

Preliminary Report on the 2017 Excavations in Area 33 in Shahr-i Sokhta: Stratigraphy, Finds and Pottery

Enrico Ascalone

Università degli Studi di Roma Tre, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici

1. Introduction

The choice of area in which to intervene by means of excavations that might yield preliminary stratigraphic and topographical data was made following the surface reconnaissance campaigns conducted as part of the initial research in January and February 2017. The selected area was labelled Area 33 on the basis of the progressive numbering that followed on from the previous excavations conducted by the Iranian mission headed by S.M.S. Sajjadi (2003; 2005; 2104). The choice of area was guided by four main finds that were immediately perceived as particularly significant and in line with our research objectives, mainly concerned with the periods when the settlement was at its largest extent, i.e. Periods II and III. It was therefore decided to focus on a sector located a few dozen metres north-west of the so-called *Central Quarters* (Salvatori - Vidale 1997), south of the Monumental Area and immediately to the west of *Building 1* (Sajjadi - Moradi 2014) (Figs. 1-2), selected on the basis of satellite and aerophotogrammetric analyses providing clear evidence of a large and complex structure (Figs. 3-4).



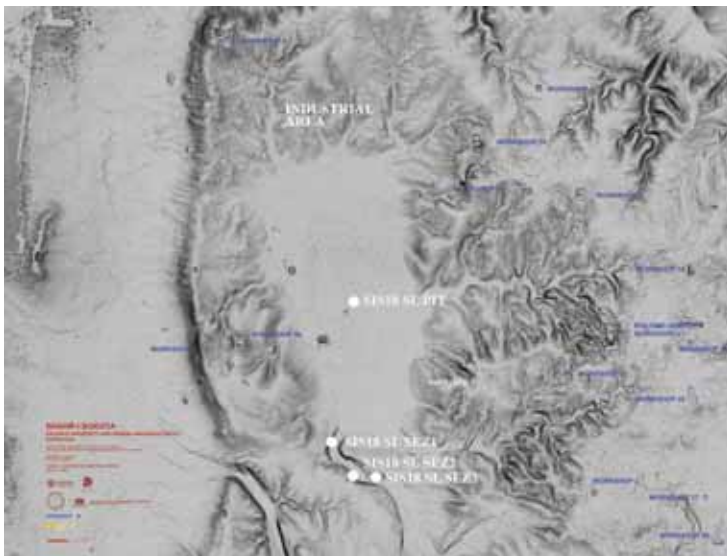
Fig. 1: topography of the settlement of Shahr-i Sokhta.

These preliminary assessments were followed by reconnaissance in the area and the gathering of ceramic fragments on the surface. The seriation of these finds indicated a horizon attributable to Period II-III of the site on the basis of the chronological and periodical sequences reconstructed by the Italian archaeological mission in the late 1960s and 70s.¹ To the abundant ceramics

1. For the reports on excavations conducted by the mission headed by M. Tosi, see especially Piperno - Salvatori 1983; 2007; Piperno - Tosi 1975; 1979; Salvatori 1979; Tosi 1967; 1968a; 1968b; 1969a; 1969b; 1969c; 1969d; 1969e; 1970a; 1970b; 1971a; 1971b; 1971c; 1972a; 1972b; 1972c; 1973a; 1973b; 1974; 1975; 1976a; 1976b; 1977; 1978; 1983.



2a



2b



2c



2d



2e



2f

Fig. 2: topographical identification of Area 33.

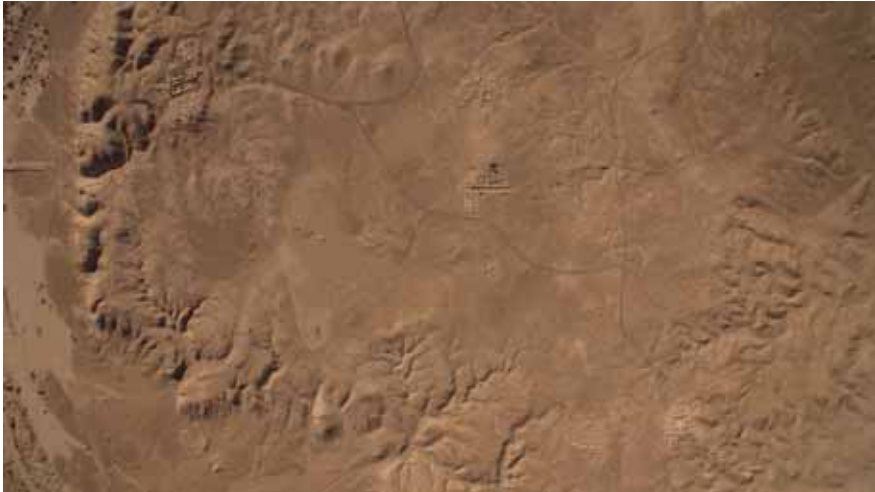


Fig. 3: Area 33 before the excavation, viewed with the drone (photo by M. Rahmani).



Fig. 4: Area 33 before the excavation.

gathered on the surface in Area 33 may be added a significant and impressive quantity of fragments of alabaster vessels (see in this volume the paper by Silvia Festuccia) and carved lapis lazuli, which were decisive in choosing the area to be investigated in this initial excavation campaign. To summarise, Area 33 was considered to be particularly interesting on the basis of both the evidence just described and its topographical location, between the settlement area to the east and the large central depression immediately to the west, future investigations of which will help to understand the topographical relations between the settlement and the surrounding area.²

2. Stratigraphic sequence, contextual analysis and archaeological associations

Area 33 was investigated from 28.10.1917 to 17.12.2017 with the excavation of a trench 30 x 10 m (300 m²) that made it possible to recognise at least three phases of occupation, attributed to the first half of Period III of the site (Figs. 5-6).³

The intense wind erosion in this sector has enabled the identification of structural remains in the subsoil and has clearly facilitated the gathering of material from the surface, contributing to the preliminary understanding of the area. However, it has also badly damaged the walls of the building, which are conserved to a height of 10-40 cm, with the erosion gradually worsening towards the south and east, where natural washout resulting from the flow of rainwater run-off has led to the total removal of the most superficial structures, preventing their identification, except for some short and insubstantial stretches (Figs. 7-8).

The excavations have made it possible to identify a significant building (called *Building 33*) of a certain complexity and sophistication in terms of the layout (Fig. 9), and to make general observations regarding its functions on the basis of the contexts and archaeological associations discovered (Fig. 10).

2. Core samples were taken and palaeobotanical analyses were conducted (see in this volume the chapter by Girolamo Fiorentino) inside the central depression, mainly aimed at the reconstruction of the ecosystem of this sector.

3. The sector was excavated with the indispensable help of Alessia Leoni, Silvia Festuccia and Aida Torseh. I would also like to thank Media Rahmani for the use of the drone, essential for conducting architectural and topographical surveys.



Fig. 5: *Building 33* at the end of the 2017 campaign (photo by M. Rahmani).



Fig. 6: *Building 33* at the end of the 2017 campaign (photo by M. Rahmani).



Fig. 7: view from the north of *Building 33*.



Fig. 8: view from the north-west of *Building 33*.



Fig. 9: panoramic view from the north-east of *Building 33*.



Fig. 10: schematic drawing of *Building 33*.

On the basis of the stratigraphic units excavated and the ceramic material associated with it, at least two main structural macro-phases were identified, along with another about which little could be determined due to the limited nature of the survey. The new research has enabled a more thorough understanding of the stratigraphic sequence in Area 33. In the report on the 2017 excavations (Ascalone - Sajjadi 2019), Layer 1 of the Area was below that of *Building 33*, which lay within Layer 2, corresponding to the most recent occupation levels. Following the recent results and the identification of the long stratigraphic sequence in the two subsequent campaigns, it was considered necessary to change the previously published terminological labels in order to make the stratigraphic sequence definitive. Specifically, the new sequence in Area 33 has a Layer 1 (corresponding to the previous phase 2 of the area in Ascalone 2019a: 33-34) and a Layer 2 (phase 1 in Ascalone 2019a: 29-33). In detail, the identification of a second architectural and stratigraphic phase as a result of three limited surveys conducted in L.15, L.16 and L.17 during the 2017 campaign (Ascalone 2019a: 29-30, fig. 12) has now been better documented by the 2018 and 2019 excavations, which have made it necessary to adopt new terminology without, however, any change in the layer sequence itself.

The most ancient phase (Layer 3), revealed by two assays conducted inside three rooms (L.15, L.16 and L.17), an intermediate phase, detectable only by the presence of a widespread greyish layer but no structural relations, identified in the same two assays (Layer 2), and the most recent phase (Layer 1), clearly the last, detected throughout the trench, highly eroded by atmospheric agents but particularly important due to the identification of distinct functional sectors that enabled broader considerations of a historical nature on the life of the settlement.⁴

Area 33, Layer 1. *Building 33*. Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phases 4-3: ca. 2600-2450 BC

Area 33, Layer 2. Shahr-i Sokhta II - Phases 5b: ca. 2620-2600 BC

Area 33, Layer 3. Shahr-i Sokhta II - Phase 5a: ca. 2850-2620 BC

4. The new chronologies of Shahr-i Sokhta created mainly on the basis of the new analyses at C14 from areas 33, 35 and 36 will be published in the next issue of this monograph series (ERSS 3) by the writer, S.M.S. Sajjadi, H. Moradi and P. Vecchio.

Area 33, Layer 3 (Shahr-i Sokhta II - Phase 5a) (ca. 2850-2620 BC)

Phase 3 was detected in L.15, L.16 and L.17 by a survey that made it possible to recognise the continuity of occupation and to identify the original ground level at -0.90 to -0.95 m. This was represented by a layer of beaten earth covered in very fine plaster that is not seen in the subsequent phase (partly due to erosion) (Figs. 11-14).

The excavation strategies and the time remaining did not allow researchers to explore further this architectural phase. It will however be the subject of attention in the 2018 campaign, when the excavation will be extended horizontally in order to gather new data on the most superficial phase, and vertical research will be conducted in order to fully determine the chronological limits of Area 33. Due to the limited nature of the survey, the ceramic horizon is still incomplete. However, on the basis of the current state of knowledge and the evidence gathered during the 2017 campaign, it seems to be dated to Phase 5, detected in the *Central Quarters*. This confirms the homogeneity of pottery production in late Period II and Period III in Shahr-i Sokhta (Phase 5-4), when a certain continuity of use is also seen in Tombs 731 and 725 (Piperno - Salvatori 1982; 1983).

Stratigraphic units - Layer 3 (Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phase 5a) (ca. 2850-2620 BC)

US 10 = L.15; US 11 = L.15; US 12 = L.16; US 13 = L.17; US 15 = L.16.

Levels between -0.35 m and -0.95 m.

Objects: SiS.17.33.35; SiS.17.33.36; SiS.17.33.37; SiS.17.33.38; SiS.17.33.39.

