we continued deeper around the perimeter and exposed on the southern scarp a wall of large boulders running nearly east-west. Below a late EB III floor in the west, we found early EB III material, including two-thirds of a Trojan A1 plate and the bottom half of a *depas amphikypellon*. Below the above-mentioned disturbance we found a fragmentary wheelmade jar lying on two flat stones, one the fragment of a grinding stone. Under these stones appeared a small upright pithos containing carbonized seeds (Fig. 30). The unexcavated fill along the southern scarp (corresponding to the width of the so-called “tower”) was removed.

We excavated the remainder of the western “tower” wall by opening the southern scarp of the trench in Grids AB 16 to the east. The structure exhibits a double mudbrick wall (the exterior supported by stone foundations) that curves slightly eastward in the middle, as does the opposite wall. At a lower level there appeared yet another mudbrick wall along the exterior of this double wall (Fig. 4). As is clearly visible on the southern scarp, the soft ashy layers from the “tower” wall slope steeply down westward beneath the early EB III wall of large boulders mentioned above. Deeper within this dark gray ashy fill we exposed the plastered edge of the mudbrick wall running parallel to the “tower” wall and discovered that this wall turns to the west just before the NW corner of the “tower” and continues as far as the western scarp. It most probably represents a partition wall within a possible gateway to the Upper City, as reconstructed in the plan Figure 20. We have now reached 3.5 m below the surface at the western end of Trench AB/AC/AD 16.



Figure 4. Tower-like projection and the mudbrick walls of a possible gate in Trench AB 17. From W-SW.

II. A.1 b. Trenches AB 17 and AA 17

The absence of any apparent stone wall joining the “tower” to the slope from the west suggests that there might be a gate to the Upper City here. We opened two new trenches (AB 17 and AA 17) in order to investigate (Fig. 5). Trench AB 17 (5.5 x 5.5 m) had revealed late EB III deposit near the surface. In the western half of the trench this was severely damaged by a disturbance. The deposit deepened towards the west, as was the case in Trench AB 16 as well.



Figure 5. Trench AB 16 and the new trenches AB 17 and AA 17. From the northwest.

When we reached early EB III deposit, two stone walls appeared in the eastern part of Trench AA 17, one protruding from the southern scarp, the other from the northern. At a slightly lower level, the two were joined by a stone wall. In association with these walls the floor of a large oven appeared in the NW corner. The oven plate consisted of a layer of sherds and small stones set atop a bed of flat stones. West of the stone wall we encountered a quite well preserved floor. We then discovered a mudbrick wall running E-W and proceeding into the eastern scarp. Just on the face of the scarp we could see the plaster facing on the north side of the wall turning northward. This northward extension—parallel to the partition wall revealed in Trench AB 16—most

probably joins the prolongation of the western wall of the “tower” slightly to the east in the unexcavated deposit.

After removing the additional wall, the oven plate and the floor, we reached the end phase of the EB II period. One wall associated with this phase appeared in the southern part of the trench. This wall, running NE-SW, sits upon neatly built stone foundations. Apparently there was a terracing west of the “tower” wall in this phase. Because it seemed wise to investigate this complication later, we forestalled delving as deep as the strata contemporary with the fortification wall throughout the entire surface of the trench; we traced only the continuation of the mudbrick wall mentioned above to the west; it ended some 1.5 m before the western scarp, suggesting the existence of an entrance here.

We were able to excavate, however, nearly all the late EB III deposit in Trench AA 17 (3.5 x 5.5 m). Fortunately there was no disturbance from the surface downward in this trench. All the deposit was a homogenous yellowish gray. Half a meter from the surface we encountered the walls of a well preserved mudbrick structure with at least four rooms (Fig. 6). Unfortunately the remnants of the house in Trench AB 17 to the east, had apparently been damaged by the terracing mentioned above. The oven exposed in Trench AB 16 must belong to one of the rooms here. The structure is built on stone foundations with flat stones placed vertically along the outer faces. After dismantling the walls, we reached another late EB III floor level without any accompanying architectural remains.

We investigated deeper in the southern part of Trench AB 16 to trace the continuation of the house wall discovered in Trench AB 17. Unfortunately, a wide and deep bothros here in the SE corner of the trench had destroyed nearly all of the wall. Only a small portion could be detected in the west (Fig. 5). We plan to expose this fully in the next season.