Area 33, Layer 2 (Shahr-i Sokhta II - Phases 5b/4) (ca. 2620-2600 BC)

This phase unfortunately cannot be documented due to its limited presence in the surveys conducted in L.15, L.16 and L.17. It is associated with only one stratigraphic unit, which is distinguished by the presence of a greyish layer lying between Layer 1 and 3, documenting a stratigraphic break with no structural sequence. The limited quantity of ceramic evidence means that it is not possible to fully determine the chronological horizon, which appears to be sandwiched

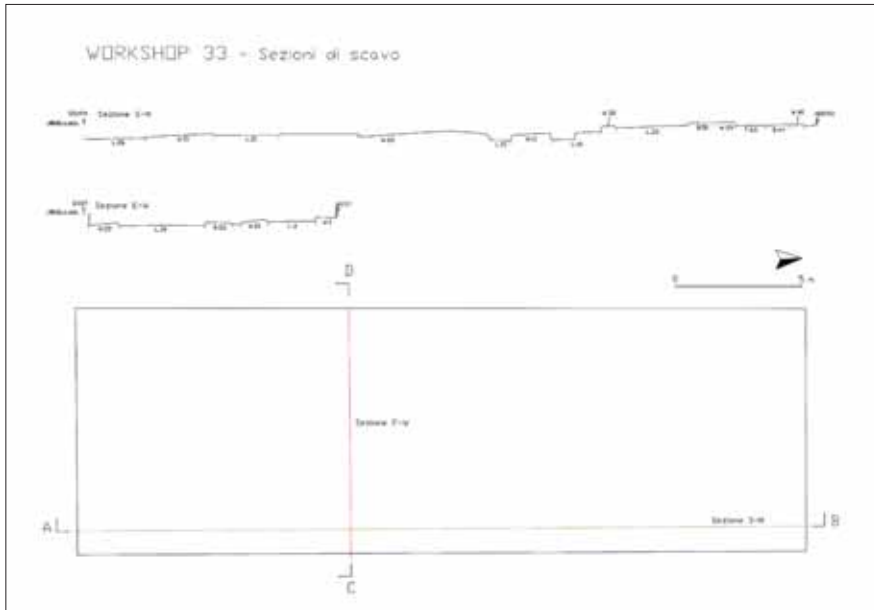


Fig. 11: section north-west of area 33.

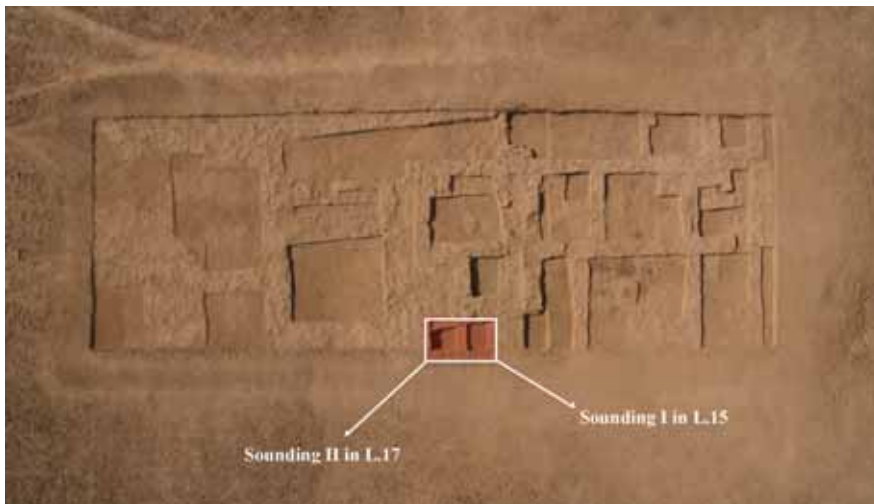


Fig. 12: identification of L.15 and L.17, the subject of surveys during the 2017 campaign.



Fig. 13: detail of L.15 and L.17 from the east.

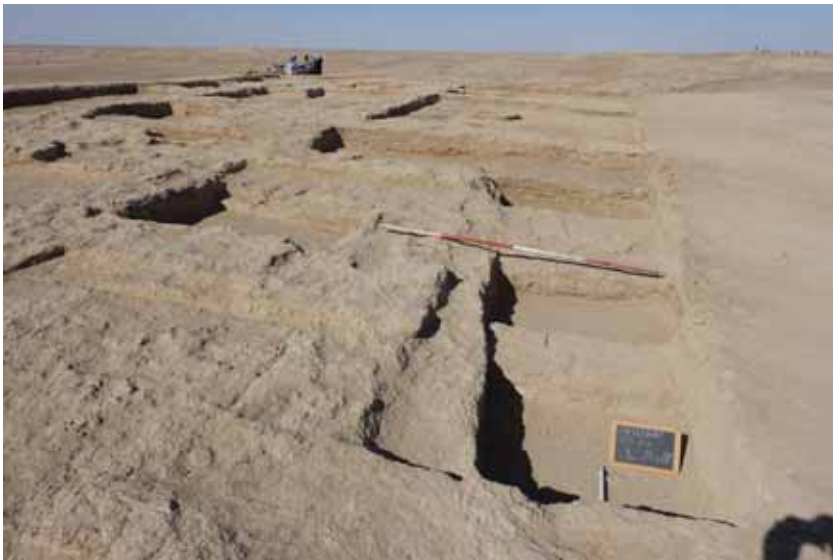


Fig. 14: detail of L.15 and L.17 from the south.

between the two macro-phases, which are better-known in terms of both their ceramics and their architectural evidence.

Stratigraphic units - Layer 2 (Shahr-i Sokhta II - Phases 5b/4) (ca. 2620-2600 BC)

US 40 = L.15

Levels between -0.30 m and -0.35 m.

Area 33 - Building 33 - Layer 1 (Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phases 4-3) (ca. 2600-2450 BC)

Layer 1 of Area 33 and is still the most thoroughly investigated. The trench, with an area of 300 m² (30 x 10 m), has yielded a building (= *Building 33*) with 18 rooms, mostly rectangular or trapezoid due to the imperfect alignment of one of the sides, with walls whose thickness varies from 0.60 m in the northern sector to 1 m in the central sector (Fig. 10). As mentioned above, the walls are conserved to heights of between 0.35 m in the northern stretch and 0.10 m in the southern part due to the varying impact of atmospheric agents, mainly water and wind (Fig. 7). The flooring is composed of a thin layer of beaten earth without plaster-based consolidation, with the exception of L.19. Running all the way cross this room was a corridor paved with brick tiles fired at high temperature measuring 60 x 30 x 10 cm. Also identified was highly compact flooring composed of medium-sized pebbles laid in a thin bed of clay-based material.

Clear structural differences are visible between the building's central part, mostly built with walls of imposing thickness, the western part, represented by long latitudinal rooms running almost parallel to the edge of the excavation, and the northern part, composed of smaller rooms in a more complex arrangement, with thinner walls.

Due to the intense erosion of all the structures, it does not appear possible to trace any passageways or access doors that might indicate the internal circulation, although small clues, which will be studied in greater detail subsequently, might help us to determine the layout and development of the building. In terms of

size (at least 30 metres along the front, which runs the length of the trench on a south-north axis), structural thickness (especially in the central sector) and topographical position (beside the lake), and on the basis of the functional and distributive analyses conducted (see below) and material discovered (see the chapter by the author in this volume) to date, the building is assumed to have played an important role in the socio-economic fabric of the settlement in the late 2nd and early 3rd quarter of the 3rd millennium BC.

Stratigraphic units - Layer 1 (Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phases 4-3) (ca. 2600-2450 BC)

US 2 = L.4; US 3 = L.5; US 4 = L.5; US 5 = L.6; US 6 = L.4; US 7 = L.7; US 8 = L.6; US 9 = L.10;

US 14 = L.10; US 16 = L.4; US 17 = L.19; US 18 = L.20; US 19 = L.20; US 20 = L.21; US 21 = L.5;

US 22 = L.26; US 23; US 24 = L.5; US 25 = L.7; US 26 = L.37; US 27 = L.33; US 28 = L.36+L.37;

US 29 = L.34; US 30 = L.35; US 31 = L.36; US 32 = L.37; US 34 = L.36; US 35 = L.43; US 36 = L.43; US 37 = L.5

US 38 = L.16; US 39 = L.7

Levels between 0 m and -0.30 m.

Finds: SiS.17.33.12; SiS.17.33.13; SiS.17.33.18; SiS.17.33.19; SiS.17.33.20;
 SiS.17.33.21; SiS.17.33.22; SiS.17.33.23; SiS.17.33.24; SiS.17.33.25;
 SiS.17.33.26; SiS.17.33.27; SiS.17.33.28; SiS.17.33.29; SiS.17.33.30;
 SiS.17.33.31; SiS.17.33.32; SiS.17.33.33; SiS.17.33.34; SiS.17.33.40;
 SiS.17.33.41; SiS.17.33.42; SiS.17.33.43; SiS.17.33.44; SiS.17.33.45;
 SiS.17.33.46; SiS.17.33.47; SiS.17.33.48; SiS.17.33.49; SiS.17.33.50;
 SiS.17.33.51; SiS.17.33.52; SiS.17.33.53; SiS.17.33.54; SiS.17.33.56;
 SiS.17.33.57; SiS.17.33.58; SiS.17.33.59; SiS.17.33.60; SiS.17.33.61;
 SiS.17.33.62; SiS.17.33.63; SiS.17.33.64; SiS.17.33.65; SiS.17.33.66;
 SiS.17.33.67; SiS.17.33.68; SiS.17.33.69; SiS.17.33.70; SiS.17.33.71;

SiS.17.33.72; SiS.17.33.73; SiS.17.33.74; SiS.17.33.75; SiS.17.33.76;
SiS.17.33.77; SiS.17.33.78; SiS.17.33.79; SiS.17.33.80; SiS.17.33.81;
SiS.17.33.82; SiS.17.33.83; SiS.17.33.84; SiS.17.33.85; SiS.17.33.86;
SiS.17.33.87; SiS.17.33.88; SiS.17.33.89; SiS.17.33.90; SiS.17.33.91;
SiS.17.33.92; SiS.17.33.93; SiS.17.33.94; SiS.17.33.95; SiS.17.33.96;
SiS.17.33.97; SiS.17.33.98; SiS.17.33.99; SiS.17.33.100; SiS.17.33.101;
SiS.17.33.102; SiS.17.33.103; SiS.17.33.104; SiS.17.33.105; SiS.17.33.106;
SiS.17.33.107; SiS.17.33.108; SiS.17.33.109; SiS.17.33.110; SiS.17.33.111;
SiS.17.33.112; SiS.17.33.113; SiS.17.33.114; SiS.17.33.115; SiS.17.33.116;
SiS.17.33.117; SiS.17.33.118; SiS.17.33.119; SiS.17.33.120; SiS.17.33.121;
SiS.17.33.122; SiS.17.33.123; SiS.17.33.124; SiS.17.33.125; SiS.17.33.126;
SiS.17.33.127; SiS.17.33.140; SiS.17.33.142; SiS.17.33.143; SiS.17.33.144;
SiS.17.33.145; SiS.17.33.146; SiS.17.33.147; SiS.17.33.148; SiS.17.33.149.