Figure 6. Late EB III mudbrick walls in Trench AA 17. From the north.

II A. 2. Investigations on the western part of the southern slope intended to elucidate the plan of Complex II and its megaron (Grids Z 21-23, AA 20-23, AB 20-22, AB 23, AC 21, AC 22)

In our investigation here we continued to remove balks and open new trenches to expose a greater surface area. Most of our energy again this year was devoted to unraveling the different elements within Complex II to expose a complete plan and identify as closely as possible the functions of the various rooms (Figs. 7-10). As a result, only a limited area has been left unexcavated. Although many rooms have not yet been excavated to floor level, the plan of Complex II has been clarified.

The outline of this large freestanding complex of approximately rectangular rooms does not form a complete rectangle. It measures 31 m E-W and averages 22 m N-

S, with the western façade receding in steps to the north. Three megara along the western façade open to the west; behind these runs a N-S series of four rooms. Nearly all the rooms boast their own independent walls. It appears that the main entrances constitute the three in the western façade, although exterior doors opening eastward do exist at the back. There seems to have been internal passage between certain rooms (sometimes lateral, another characteristic emphasizing its insular character. Evidence of rebuilding, as well as the number of floor levels demonstrated by the rooms throughout the complex, prove that it remained in use over quite a long period. Large boulders were used in the lower rows of the foundations.

The long structure at the south is distinctive in that it represents a typical megaron. It displays at least four building phases and was constructed in three terraced levels on a slope falling away towards the west. A three-phased stone ramp (the two upper phases of which were excavated in earlier seasons) provided approach to the western façade.

With the removal of the stone ramp from the second phase (exposed only last year), that of an earlier phase appeared underneath (Figs. 7, 10). The fill between these two early ramps was homogenous dark earth with little archaeological material; most of the sherds recovered rather surprisingly date to the EB I period.

That the earlier ramp continued most probably as far as the partition wall is proved by a remnant of stone paving slightly eastward of the entrance, contiguous to the partition wall. A small sunken storage bin dating most probably to the phase above was found in the northern corner of the porch. The stones of the partition wall behind the porch from the phase above were removed and the earlier partition wall contemporary with the earlier ramp was exposed. Earthen fill appeared between the two walls. The earliest entrance is indicated by the three flat stones on which remnants of wooden planks were found.

The lowest of the central hearths, which survived in poor condition, was located slightly to the northwest of that above. The ends of the stone foundations were elongated to carry the wooden floors. Remnants of wooden planks were found between the stone foundations and the mudbrick wall above.



Figure 7. Complex II. State plan of the earliest phase yet revealed of the large Megaron and the annex following this year's excavations.

We excavated deeper in the front room, but found no deeper floor. Two earlier floor levels were determined in the central room. The most important discovery here is that the earth to raise the hearth exposed last year was brought in from outside. It included very little archaeological material in it.



Figure 8. Complex II as exposed at present. From the northeast.

The modern disturbance in the west of the central room was removed, and the preserved lower part of the transverse partition wall can be seen to limit the central room on the west. The central room thus measured 8.5 m in length.

This transverse wall is massive in structure, with a large flat stone squarish in contour representing the threshold, not centered, but near the southern lateral wall. Because this sturdy wall proved to be the sole transverse partition in the early phase, we removed remnants of the later partition wall to the west. In the central room, remains of another hearth were discovered, again shifted slightly northward. We have still to reach the lowest floor in the central room.

We removed the stone boulders along southern wall of the back room as well as the mudbrick partition wall from the later period. The early foundations here were built

of two rows of small stones. There is a difference of at least one meter between the floor levels of the central and back rooms due to the terracing here. Where the two southern walls meet, we found remnants of a thick wooden post placed upon a flat stone.



Figure 9. Complex II. The western part, with the Great Megaron to the right and the “middle megaron” at center. Seen from W-NW.

Thus in the earliest phases there was no partition wall forming a fourth room, and the megaron did not extend quite as far to the east.