Surface

US 1

US 33 in OOI2+OOH4 = L.36+L.43

Finds: SiS.17.33.1; SiS.17.33.2; SiS.17.33.3; SiS.17.33.4; SiS.17.33.5;
SiS.17.33.6; SiS.17.33.7; SiS.17.33.8; SiS.17.33.9; SiS.17.33.10; SiS.17.33.11;
SiS.17.33.14; SiS.17.33.15; SiS.17.33.16; SiS.17.33.17; SiS.17.33.55;
SiS.17.33.128; SiS.17.33.129; SiS.17.33.130; SiS.17.33.131; SiS.17.33.132;
SiS.17.33.133; SiS.17.33.134; SiS.17.33.135; SiS.17.33.136; SiS.17.33.137;
SiS.17.33.138; SiS.17.33.139 (Tab. 1).

By cross-referencing contextual, associative and stratigraphic data, it is possible to link every individual object and ceramic fragment inside the investigated sectors, enabling subsequent attempts to interpret what has been excavated more broadly. The relationship between the object, its provenance (locus) and the ceramic fragments associated with it (US) is shown in Table 4, which is based on a periodisation of the site established in accordance with the study of the morphology and typology of the ceramics discovered (Tab. 2-3).

Periods	Phases	Large Building Central Quarters	House of the Jar Central Quarters	House of the Foundations Residential Area	House of the Pit Residential Area	House of the Stairs Residential Area	Burnt Building
I	10						
	9						
	8						
II	7						
	6						
	5						
III	4						
	3						
	2						
IV	1						
	0						

Tab. 1: stratigraphic relationship between the main sectors excavated in Shahr-i Sokhta by M. Tosi.

Periods	Tosi's Phases	Area 33	Area 1	Area 20	Area 26	Area 28
I	10					
	9					
	8					
II	7					
	6					
	5					
III	4					
	3					
	2					
IV	1					
	0					

Tab. 2: stratigraphic relationship between Area 33 and the main sectors excavated in Shahr-i Sokhta by S.M.S. Sajjadi.

2.1. Architectural and functional analysis of *Building 33* (Layer 1)

Together with preliminary considerations on the building's development and layout, the distributive and associative analyses of the evidence gathered (see Tab. 3 and 4) help to determine the essential features and aspects of *Building 33*. To these may be added historical assessments that enable a partial reconstruction of the settlement's internal dynamics of growth and socio-economic development.

The excavated portion has shown that the building has a complex layout, with a specific and planned functional division of its internal spaces. The architectural planning seems to follow a pre-determined logic, quite different from the additive and apparently random architectural traditions which entailed starting with a central nucleus that was subsequently expanded in a process of attaching new rooms to the existing structure as needed.

The idea of creating an architectural module on the basis of a well-defined project necessarily has numerous wider implications concerning the settlement of Shahr-i Sokhta as a whole. Before conducting a historical reading however, in addition to the processes underlying the growth of the settlement, it should be considered that the modular development and planning behind *Building 33* can also be recognised in the division of the building into various functional sectors. On the basis of the fixed installations, the material discovered, the archaeological

Chronology (BC)	Period	Area 33 Layer	US	Locus	Find (SiS.17.33.)
2850-2620	SiS II (Phase 5a)	3	10 11 12 13 15	L.15 L.15 L.16 L.17 L.16	35, 36, 38 33 39 37
2620-2600	SiS III (Phase 5b/4)	2	40		
2600-2450	SiS III (Phase 4-3)	1	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 14 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	L.4 L.5 L.5 L.6 L.4 L.7 L.6 L.10 L.10 L.4 L.19 L.20 L.20 L.21 L.26 L.36+L.43 L.5 L.7 L.37 L.33 L.36+L.37 L.34 L.35 L.36 L.37 L.36+L.43 L.36+L.37 L.36 L.43 L.43 L.5 L.16 L.7	12-13, 18-23 24 25-26 27-32, 34 41-44, 57 40, 45, 142 46-50 58 51-54, 56 59 60-71 78 72, 76-77, 79 73-75, 80, 88 81-87, 89-94, 105, 107-108 103-104, 106, 109 128-139, 147-149 95-102 120-121 110, 112-114, 118, 140, 146 111, 115, 117, 122, 127 123-124 125-126

Tab. 3: archaeological associations in Area 33.

associations detected and the contexts of discovery identified, with the current state of our knowledge, there are at least three (Fig. 15):

- 1) the kitchens sector in the northern part (cooking and preparation of food) (L.7; L.33, L.36, L.37, L.43) (Figs. 16-31);
- 2) the stateroom sector in the central-southern part (L.19, L.20, L.21) (Figs. 33-40);
- 3) the residential sector on a hypothetical upper floor in the central sector of the building (immediately above L.19, L.6, L.10, between W.3, W.8, W.9, W.11, W.12, W.20, W.21, W.22, W.52) (Fig. 31).

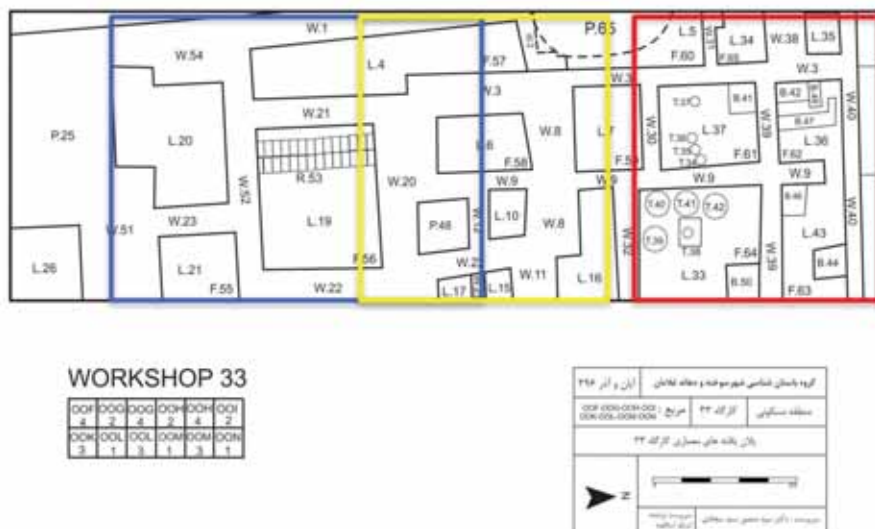


Fig. 15: division of Building 33 into 3 functional sectors.

Locus	Finds	Fixed installations/furnishings
L.4	1 flint arrow head 2 flint fragments 1 flint discard 1 spherical object in bronze 2 loom weights 4 bronze fragments 1 smoothing stone 1 token 1 carnelian bead 1 fragment of an indeterminate stone object	
L.5	1 soapstone seal 3 bronze fragments 1 fragment of a smoothing stone 1 wad of clay 1 sphendonoid weight	
L.6	2 flint blade fragments 1 pestle 3 bronze fragments 2 turquoise beads 1 smoothing stone	
L.7	2 pestles	
L.10		
L.16	1 alabaster bead 1 turquoise bead	
L.19	1 spherical object (a pawn?) 1 indeterminate stone object 1 token	
L.20	1 sphendonoid weight with base 2 lapis lazuli beads 1 flint fragment 1 stone blade 1 stone vessel fragment	
L.21		
L.26	1 carved stone object	
L.33	1 flint discard 2 tokens 1 turquoise bead 1 alabaster vessel fragment	- 5 ovens (T.38-42) - 1 bench (B.50)
L.34		
L.35		

L.36	2 alabaster vessel fragments 5 bronze fragments 1 token 1 zoomorphic clay figurine	- 3 benches (B.42, 47, 49)
L.36+L.37	2 quartz fragments 1 inlaid stone artefact 3 flint blade fragments 1 flint core 1 stone jug handle 10 alabaster vessel fragments 1 bronze awl 1 smoothing stone 1 spherical stone object	
L.36+L.43	12 alabaster vessel fragments 3 pestles 3 tokens 1 flint arrowhead 2 bronze fragments 1 flint core 1 sphenonoid weight with base 1 alabaster bead 1 quartz bead 1 indeterminate stone object	
L.37	1 flint blade fragment 1 grinding stone fragment 1 indeterminate stone object 1 piece of bronze slag	- 4 ovens (T.34-37) - 1 bench (B.41)
L.43	1 token 3 fragments of a smoothing stone 2 fragments of an indeterminate stone object 1 flint blade 1 alabaster vessel fragment	2 bench (B.44, 46)

Tab. 4: archaeological associations in *Building 33*.***Kitchens' sector***

The area set aside for the initial processing and cooking of food was identified to the north of the trench, where abundant material was discovered. The sector is mainly organised around 4/5 rooms (L.33, L.36, L.37, L.43 and, given the presence of 2 pestles, perhaps also L.7).⁵ Although it has yielded clear evidence of the preparation of food, the situation regarding storage is less clear.

5. It is impossible to determine the function of L.34 and L.35 due to the total absence of material discovered, although they have yet to be fully excavated.



Fig. 17: detail of L.33 from the east.



Fig. 16: L.33 from the east.



Fig. 18: L.34 from the east.



Fig. 19: L.35 from the north.



Fig. 20: L.36 from the north.



Fig. 21: L.36 from the east.

On the basis of what has been excavated, a planning and division of the spaces into functional sectors can also be seen in this macro-unit: the northern wing, composed of L.36 and L.43 (Fig. 32), shows clear traces of the butchering and processing of food including benches and material for cutting (3 smoothing stones, 6 flint blades, 1 bronze awl and numerous metal fragments and indeterminate objects, unfortunately damaged to the point of pulverisation), as well as evidence of crushing and grinding (3 pestles). The presence of accounting aids such as tokens and fragments of stone carved into circular shapes, discovered non-sporadically in both rooms (5 exemplars) suggests a process of accumulation and use of the individual foodstuffs, which were then accounted for in the act of their processing. This form of accounting shows the use of codes and an administration in the hands of kitchen personnel, for whom it perhaps served to organise or quantify their workload. In any case, what has been set out thus far, together with the presence of benches B.42 and B.47 in L.36 and B.44 and B.46 in L.43 (Figs. 20-22; 25-26), provides a fairly consistent picture of the activities performed in this sector, which seems to be connected with (but distinct from) the adjacent area immediately to the south (L.33 and L.37), also designed for the cooking of food. Particularly significant is the presence of 25 alabaster vessel fragments, especially in L.36 and L.43, which document uninterrupted processing and transformation of food, as well as its temporary storage.