In the earlier two phases there appears to have been no entrance between the central and the back room(s). Thus the original megaron must have had only two rooms. In the earlier phase there were four rooms running N-S at the back of the Complex, each of which had an independent entrance from the east. The oven excavated in the NW corner of the back room most probably belonged to the earliest phase. Complete or nearly complete vessels as well as grinding stones were especially typical of the finds in the second room from the south. The third revealed clay-lined pits in the NE corner and a pantry-like storage component along the north wall.

To the north of the Great Megaron are two smaller megara that also face westward. These we have dubbed the “middle megaron” and the “north megaron” (Figs. 7, 9-10). The middle megaron displays a very deep porch with two postholes in the middle. Part of the porch was enclosed by a stone wall to the south, apparently to help support the roof. A doorway from the front room of the Great Megaron provided access into the porch of this “middle megaron” to the north.

The main entrance into the large room of the “middle megaron” is from the west over a threshold of flat stones. On the interior to either side of the entrance are large storage bins with curving walls. Another storage facility occupies the entire back of the main room. It is comprised of two nearly equal rectangular cells. Two rounded clay-lined bins were also uncovered near the northern wall. We were pleasantly surprised to find a massive flat axe of bronze—most probably a votive offering—in the southern mudbrick wall near the SE corner of the megaron (Fig. 38, at the right).



Figure 10. Complex II. The early phase of the Great Megaron in Complex II. From the southwest.

The eastern part of Grid Z 21 was excavated from the surface down to expose the porch of the “north megaron.” Immediately below the surface we encountered early EB III pits, the largest of which yielded much pottery, as well as two imported wheelmade sherds. These pits had partially damaged remains of a mudbrick house without stone foundations that lay below, the southern part of which had already been excavated. This house nevertheless produced some *in situ* finds (Figs. 11, 23, 26) and the floor of a hearth in the NE corner. Because this structure is stratified—definitely above Complex II and dated by its finds to the end phase of the EB II period, these finds are of critical significance.

Once remains of this house were removed, we reached the porch of the “north megaron,” the southeastern portion of which had been excavated in the previous campaigns. A northern antae the same length as that to the south appeared—although there was no trace of the pavement attested to the south in earlier excavation.



Figure 11. Complex II. *In situ* vessels in the late EB II mudbrick structure overlying the northern anta of the “north megaron.”

This megaron also has two cubicles at the back which most probably served for storage. The fill within them has not yet been completely emptied.

The northeasternmost room of the complex, also accessed from the east, displays a longitudinal orientation behind a wide front room: a long narrow room to the north and storage cubicles to the south. A door opened from the front room into the first of the cubicles, in which we found the lower half of a pithos and a rounded clay-lined pit.

This year we have come to the conclusion that the long trapezoidal space at the center of the complex (between the two smaller megara facing east and the rooms opening to the west) must have been an open court-like area serving as a vertical light well (Fig. 7). The ground level here seems never to have risen, and the accumulation of fill once the complex went out of use is unusually deep in comparison to that in other parts of the complex.



Figure 12. EB II and III walls in Trench AB 19. From the east.

II A. 3. Investigations into the EB II and III phases in Trenches AB 19, AA 19/20, and AA 18.

A small trench measuring 3.5 x 2.5.0 m was opened between the northwest corner of Grids AB 19 and the NE corner of Trench AA 19/20 in order to investigate the relationship of Complex I to the well established stratigraphy in the small trench AA 19/20 (4.5 x 2.5m). In addition, the small trench earlier opened in Grid AA 18 was extended westward to a full five-meter square area, both to investigate the northern extension of the late EB III house as well as to glean more stratified material from the EB III phases.

II A. 3 a. Trench AB 19

The eastern half of this trench displayed a wide and deep disturbance, a continuation of that already cleared in the NW corner of the Central Megaron of Complex I. The large stones uncovered at the bottom of the disturbance along the east scarp here might well belong to the foundations of the back wall of Complex I.

In the western half of Trench AB 19, a flimsy N-S wall from the early EB III period appeared (Fig. 12). Below this we reached EB II deposit at two meters from the surface. We discontinued excavation at 2.4 m from the surface.

II A. 3 b. Trench AA 19

Beneath the surface, we reached walls of the late EB III structure discovered in earlier campaigns. One NW-SE stretch forms a corner in the east, veering to the south and thus limiting the northeastern room of the structure here. Very pronounced floors were apparent to either side of the wall (Fig. 13). Removing the floor of the wall (that within the NE room) we soon encountered another underneath (Phase II C).



Figure 13. Trench AA 19. The late EB III wall. From the south.

After the mudbrick superstructures and foundation stones of the later walls were removed, another mudbrick wall (without stone foundations) was unearthed running in the same direction. It too is associated with a floor and an oval storage bin outlined by a thin contour of mudbrick at the south scarp. From the latter (Phase II D) came a wide-necked pithos (Fig. 31). At this level the layers of deposit tend to slope downwards from the eastern scarp, a continuation of those in Trench AB 19 to the east. Thus we reached the final early EB III levels here at a depth of about three meters from the surface. We found a black jar with vertically pierced lugs and zigzag bands on the body (Fig. 27) in a pit dated most probably to the end phase (Phase III A) of early EB III. We plan to continue work in this trench as it promises a valid correlation between Complex I and the relatively firm stratigraphy exposed in the western half of the trench. We have at present descended no deeper than three meters from the surface in this trench.

II. A. 3c. Trench AA 18

Three Islamic burials appeared 0.5 m below the surface. Once drawn and photographed (Fig. 14), these were removed. Then appeared a continuation of the late EB III house wall excavated in Trench AA 19/20. Running approximately E-W, this wall

limited the NW-room of the structure. We also cleaned out the circular stone-lined and plastered storage bin (2 m in diameter) that we had encountered the previous season.



Figure 14. Islamic burial in Trench AA 18.

Just to the west of the bin we discovered a neatly packed heap of stones, nearly cylindrical, one meter in diameter and 70 cm high (Fig. 15). After carefully the removing the stone heap, we encountered a small round pit with the complete skeleton of a young pig lying inside. Thus excavation here continued 2.0 m below the surface.



Figure 15. Trench AA 18 from the north. The stone-lined storage bin, the stone heap marking the pig's burial, and the late EB III wall.

II. A. 4 Excavations in the fields to the east outside the citadel: the "AJ Trenches" (AJ 27, AJ 26, AI/AJ 23, AJ 22, AJ 21) and Trenches AR 22 and AF 24.

The purpose of the work in this area was to investigate the stratigraphy as well as the limits of the lower city. Trenches were therefore opened along a single line to produce a continuous N-S profile from the slopes of the mound out into the fields (cf. contour plan Fig. 2). We also resumed work in Trench AR 22 on a small rise far out in the fields to the east and opened an exploratory trench in Grid AF 24.

Surprisingly, settled remains in this area turned up must further afield than we expected; very probably some space between the citadel and the residential area of the lower city remained undeveloped. The layers of deposit here slope downwards to the north (contrast the natural contours in Fig. 2) towards the citadel. This open area at a relatively low level, from Trench AJ 21 northward displays a clayey fill alternating with thin strata of sand and pebbles with minimal archaeological material. This suggests that the rainwater running down the slopes of the citadel was collected here (in a basin or a kind of channel) to prevent the outlying houses of the lower city from flooding.

Unfortunately, very little EB II deposit remained due to large-scale disturbances (often descending into EB I levels as well) that destroying some of the architectural remains.

The following paragraphs describe this season's effort grid by grid, beginning with the "AJ Trenches" (from south to north) and ending with Trenches AF 24 (outside the citadel to the SE) and AR 22 (far out in the fields to the east).

In **Grids AJ 27** two narrow trenches were opened (2.0 x 4.5m and 2.0 x 4.0) to search for the southernmost limits of the lower city and a possible outer fortification wall. Here we have made only a beginning, however, scarcely penetrating below the topsoil.

In **Grids AJ 26** we opened two trenches 4.5 x 4.5m. Immediately below the topsoil of the southern trench we encountered a Hellenistic flagstone pavement. After documentation and removal of this, we moved on to the second (northern) trench. Again we found a Hellenistic layer, which we excavated to a certain depth before deciding to investigate deeper in the western half of the trench only. Hellenistic disturbance proved to be very deep in the SE corner of the trench.