Indeed, in addition to two benches plausibly used as work surfaces, L.33 and L.37 have yielded a total of 9 cooking ovens (T.38, T.39, T.40, T.41 and T.42 in L.33 and T.34, T.35, T.36 and T.37 in L.37) (Figs. 22-24; 33-37). One of these (T.38), of a type seen frequently in Shahr-i Sokhta, is composed of a raised platform 20 cm high inside which the combustion chamber can be recognised.

In this reconstruction the north wing (L.36 and L.43) thus appears to be for preparing food prior to the subsequent phase of cooking and combustion (traces of food were extensively found and sampled from the individual combustion spaces). In contrast, the sector immediately to the south should be interpreted as the terminal stage of a process in which the food was first stored, then processed and quantified with the use of accounting tokens, and lastly cooked. This was



Fig. 22: L.37 from the north.



Fig. 23: L.37 from the south.



Fig. 24: detail of L.37 from the south.



Fig. 25: L.43 from the north.



Fig. 26: L.43 from the south.



Fig. 27: L.6 from the north.



Fig. 28: L.6 from the west.



Fig. 29: L.10 from the north.



Fig. 30: L.10 from the north-east.



Fig. 31: L.16 from the north.



Fig. 32: functional division of the kitchens sector.



Fig. 33: detail of T.38.



Fig. 34: detail of T.37.



Fig. 35: detail of T.34, T.35 and T.36.

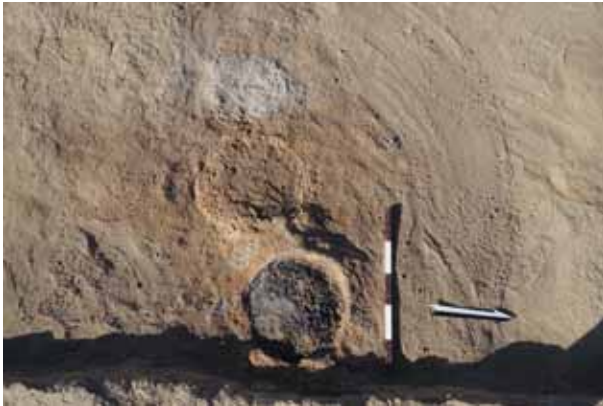


Fig. 36: detail of T.34, T.35 and T.36.



Fig. 37: detail of T.35 and T.36.

clearly a tried and tested system that suggests a food cycle of which only the first phase, that of storage, is missing, although in general it seems to be documented throughout the northern sector of the trench (Fig. 32).

The adhesion to clear cycles as part of a planned repetitive system that required strong procedural standardisation, as shown by the organisation of the spaces, the circulation within them and the contextualisation of the material discovered, provide a consistent picture not only of the organisation of the work and its likely specialisation, but also of the social relations and dynamics that are believed to have existed inside the building. As we will seek to explore below, in a preliminary and non-exhaustive way, the evidence gathered, in all its forms, plausibly points to a specialised and differentiated system with procedural codes and organisational layouts in line with a form of social organisation involving some type of hierarchical structure and hence the presence of an elite group.

Courtyard sector

The central sector can be recognised in the elongated courtyard L.19, around which lie L.20, L.21, L.4 and L.17, in an arrangement with two possible exits, towards either L.20 or L.6 (Figs. 39-45). Indeed, the entire central sector was designed around courtyard L.19 (Figs. 40-43), which, as an open-air structure, is believed to have been used for representation and/or receiving.

That this was a courtyard is clearly shown by the flooring, quite different from the other rooms of the building, which was composed of highly compacted medium-sized stones laid in a layer of beaten earth covered in plaster, a technique usually reserved for open-air spaces. Further evidence can be found in its size (4.10 x 4.90 m, greater than the other rooms), the presence of walls ranging from 1 m to 1.3 m in thickness, and lastly the presence of two rows of glazed mud brick tiles 60 x 30 x 10 cm (R.53), which cross L.19 from south to north, marking a corridor linking the southern and northern parts of the building, whose purpose was to enable the building's occupants to cross the open-air area when it was



Fig. 38: general view of the central section.

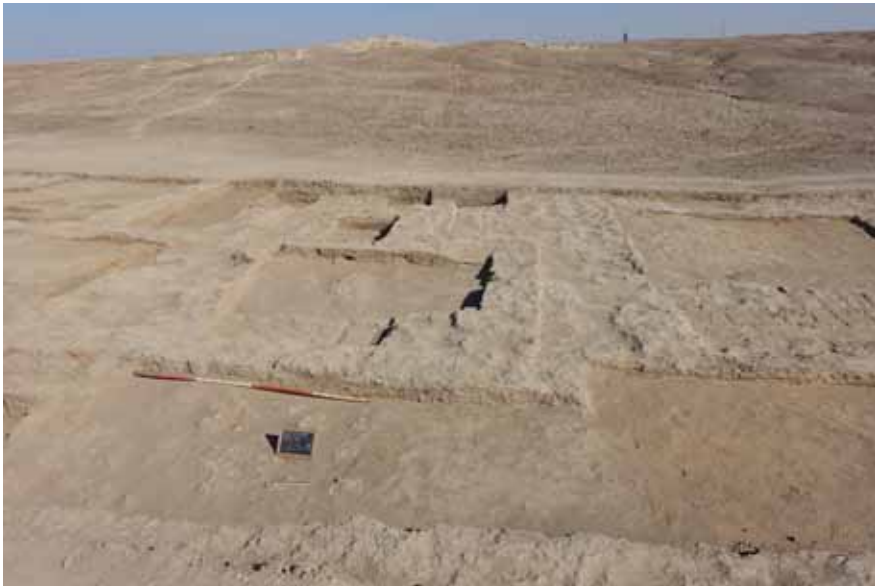


Fig. 39: general view of the central section with L.19, L.4, L.20 and L.21.

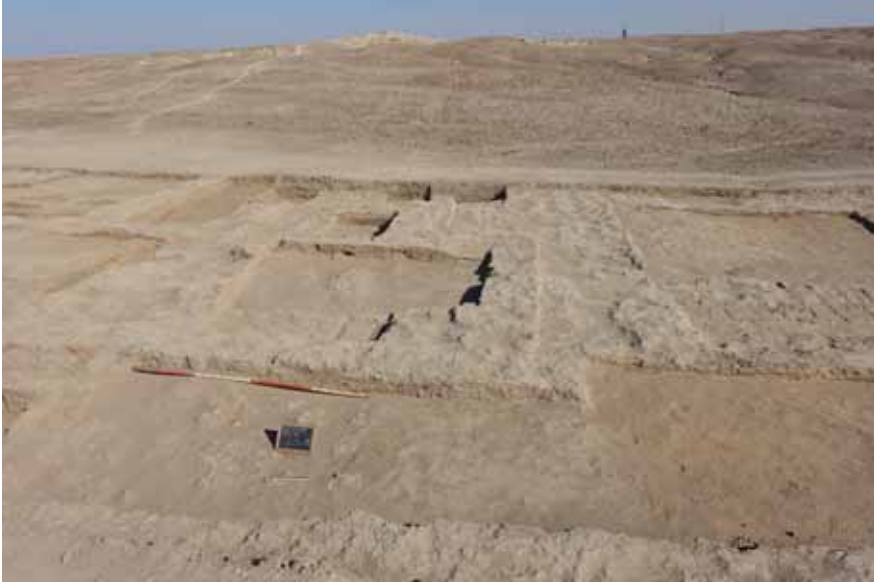


Fig. 40: general view of Building 33 from the south-west.

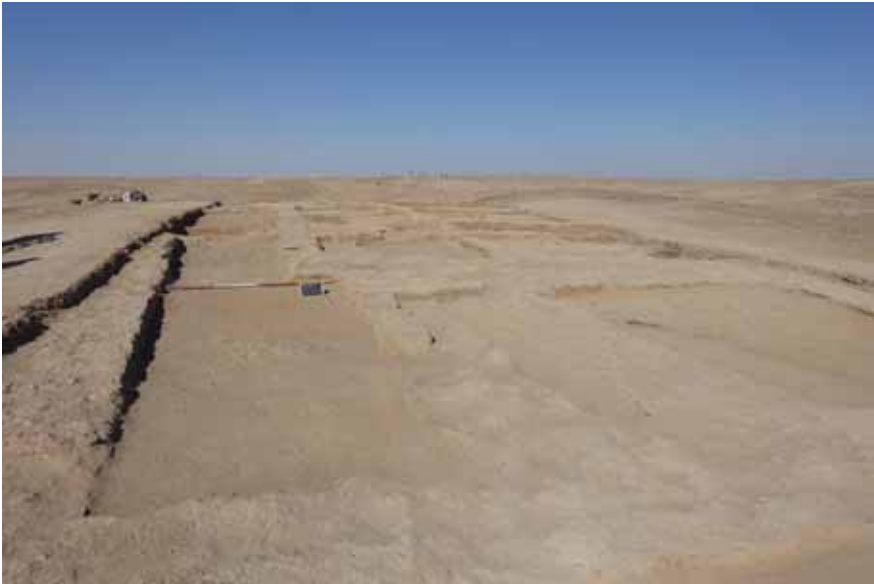


Fig. 41: L.19 from the north.



Fig. 42: L.19 from the east.



Fig. 43: L.19 from the west.

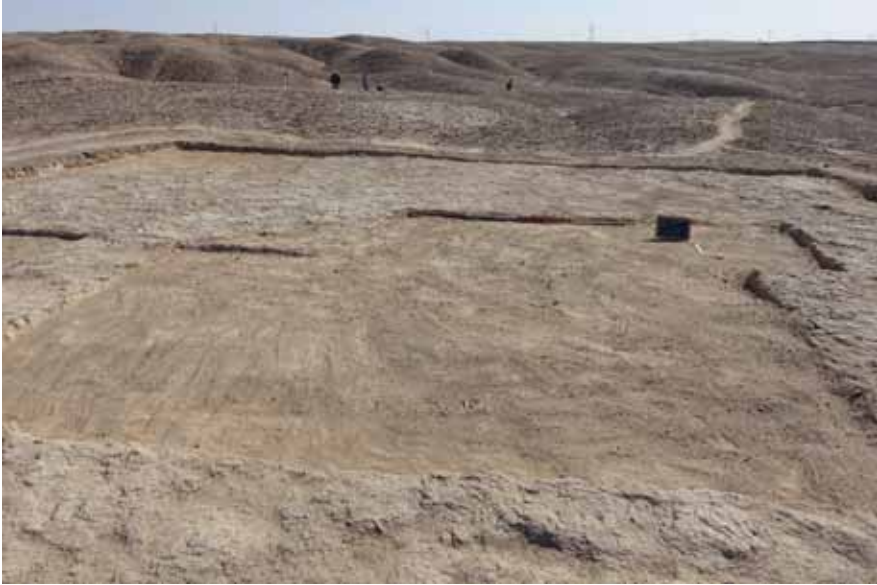


Fig. 44: L.20 from the north.



Fig. 45: L.20 and L.21 from the east.