Under the Hellenistic layer appeared EBA deposit with mudbrick fill. The remnant of a floor appeared along the western scarp. Below this floor we exposed two walls running at right angles to one another, possibly from a megaron house like that uncovered in Trench AJ 26 / Grids AI/AJ 23/24. A concentration of stones in the SE corner (although at the same level as this EBA structure—3 m below the surface) belongs to the Hellenistic disturbance.

In **Grids AI/AJ 23/24** four different trenches were opened with only one-meter-wide balks between them (Trenches AI/AJ 23, AJ 23/24, and AJ 23 north and south). The work was initiated in Grid AJ 23; the further trenches were laid out to better understand the architectural remains discovered (Fig. 18). The upper layers of all these trenches were badly damaged by disturbances both modern and ancient. Hellenistic disturbances went quite deep in the eastern trenches, as had proved true in Trench AJ 26 as well. Two thirds

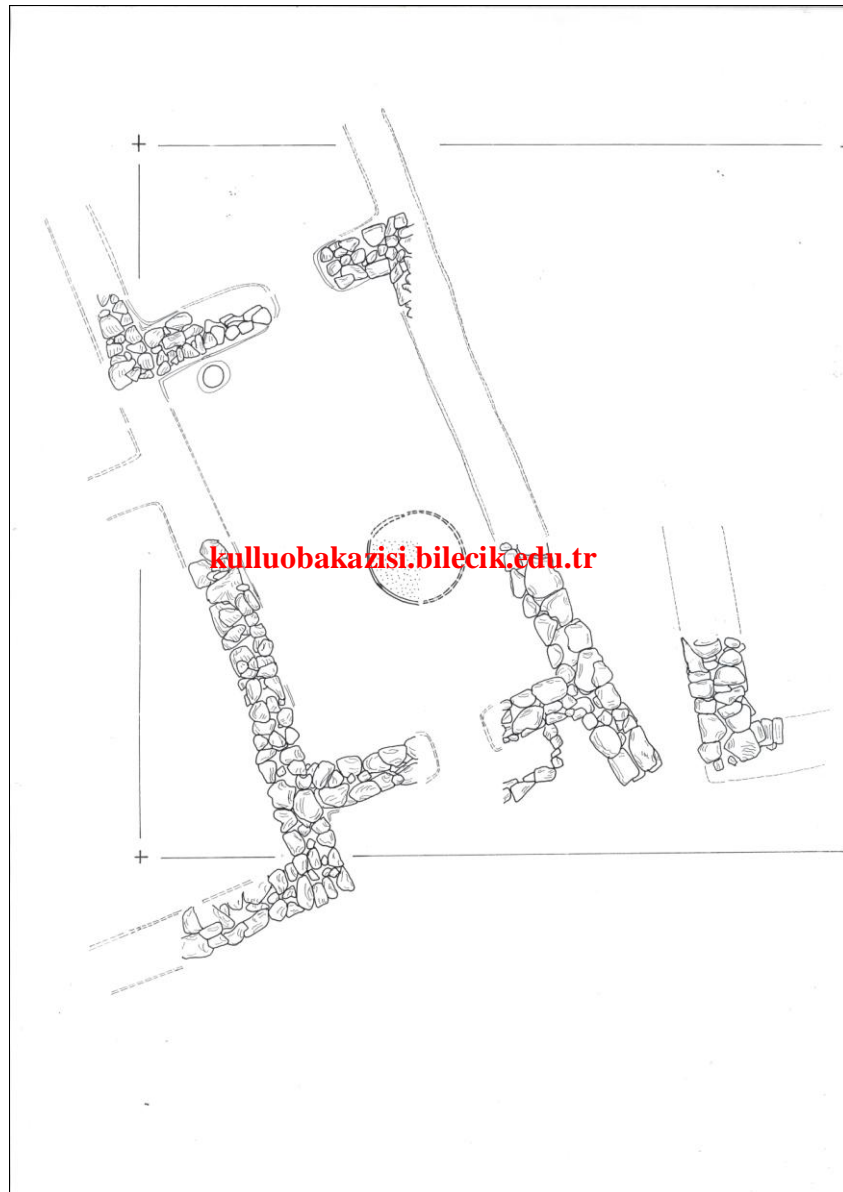


Figure 16. The Megaron House in Trenches AI/AJ 23, AJ 23/24, and AJ 23 (north and south).

of a beak-spouted jug (possibly Phrygian) was found in one of the pits in Trench AI/AJ 23. Late EB II and EB III material was found mixed with the disturbed deposits. Not surprisingly, the deeper we dug, the better preserved the EBA architectural remains were. Stone foundations (in places preserved to a relatively substantial height) most probably belong to a free-standing house or another insula, for there seems to be no adjoining wall from the east. Eventually another house on the same orientation appeared below.