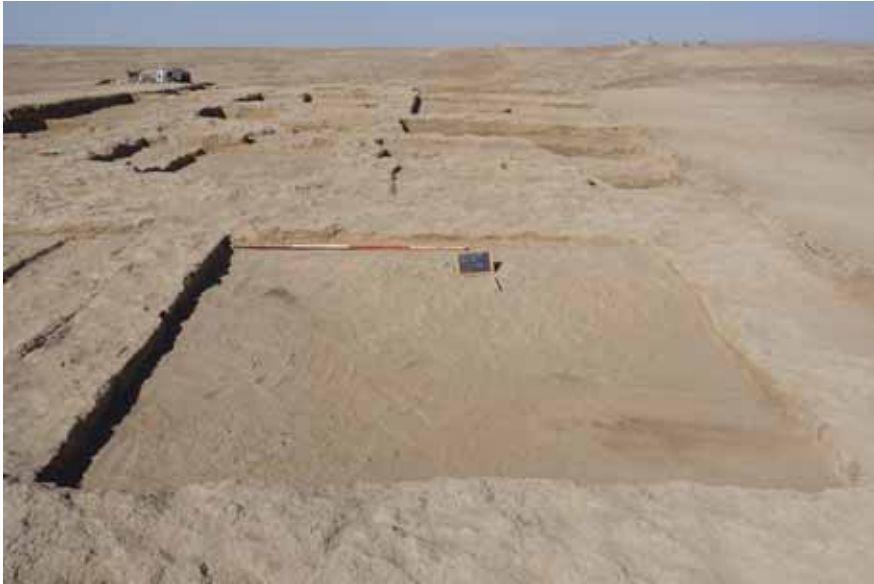


Fig. 46: L.19 from south.

raining (Fig. 46).

The use of a paved corridor crossing the courtyards was to become widespread in later periods, although it must be admitted that our knowledge of public and private architecture in Iran in the 3rd millennium BC is far from complete. Evidence can be found in the excavations conducted by the Iranian mission in sector 26 (Sajjadi - Moradi 2017: 152-158), attributable to the late 3rd and early 2nd millennia BC, where a sort of walkway, with mud brick tiles of similar craftsmanship and dimensions, runs parallel to the outer structures of the architectural complex discovered. Analogies can also be found with sites in more recent western regions, such as the “Governors’ Building” of Tell Asmar/ Eshnunna in Diyala, dated to the Neo-Sumerian period (Fig. 47), where a paved corridor was built across the main courtyard of the building (Frankfort - Lloyd - Jacobsen 1940: plate 1); Level IV of Courtyard 1 of the palace of Niqmepa in Alalakh/Tell Atchana (Fig. 48), the courtyard granting access to the palatial complex (Woolley 1955: 113, fig. 44); and the religious complex of Choga Zanbil

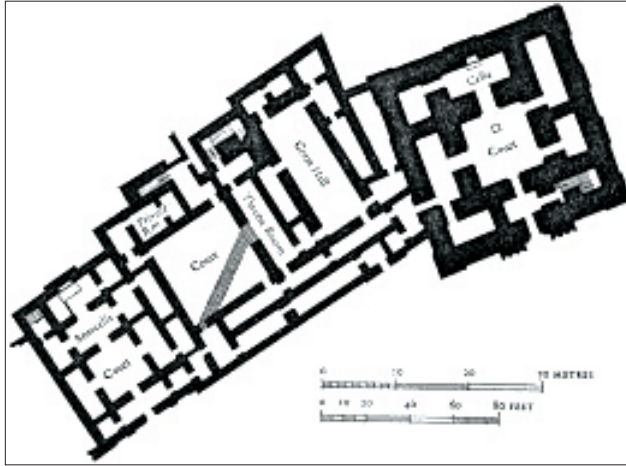


Fig. 47: palace of the Governors of Eshnunna (from Frankfort - Lloyd - Jacobsen 1940: plate 1).



Fig. 48: palace of Niqmepa in Alalakh (from Woolley 1955: 113, fig. 44).



Fig. 49: paved corridor of the temple of Shimut and Belet-Ali in Choga Zanbil.



Fig. 50: paved corridor of the temple of Adad and Shala in Choga Zanbil.

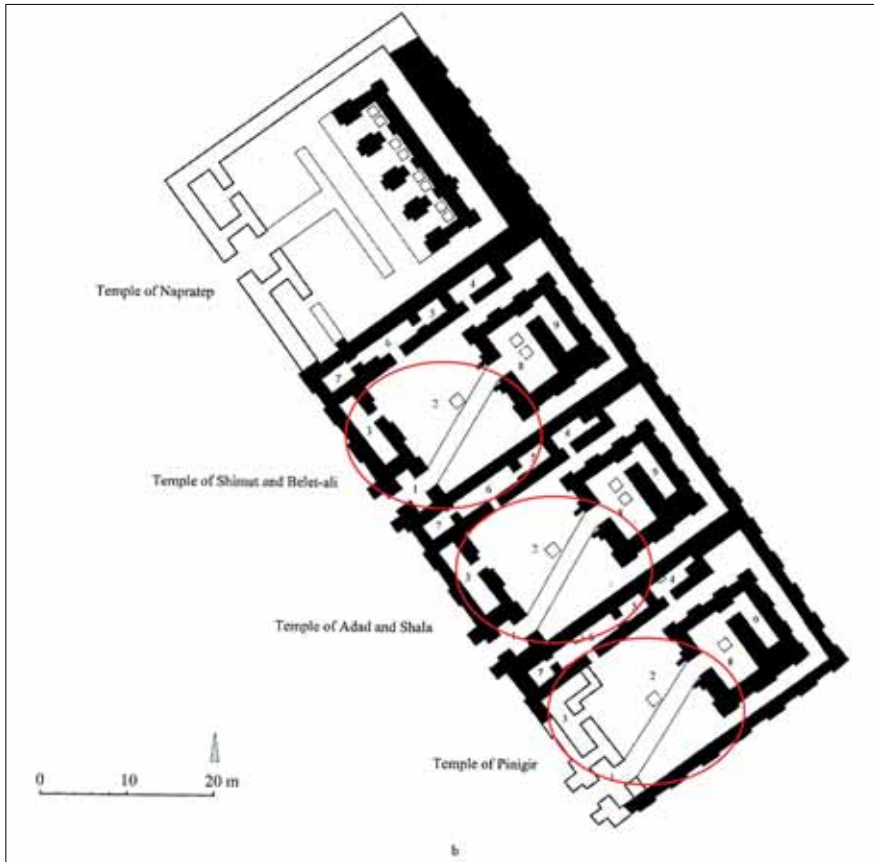


Fig. 51: plan of the complex of the temples of Shimut and Belet-ali, Adad and Shala and Pinigir (Ghirshman 1968: figs. 2-3).

(Figs. 49-51), the courtyards granting access to the sanctuaries of the mid-Elamite complex dedicated to Shimut and Belet-ali, Adad, Shala and Pinigir (Ghirshman 1968: 9-41, figs. 2-3).

This tradition seems to have been particularly widespread in the second half of the 2nd millennium BC in the more western regions, although its presence in buildings and urban layouts in the late 3rd millennium BC, in areas neighbouring Mesopotamia and in Area 26 of Shahr-i Sokhta, helps to contextualise the evidence gathered from Courtyard 19 of *Building 33*. With the current state of

our knowledge, no further comparison is possible with other settlements of the Iranian Plateau, due to the paucity of evidence that might enable more extensive reflections. It appears significant however that this still nascent architectural formula, not yet fully defined, had already been experimented with during the third quarter of the 3rd millennium BC in Shahr-i Sokhta, in a region where wind and rain represented major determinants of architectural specification in a structural sense.

A more wide-ranging analysis that takes account the plan of the architectural structures organised around the courtyard of *Building 33* is hindered by both the absence of comparative material in the adjacent regions and the incomplete nature of our knowledge of the architectural complex as a whole, given that its perimeter has yet to be established. However, preliminary considerations can be made on the basis of certain not-insignificant clues that may be found among the buildings excavated in Shahr-i Sokhta and with reference to tenuous evidence documented in the more western regions, perhaps the best-known in terms of the extent and continuity of the excavations.

The alignment of two passageways and the creation of an axial circulation via a direct linear route without corners (as deduced from the paved corridor in L.19) seems to be a specific feature of the residential complexes of Shahr-i Sokhta, clearly seen in the *House of the Stairs* (in all of its occupational phases dated to Shahr-i Sokhta II and III), *House of the Pit* (Shahr-i Sokhta II), *House of the Foundations* (Shahr-i Sokhta II-III) (Mariani - Tosi 1987: 40), *Building 1* (Sajjadi - Moradi 2014: fig. 5) and *Building 20* (Sajjadi - Moradi 2014: fig. 13). However, with the exception of the more recent buildings excavated by the Iranian team, in the complexes investigated by the Italian mission of Maurizio Tosi the circulation always rather strangely follows a longitudinal alignment with two courtyards, in sharp contrast with the transversal axis of circulation in L.19, where only one courtyard has been identified (Figs. 52-55).

The circulation in L.19, on the short side, through R.53, shows closer comparisons with models known in the Courtyard 191 of the East Complex

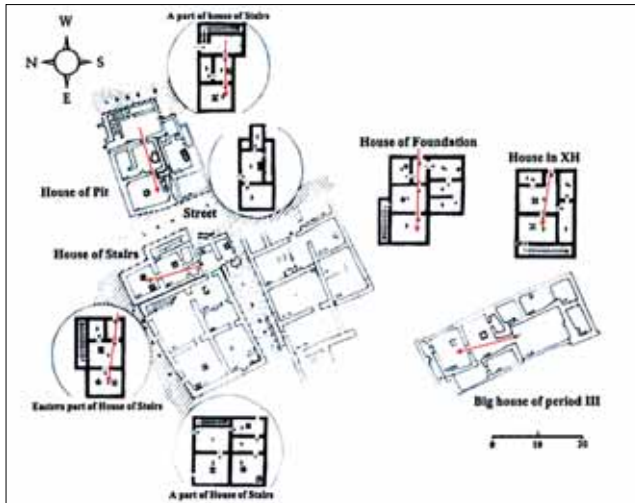


Fig. 52: architectural complexes excavated by the Italian Archaeological Mission headed by M. Tosi (Mariani - Tosi 1987: 40).

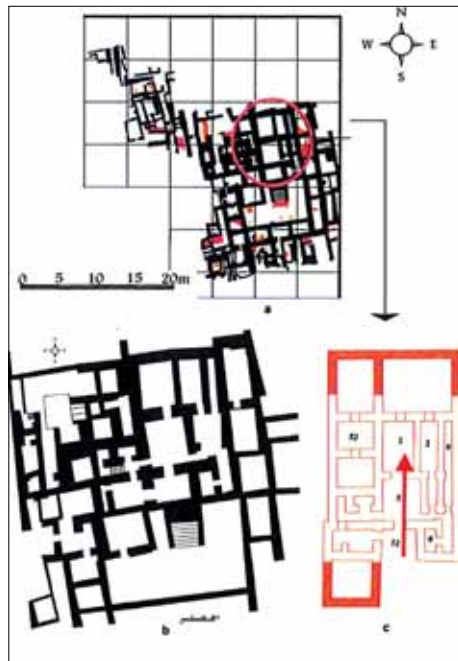


Fig. 53: *Building I* (Sajjadi - Moradi 2014: fig. 5).