Figure 17. The front of the megaron in Grid AJ 23. From the north.

This megaron, much better preserved, is part of a house or insula. Standing on neatly built stone foundations, it faces S-SE. There are at least two rooms, one behind another, with a “central” hearth in the front room—slightly eastward of the longitudinal axis (Figs. 16, 17). On the blackened floor of this front room we exposed two small jugs; in the

western part of the porch we recovered sherds of a large vessel. The material from this house dates it to the very beginning of the EB II period.

Grid AJ 22: Two narrow trenches (each 2.0 x 4.5 m) were opened in Grid AJ 22. Again there was Hellenistic deposit with disturbances dug into the EBA layers. A sturdy Hellenistic stone wall appeared in the SE corner of the northern trench, crossing the NE corner of the southern trench as well. A thick mudbrick flooring appeared slightly below this in the southern trench, sloping downward to the north in accordance with the slant of the layers here. Both above and below this flooring we found EB II pottery. The fill containing this pottery was a thick gray ashy stratum that became less dense as we excavated deeper. The lowest level reached (in the northern trench) still yielded late EB II pottery. Above the ashy fill was rather a homogenous light yellowish gray clayey fill with very little archaeological material.



Figure 18. View of the “AJ Trenches” (to the right) with Complex II visible to the left.

From the south.

In **Grid AJ 21** we excavated to a depth of 3.5 m in a single narrow trench (4.5 x 2.0 m). As a pleasant surprise, the light yellowish gray muddy/clayey fill appeared here just under the surface, continuing throughout almost all levels excavated. In the lowest level we discovered one garbage pit dug from the late EB II period into this fill of the period transitional into EB I, destroying some mudbrick walls from the transitional phase.

This year we also resumed work in **Grid AR 22** far out in the fields to the east. The previously opened trench was enlarged to nearly 4.5 x 4.5 m. Here we uncovered the corner of a rectangular building—most probably a free-standing house—with four building phases. There was an oven in one corner in at least one phase (Fig. 19). At some three meters below the surface, the earliest phase—representing the beginning of the EB I period—rests directly on virgin soil. A decorated vessel (Fig. 21) found in association with this building represents the period transitional into the Early Bronze Age.



Figure 19. Floor of an oven in the corner of a house from the period transitional into EB I in Trench AR 22. From the west.

In the northern half of **Grid AF 24**, an as yet completely uninvestigated area outside the citadel to the southeast, between the “AJ Trenches” and the acropolis, we opened a narrow trial trench (2.0 x 0.5). The first meter represented nothing but disturbance. Finally encountering undisturbed ashen strata at 1.8 meters from the surface, we left these for future investigation.

At the end of the season, we covered the walls in certain trenches with plastic sheeting and earth to protect them until the next campaign.

III. Conclusion

Once again we have significant results to report. We are now much better informed on the formation of the mound, in particular settlement pattern in the EB II period; the transition from the EB II into the EB III period has been much better documented in Grids Z 21 and AB 16, and we have our first concrete results from the Lower City.

On the **Citadel**, the fortification wall in the north was further investigated. We have excavated deeper to expose more of the exterior of the wall and have excavated more of the western portion of the tower-like projection (Grids AB 16). The mudbrick walls exposed here and in Trench AB 17 indicate that one of the main gates to the citadel might have been located here (as suggested on the plan Fig. 20). This we hope to clarify next year by exposing the entire plan.

The plan of Complex II is finally complete (Figs. 7-8). This complex remained in use over a long period as attested by the various phases of building and reconstruction. We have assembled quite a bit of information on the various functions of the different units. The complex definitely included three megara, all facing west. We determined that the Great Megaron in the south had only two rooms in its early phases. The room that was eventually annexed at the back was most probably earlier accessed through an eastern entrance—like the other three rooms forming a row at the back of the complex.

In the Great Megaron we detected practically no internal architectural elements other than hearths and almost no in situ finds indicative of everyday use. This contrasts

with the situation in the units annexed to it, which included storage bins, pantries, and ovens as well as much pottery and many implements of ground stone, chipped stone, and bone. This would suggest that the Great Megaron had a religious or an administrative function, whereas the annexes were of a more domestic character. The long trapezoidal space at the center of the complex (in which no inner architectural elements or floor levels were found) most probably functioned as a light well.



Figure 20. The general layout of the Citadel.

As regards the **Lower City**, we have now established that the EB I and II settlements spread over a wide area (ca. 300 x 150 m) covering the entire surface of the mound. It seems that the configuration of upper and lower cities may very well have begun as early as the EB I period, clearly continuing to develop in the succeeding EB II period. There was apparently an open space between the citadel and the lower settlement, a rather low undeveloped area where the run-off of rainwater from the acropolis was collected to protect the residences in the lower city from flooding.

The work in Grids AI/AJ 23/24 and AR 22 would indicate that at least part of the lower city was comprised of insulae and perhaps free-standing houses as well. The unit with a megaron in Grids AI/AJ 23/24 attests that such a plan was present here at least from the early EB II onward (Fig. 16). The more highly configured plans of Complexes I and II with their megara may have developed from this plan. There is thus a possibility that the late EBA insulae of the North Aegean (often including a megaron) had its roots in inland northwestern Anatolia, whence it might have been introduced to the coast along with other innovations appearing in and around the Troad from the middle of the EBA onward.

Let us turn to the **pottery and small finds** (Figs. 21-38). The houses in the lower city have as yet yielded relatively few small finds. Of note is a jar with white-filled incision (Fig. 21) recovered from the earliest phase yet excavated in Trench AR 22, that transitional into the EBA. This should represent a prototype of the so-called “cross-band jar” (*Kreuz-Band Flasche*) so typical of EB I levels at Demircihüyük.

In the rooms of Complex II we found certain in situ vessels as well as other finds chronologically of utmost importance. A massive bronze flat axe was also found embedded in one of the mudbrick walls of the complex as a votive offering (Fig. 38, far right). Toggle pins from the EB III period include new types (Fig. 38), and bone idols of “Trojan type” have also appeared in EB III levels (Figs. 35-37).

The black-slipped and well burnished tripod jar with vertical lugs shown in Figure 27—from the early EB III period—is very reminiscent of those from the Trojan Second Settlement. Two imported sherds, again from the EB III period, are worthy of note: one is a black wheelmade sherd with horizontal band burnish on the exterior; the other is a very

thin-walled, dark gray rim sherd from a wheelmade vessel with a ribbon handle—metallic in character.

In conclusion, this year's work has provided us with new clues to the stratigraphy and architecture of the mound. We now have the complete plan of Complex II finally in hand and can present the first concrete data on the extent and characteristics of the Lower City.

Küllüoba contributes not only to a more reliable EBA chronology for western Anatolia, but provides new perspectives on both trade in the second half of the EBA and the initial stages of urbanism as seen in western Anatolia and the Aegean World.



Figure 21. Small jar from the period transitional into the EBA.



Figure 22. Late EB II bowl.



Figure 23. Another late EB II bowl.



Figure 24. A late EB II beak-spouted jug from Complex II.



Figure 25. Late EB II lid.



Figure 26. Late EB II jar.



Figure 27. Early EB III jar.



Figure 28. Late EB III bowl.



Figure 29. A funnel from late EB III levels.



Figure 30 An early EB III pithos that contained carbonized seeds.



Figure 31. A late EB III wide-mouthed pithos.



Figure 32. Late EB II.



Figure 33. Late EB II.



Figure 34. Late EB II.



Figure 35. "Trojan type of bone idol."



Figure 36. "Trojan type of bone idol."



Figure 37. "Trojan type of bone idol."



Fig. 38. Metal finds from late EB II and EB III contexts.