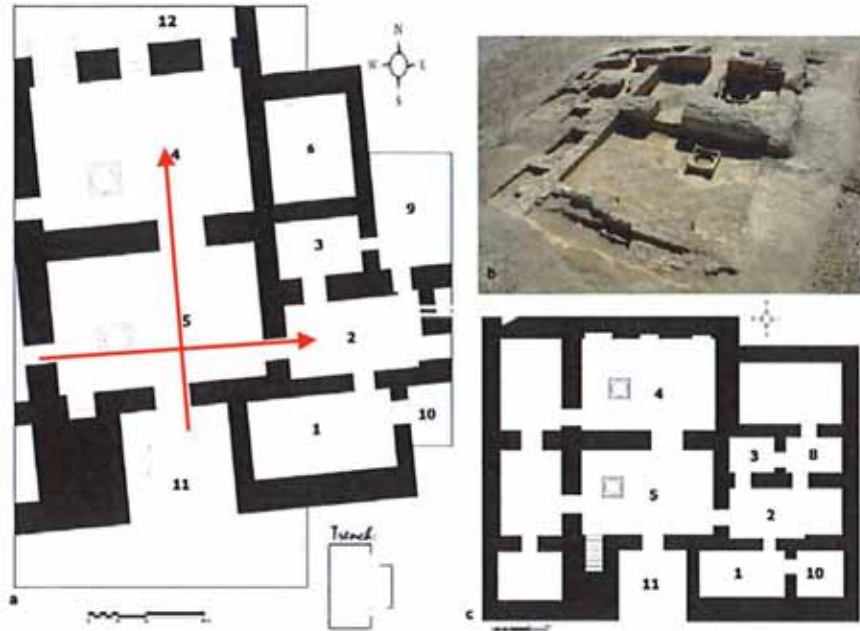


Fig. 54: *Building 20* (Sajjadi - Moradi 2014: fig. 123).



Fig. 55: courtyard L.19.

(AXIV) (Mofidi-Nasrabadi 2018: fig. 25.2b-c) (Fig. 56), the *House of Rabibi* on Level A XII (Steve et al. 1980: fig. 6) (Fig. 57) and Level 2 of the *Maison du Culte* (AXV) of the *Ville Royale* in Susa (Mofidi-Nasrabadi 2018: fig. 25.1) (Fig. 58). This type of layout includes the presence, in front of the courtyard, of a room (in our case to the east of W.22, beyond the current limit of the excavation) with an axis perpendicular to the courtyard itself, which has been interpreted as either a residential area or a further stateroom sector (Mofidi-Nasrabadi 2018: fig. 25.3).



Fig. 56: East Complex (AXIV) in Susa (Mofidi-Nasrabadi 2018: 25.2b-c).



Fig. 57: *House of Rabibi* (AXII) in Susa (Steve *et al.* 1980: fig. 6).

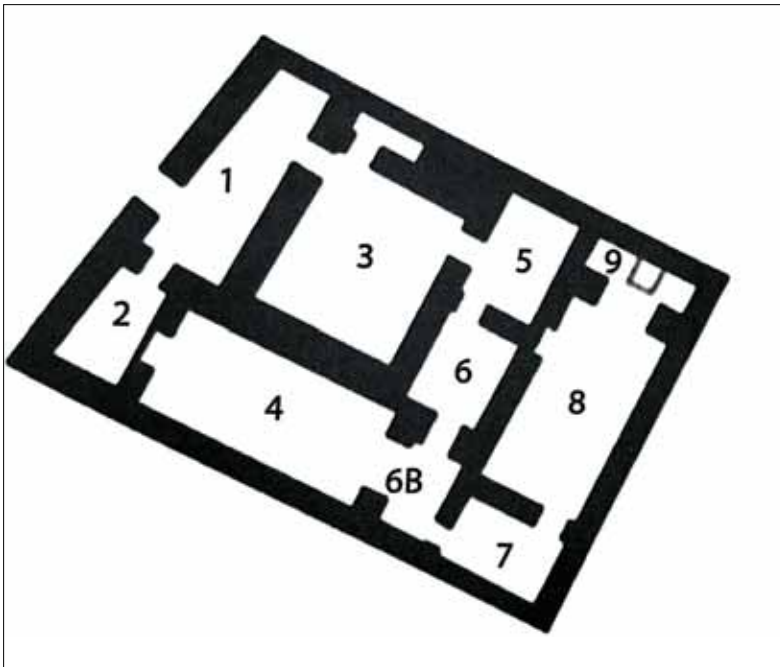


Fig. 58: *Maison du Culte* (AXV) in Susa (Mofidi-Nasrabadi 2018: fig. 25.1).

It should also be pointed out, on the basis of what has been excavated so far, that the typical dwelling type in Shahr-i Sokhta included the juxtaposition of two main rooms, in some cases two courtyards, quadrangular and of similar dimensions, perfectly aligned with each other and with peripheral rooms positioned on their short sides. This type, which envisages direct access on to the first courtyard after an introductory portico, is clearly seen in *Building 20* (in Courtyards 4 and 5) (Fig. 54), *Building 1*, Level E (in Spaces 1 and 5) (Fig. 53), the dwelling units in XH, the *House of the Foundations* and the final phases of the *House of the Stairs* (Fig. 52), which exemplify a specific architectural category, recurring with few variants in the mid 3rd millennium BC, but it is unknown in *Building 33*.

Residential sector

The presence of a residential sector on an upper floor was hypothesised on the basis of a series of clues, mainly structural, including the presence of a courtyard in L.19, the thickness of the walls around the courtyard itself, reaching 2.20 m in places (W.20) and the presence of a quadrangular room (P.48) completely paved with mud brick tiles laid directly on the ground, which seems to be a structural platform on which rested a proposed staircase leading to an upper floor (Fig. 31). A paved platform inside a quadrangular room, of relatively small dimensions (1.90 m square), also appears in Mundigak IV.3 (Casal 1961: fig. 40) (Fig. 59) and Mohenjo-daro, in Area DK, near the southern part (“Intermediate III level”) of the building (Mackay 1937: Pl. XVI) (Fig. 60).

If P.48 is recognised as a structural room granting access to a second floor, probably in the central sector above one of the rooms arranged around Courtyard L.19, then it should also be recognised as a residential area, separate from the staterooms and kitchens which occupied the lower part of the building, in accordance with a clearly defined structural plan.

2.2. Final considerations on *Building 33*

The extensive damage to the structures throughout the excavated area, especially the intense washout towards the south, have made it impossible to gather further

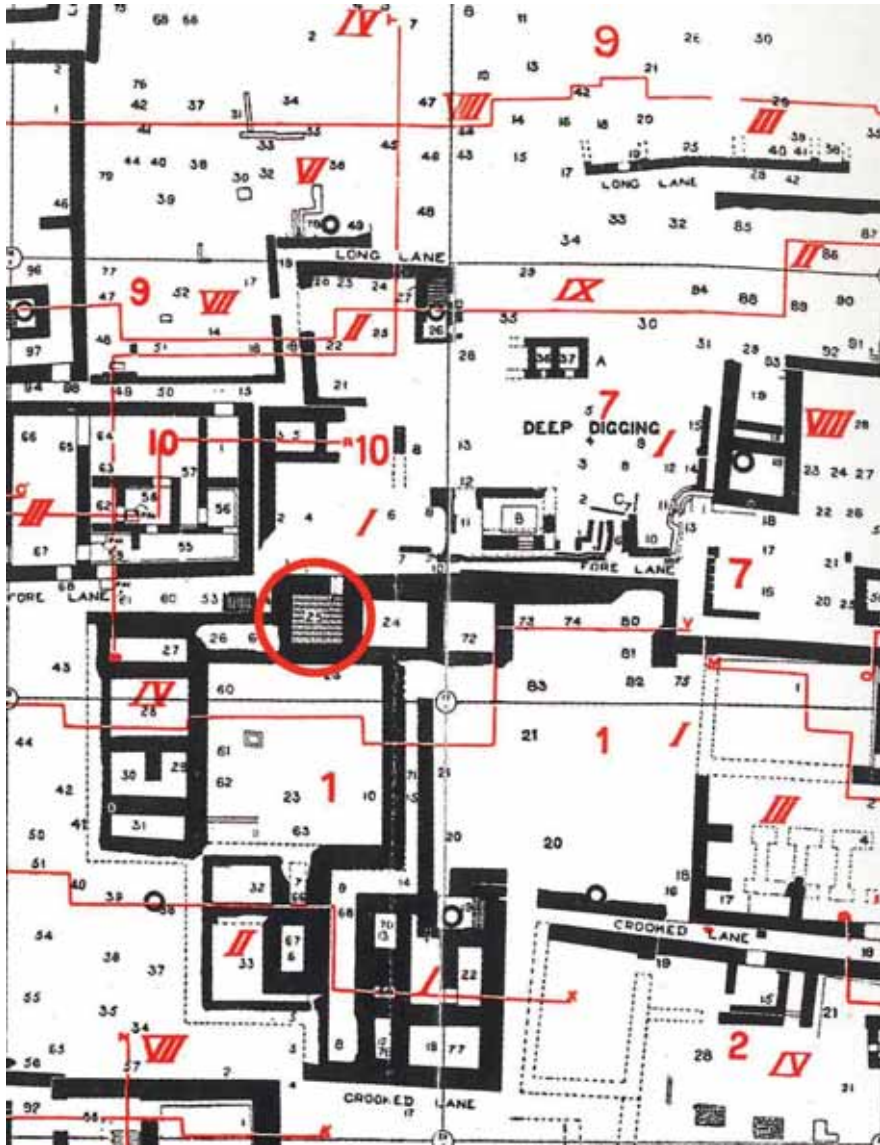


Fig. 60: area DK, in the southern part of the building ("Intermediate III level")(Mackay 1937: Pl. XVI).

data on the building as a whole and specifically in the southern sector, which exhibits strong erosion and conserves less than half of the profile of one row of mud bricks. It is thus difficult to make considerations that might help to fully determine the significance and plan of *Building 33*. However, on the basis of the evidence gathered and the deductions made, some specific points can be tackled in an attempt to frame *Building 33*, on a preliminary basis, within a broader analysis aimed at the historical reconstruction of the settlement.

The impossibility of establishing the perimeter of *Building 33* impedes any attempt to seek reliable typological analogies. It is hard to hypothesise, much less understand, the organisational layout that may have characterised the areas not yet investigated. The images acquired by the drone (Fig. 5) highlight traces visible on the surface indicating a complex arrangement of rooms in the part near the eastern edge of the trench. However, thanks to the pronounced depression in this sector (as shown by the natural drainage channels), it is uncertain whether the excavated structures are coeval with those simply detected by the drone and the geophysical prospections. Thus, although Layer 1 of *Building 33* was built over structures from the preceding period (Layer 3), as reconstructed by the assays conducted mainly in L.15 and L.17, it remains uncertain whether the superficial structural traces belong to the eastern continuation of *Building 33*.

On the basis of current knowledge, further considerations can be made concerning the building's perimeter and whether W.1 might be interpreted as the western façade of the complex. This is suggested by its distinctive linearity on a south-east/north-west axis, parallel to the orientation of the internal walls of the complex. One of the objectives of the next campaign will be to verify the continuation northwards of W.1 until its assumed meeting with W.40 and to determine the western and northern limits of *Building 33*. This would make a decisive contribution to our understanding of the plan and the architectural aspects of what has been excavated to date.

Building 33 seems to have been built to a carefully thought-out plan governing its spaces and functions, conceived before its construction, which appears to have been guided by pre-established architectural codes that reflect canons not

previously seen in the more complex private and public buildings discovered in Shahr-i Sokhta. Specifically, this architectural complex appears to have been conceived as a well-defined homogeneous structure, which does not include any subsequent additions to the original building. It also appears to have been conceived in its entirety within a topographically free area that enabled a new approach in terms of layout, unencumbered by the topographical factors affecting the surrounding sectors.

This topographical planning is matched by an architectural module, also the fruit of the rationalisation imposed on rooms, spaces and internal circulation, which divides the internal environments of *Building 33* into functional sectors. The archaeological associations and the contexts of discovery reveal distinct functional environments, the expression of precise architectural planning which in turn may be considered a clear indicator of an elite context. Indeed, along with the planning in terms of both the topography (including the relationship of the building to the surrounding urban context) and the architecture (within a closed context), the functional division of the internal space of *Building 33* must be considered further evidence of the building's role and significance. The further division of the kitchens sector into two main areas including one for food processing (to the north in L.36 and L.43) and one for cooking (to the south in L.33 and L.37), the sheer number of places set aside for food preparation (T.34, T.35, T.36, T.37, T.38, T.38, T.40, T.41, T.42) and benches used for this purpose (B.41, B.42, B.44, B.46, B.47, B.49, B.50) and the overall functional specialisation of *Building 33* all appear to be clear references to the elite nature of the complex.

Indeed, the deliberately planned concentration of areas with different functions, each of which exhibited further internal diversification, in specific parts of the building, must be considered clear testimony of the pre-eminence and social prestige of those who inhabited the complex. By itself, the elaborate floor plan and size of the kitchens sector, which has yet to be excavated in its entirety, provides us with significant clues as to the nature of the group that resided in *Building 33*. It is clear that the functional division of an architectural complex is

the expression of a diversification and possible specialisation of labour, as well as indicating the existence of hierarchical social relationships that have yet to be clarified in Shahr-i Sokhta.

To summarise, (1) the rationalisation of the topographical space in which *Building 33* stands, (2) its programmatic architectural code, (3) its monumental character (to date a façade 30 m long running right across the excavated trench has been discovered, although its end point is still unknown), (4) the division of the building into functional sectors and (5) the material of fine craftsmanship that has been discovered inside it (see in particular the alabaster vessels for daily use, all discovered in the northern sector and the numerous beads made of carnelian, alabaster, lapis lazuli and turquoise) are all clues that help to recognise in *Building 33* a monumental building with a clearly pre-eminent role in the social fabric of the settlement. Moreover, the building's residents are believed to have belonged to the elite or one of the elites present in Shahr-i Sokhta, in Phase 4 and the subsequent Phase 3, a period believed to have been characterised by a hierarchical organisational structure on the basis of the investigations conducted in the central part of the necropolis, in burials attributed to Phases 8-7 and then reused in Phase 4-3. Based on the study of the grave goods of G.12, 106, 118, 604, 711, 731 and 1003, these investigations have made it possible to identify a distinct and well-defined social group, known as the "Group of Phase 3" (Piperno - Salvatori 1982; 1983: 177), and have also provided evidence of "morphological-cultural convergences" with cultural manifestations from the west.

The excavated portion of *Building 33* in Shahr-i Sokhta does not permit definitive assessments of a historic or archaeological nature. However, it does provide new starting points for research and open up new fields of intervention that might help to understand the settlement in the mid 3rd millennium BC. Although this is not the place to tackle Shahr-i Sokhta's complex *intra-situ* socio-economic relational dynamics (Ascalone 2020), we can, with our current state of knowledge, propose the presence, in the middle and the third quarter of the 3rd millennium BC, of an elite that is believed to have played a significant role in the processes of control and social development in the biggest settlement in Sistan.

3. The pottery of Area 33

The ceramic sequences presented here are divided by production type and morphological variation on the basis of the diagnostic fragments discovered, which show strong parallels with the stratigraphic sequences excavated in the *Central Quarters*, especially in *Room CDXLV* of the *Big Building* (Salvatori - Vidale 1997: 23-26). The shortage of ceramic evidence from other sites in the region belonging roughly to the same period hinders the search for a chronological benchmark that might give greater precision to the reconstructed sequences, although, as mentioned, the seriations of the nearby *Central Quarters* provide decisive parallels in terms of both morphology and production aspects. The highlighted sequences follow the cultural phases identified by the Italian Mission headed by M. Tosi during a total of nine excavation campaigns conducted from 1968 to 1978. Considering this foundation, in my opinion still generally credible, it was decided to divide Phase 5 of the site into two sub-periods, as suggested by S. Salvatori and M. Vidale (1997: 40). This approach was also supported by the data regarding the ceramic material discovered in Tombs 731 and 725 (Piperno - Salvatori 1982; 1983), in which the late Phase 5 pottery seems to coexist with that of early Phase 4 (Salvatori - Tosi 2005: 286), which began, according to 14C analyses, no later than 2500 BC. The three phases identified in Area 33 must therefore be understood as lasting from a period of transition between late Phase 5/early Phase 4 (Layer 2-3 of Area 33) to a second period of transition between late Phase 4 and the beginning of Phase 3 (Layer 1), the latter represented, albeit sporadically, by specific decorative and morphological markers such as the leaf filled with oblique and parallel lines and the slightly less elongated beakers without decoration, of a cruder craftsmanship than what is seen in Phase 4. Considering the general framework therefore, two architectural phases (and three stratigraphic sequences) are currently recognised, while their pottery horizons seem to belong to Phases 5 and 3, corresponding to the late Period II and Period III of the site.

3.1. Layer 3 ceramics

The ceramic fragments belonging to Layer 3 of Area 33 are associated with 5 stratigraphic units (SiS.17.33.10-13, 15) corresponding to the excavation of the infill of Rooms L.15, L.16 and L.17 (Ascalone 2019b). Given the limited nature of the survey, the material currently consists of a small number of broadly homogeneous types compared with the subsequent phase, in line with what has been excavated in the *Central Quarters*. The few specimens selected are mostly *Buff Ware*, with just one fragment of *Red Ware*.

The beakers have the distinctive features of Phases 5-4, recognisable in their elongated shape and decoration consisting of oblique bands bounded by two parallel lines (Plate 1: 1-4). In the same vein there are bowls with low carination, also distinctive of Phase 4 of the site (Plate 1: 5), also frequently represented by specimens with an “S” profile, in use in late Period II and early Period III in Shahr-i Sokhta. A single type of jar was found by the surveys, well rooted in the ceramic horizon of Shahr-i Sokhta 5-5b/4 (Plate 1: 7-8) (form J2 in the reconstructed sequences of the *Central Quarters*).

Stratigraphic Units - Layer 3 of Area 33 (Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phases 5b/4) (ca. 2800-2620 BC)

SiS.17.33.10 = L.15; SiS.17.33.11 = L.15; SiS.17.33.12 = L.16; SiS.17.33.13 = L.17; SiS.17.33.15 = L.16.

3.2. Layer 1 ceramics

The ceramic types of *Building 33* appear highly consistent, characterised by extensive use of the wheel and a well purified, homogeneous clay. The morphologies and types of production correspond to Period III, Phase 4 of Shahr-i Sokhta, although some later creations documented exclusively in Phase 3 suggest the existence of a final phase of occupation of *Building 33* plausibly datable to the early 25th century BC, before its definitive abandonment. With the exception of just two fragments of burnished grey ceramics (SiS.17.33.23/5 and

SiS.17.33.5/9), dated to Period IV of the site (see also Salvatori - Vidale 1997: 71) and widely attested in the *Burnt Building*, no specimen of the final phase of occupation has been discovered. The occupation of Area 33 until Phase 3 of the site seems to be proven however by the presence of the so-called “Pear-shaped Beakers”, not painted and less tapering than the previous production, seen in Red Ware (Plate 2: 2) and Buff Ware specimens (coexisting with the more traditional Phase 4 specimens), as well as by the presence of decorative types that represent a distinctive feature of Shahr-i Sokhta III:3 (Plate 2: 3, 4-9) and are not seen in Phase 4. As a whole however, the ceramic horizon of the final period of occupation of *Building 33* corresponds to Phase 4. This is confirmed by both a quantitative and statistical analysis of its forms and a study of its decorative types, all of which, on the basis of comparisons with what has already been excavated in Shahr-i Sokhta, can be attributed to Phases 5A and 4, with the sporadic presence of more ancient specimens associated with Phase 6 (see Salvatori - Vidale 1997: figs. 98: 3, 105: 1, 110: 1, 114: 5), such as SiS.17.33.17/2 (Plate 2: 10, see also Salvatori - Vidale 1997: fig. 105: 3).

A total of 33 stratigraphic units were identified and associated with verified contexts, with just one not associated with a specific structure (*locus*).

Stratigraphic Units - Layer 1 of Area 33 (Shahr-i Sokhta III - Phases 4-3) (ca. 2600-2450 BC)

SiS.17.33.2 = L.4; SiS.17.33.3 = L.5; SiS.17.33.4 = L.5; SiS.17.33.5 = L.6;
SiS.17.33.6 = L.4; SiS.17.33.7 = L.7;

SiS.17.33.8 = L.6; SiS.17.33.9 = L.10; SiS.17.33.14 = L.10; SiS.17.33.16 = L.4;
SiS.17.33.17 = L.19

SiS.17.33.18 = L.20; SiS.17.33.19 = L.20; SiS.17.33.20 = L.21; SiS.17.33.21 =
L.5; SiS.17.33.22 = L.26;

SiS.17.33.23; SiS.17.33.24 = L.5; SiS.17.33.25 = L.7; SiS.17.33.26 = L.37;
SiS.17.33.27 = L.33

SiS.17.33.28=L.36+L.37; SiS.17.33.29=L.34; SiS.17.33.30=L.35; SiS.17.33.31
= L.36; SiS.17.33.32 = L.37;

SiS.17.33.34 = L.36; SiS.17.33.35 = L.43; SiS.17.33.36 = L.43; SiS.17.33.37 = L.5; SiS.17.33.38 = L.16;
SiS.17.33.39 = L.7

5.2.1. Types

The ceramics of *Building 33* can be classified into three macro-types: *Reddish Ware* (RW), *Buff Ware* (BW) and *Fine Black Painted Grey Ware* (FBGW). With the exception of the latter, all are characterised by similar morphological and decorative classes that are broadly homogeneous in terms of the type of clay and production technique. Within the two main types (RW and BW) the following sub-types can be recognised:

Buff Ware

- Black Painted Buff Ware (= BBW)
- Buff Slipped Reddish Ware (= BSRW)
- Black Painted Buff Slipped Reddish Ware (= BBSRW)
- Red Painted Buff Slipped Reddish Ware (= RBSRW)

Reddish Ware

- Black Painted Reddish Ware (= BRW)
- Red Painted Reddish Ware (= RRW)

Buff Ware

Buff Ware and its black-painted variant are present in high percentages and were produced in Shahr-i Sokhta. It is made of carefully purified clay with small-to-medium sized inclusions and includes both open and closed forms, mostly consisting of the traditional pear-shaped beakers, bowls and jars with and without a high neck.

As sub-categories within this macro-type, it was decided to include Buff Slipped Reddish Ware (BSRW), together with its variants with decorations painted in black (BBSRW) and red (RBSRW), often not recognised as distinct categories

and inserted in a more generic analysis of so-called *Buff Ware*. The colour of the slip on clays ranging from red to reddish is identical to the colour of the BW clay itself, leading to frequent errors of typological classification between the two distinct sub-productions. All these types are common in the ceramic assemblage of Shahr-i Sokhta III.

Concerning the functional aspects, the beakers belong to the tradition of Phase 4, with the exception of some specimens (Plate 3: 3) rooted in the ceramic horizon of Phase 3. The elongated shapes with standardised decoration consisting of continuous zigzag lines forming triangular spaces bounded by two horizontal lines (or two pairs of horizontal lines) running parallel to each other (Plate 3: 1-2, 4) are the best-known type, although filled-in triangles and triangles inserted in metopal spaces alternating with other decorative motifs also appear. More ancient forms include SiS.17.33.11/3 (Plate 1: 4; Phase 5), which however remains an isolated specimen, inserted in a ceramic horizon limited to Phase 4 and in part Phase 3 of the site, as well as the preceding phase 1 of the building.

The open forms also include bowls with flared walls of a more ancient tradition which become frequent from Phase 6, perhaps even Phase 7, of the site (Plate 1: 5; Plate 3: 5-9). They include specimens that curve inwards slightly before flaring at the rim (Plate 4: 1), with the carenation positioned at 1/3 the height of the body of the vessel and walls that are slightly everted (Plate 4: 2-3), nearly vertical (Plate 4: 4-5) and slightly inverted (Plate 4: 6). The first two forms appear to be of an older tradition, which emerged during Period II of the site, while the third seems to be characteristic of Phase 4 of Shahr-i Sokhta.

Bowls with higher carenation, mostly halfway up the height of the body of the vessel, include *S-shaped* specimens (seen in the *Central Quarters* from as early as Phase 6) (Plate 4: 7-9), while specimens SiS.17.33.13/5, SiS.17.33.37/6 and SiS.17.33.34/9 represent less open types (Plate 4: 10-11). To this rather homogeneous horizon may be added two widely produced forms, i.e. bowls with a slight carenation more than halfway up the height of the body of the vessel and a slightly everted rim that gives the profile of the vessel an almost imperceptible S-shape (Plate 4: 12; Plate 5: 1-6) and bowls with low carenation and a slightly

everted rim on a more vertical wall (Plate 5: 7-12; Plate 6: 1-6). These two types, which in statistical terms represent the most widespread forms in the corpora discovered, belong to the ceramic horizon of the first phases of Period III of the site, especially Phases 5b, 4 and 3.

In addition to the above-mentioned pear-shaped beakers, the closed forms include jars with and without a neck (Plate 8: 1-5), with further divisions depending mostly on the profile of the body and the rim. The most common types are the jars with a low neck, on the dividing line between the two macro-classes identified, mostly with everted rims just above the body of the vessel (Plate 7: 6-7; Plate 8: 1-4), the jars with a high vertical neck, which seem to reflect older forms dated to Phases 6 and 5 of the site (Plate 8: 5-9), the jars with a slightly tapering body and inverted neck (Plate 8: 10-12) and especially the jars with a flared neck seen in SiS.17.33.1/1; SiS.17.33.1/5; SiS.17.33.4/2; SiS.17.33.14/1; SiS.17.33.18/8; SiS.17.33.27/3; SiS.17.33.29/1; SiS.17.33.34/10; SiS.17.33.35/2; SiS.17.33.36/1 (Plate 8: 13; Plate 9: 1-9).

Fine Black Painted Grey Ware

Although scattered, this type is attested in the ceramic corpus of *Building 33* and fits into the chronological framework reconstructed for the area. Its presence at Shahr-i Sokhta was previously noted in the *Eastern Residential Area* (Tosi 1968: 53; 1969: 312-313) and the *Central Quarters* (Salvatori - Vidale 1997: 70-72), in which it accounts for around 1% of the total assemblage, in line with what has been documented in Area 33. The historical and terminological issues linked to this ceramic category (*Faiz Mohammed Ware* or *Emir Ware*) have been extensively debated over the years, first by W.A. Fairservis (1956; 1959), then by R. Wright (1984) and most recently by B. Mutin, L.D. Minc, C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky and M. Tosi (2017), who attributed its production to the period from the late 4th to the mid 3rd millennium BC, partly on the basis of comparisons with the so-called *Shahi-Tump Ware* discovered in the Pakistani Makran (Mutin 2013: 84-90) and also found in Shahr-i Sokhta (Sajjadi 2003: fig. 26; Piperno - Salvatori 2007: figs. 609, 773). Although this type is also seen as being used

exclusively for burial practices (Stein 1931: 94, 98-99), ample evidence of it has been found throughout Shahr-i Sokhta in the main inhabited areas of the settlement. Its spread in south-east Iran is also documented at Tepe Yahya (Potts 2001: figs. 1.6K, 2.25D), Bampur (de Cardi 1970: fig. 22.141), Damir (Tosi 1970: fig. 10a) and Khurab (Mutin *et al.* 2017 145, fig. 3: 13), where it is associated with traditional local ceramic horizons, unlike what seems to be the case in southern Baluchistan and especially in Kech-Makran around Shahi-Tump and Miri-Qalat, where it is part of an endogenous tradition with a broader geographical distribution and time-scale, dating back to the 4th millennium BC.

The FBGW of Shahr-i Sokhta seems to be divided into two main types on the basis of its production features: a coarser, locally produced one (Biscione 1984) and another, finer and plausibly imported, exemplified by specimens from *Building 33*, which mostly consist of open forms, including bowls with flared walls and large flat plates (Plate 9: 10).

On the basis of (a) its distribution in the funerary environments of Shahr-i Sokhta, mostly associated with the richest of the excavated contexts, topographically close to each other (Bonora *et al.* 2000: 505, 512-514, 518), (b) its composition, made from a highly purified clay with no mineral or vegetable inclusions, and (c) its morphological features, with fairly thin walls, this type can be considered the expression of an elite, perhaps with links to the more southerly regions of Baluchistan, as far as the coast of Kech-Makran, at least until the mid 3rd millennium BC.

Reddish Ware

Red ceramics with a slight orientation towards paler tones were a distinctive local product in Shahr-i Sokhta throughout Period III of the site, although they are considerably less abundant than so-called *Buff Ware*. RW includes forms with both black-painted and red-painted decoration, with a further sub-type, of finer craftsmanship, made of well-purified clay with thin walls.

From a functional point of view, although the morphological variables appear to be much more restricted than the more common BW, the forms fall within the

same ceramic horizon, belonging to Phases 4 and 3 of the settlement. Specifically, the classic typological macro-division between open forms (bowls) and closed forms (jars with and without a neck) can also be applied to RW and its sub-types. Among the bowls, older types persist, consisting of open forms with straight flared walls (Plate 10: 1-2), appearing from Period II of the site onwards, forms with low carenation and vertical walls, bowls with a pronounced S-shape (Plate 10: 3) or a slight S-shape (Plate 10: 4-5) and above all bowls with carenation halfway up the height of the body of the vessel and an everted rim, which became widespread at the beginning of Period III (Plate 10: 6).

Among the closed forms, jars without a neck predominate. These include specimens with an ovoid profile (Plate 11: 1-2) and a modest shoulder (Plate 11: 3-4). Among the jars with a neck, those with a barely perceptible neck (Plate 11: 5) and a high flared neck predominate.

Just one specimen of a beaker has been discovered (Plate 11: 6) and there are very few specimens of fine ceramics. A fragment (Plate 11: 7) must be considered an import from the region of Kerman on the basis of its close parallels with the Konar Sandal corpus (see Madjidzadeh 2008: fig. 23, fourth fragment from the left, and fig. 25). There are also parallels with Bampur IV1 (de Cardi 1970: fig. 25: 246), IV3 (de Cardi 1970: fig. 24: 230) and Mundigak IV1 (Casal 1961: figs. 76: 259-260, fig. 80: 285).

The ceramic corpus from Area 33 appears to be fairly homogeneous and consistent if compared with the stratigraphic sequences reconstructed in the *Central Quarters*, which yield a horizon mainly corresponding to Phases 5a, 5b/4 and 3 of the settlement. The forms seem to be limited to the two main macro-types (BW and RW), neither of which are marked by any specific morphological features, with a general tendency among the open forms to have the carenation in the lower part of vessels produced in the later periods, which tend to replace the older forms with straight and flared walls. Leaving aside the beakers, extensively described by M. Vidale (1984), the remaining closed forms point to a more complex framework if included in a broader analysis that seeks to identify common patterns of development throughout the occupation of the site. For

example, jars with an accentuated and flared neck seem to be more frequent than forms without a neck, although morphologically older forms can be recognised in many specimens already attested in Period II of the site.

The presence, albeit limited, of FBGW and forms imported from the Halil and Bampur valleys seems to shift the site's cultural centre of gravity towards the more southern regions, especially the more complex civilisations of Jiroft and the Makran coast, parallels with which can be recognised in Konar Sandal and Miri Qalat.

The objective of the next few years will be to link the reconstructed ceramic sequences with the planned isotopic analyses in order to provide a reliable chronological framework for the types detected that can support the most recent studies conducted by S. Salvatori and M. Tosi (2005). The challenge for the future will be to provide, together with a reliable ceramic sequence, anchored to the stratigraphic units excavated, an absolute chronology of reference that can serve as a benchmark for the individual stratigraphic units and consequently all of the remaining material discovered in archaeological association.

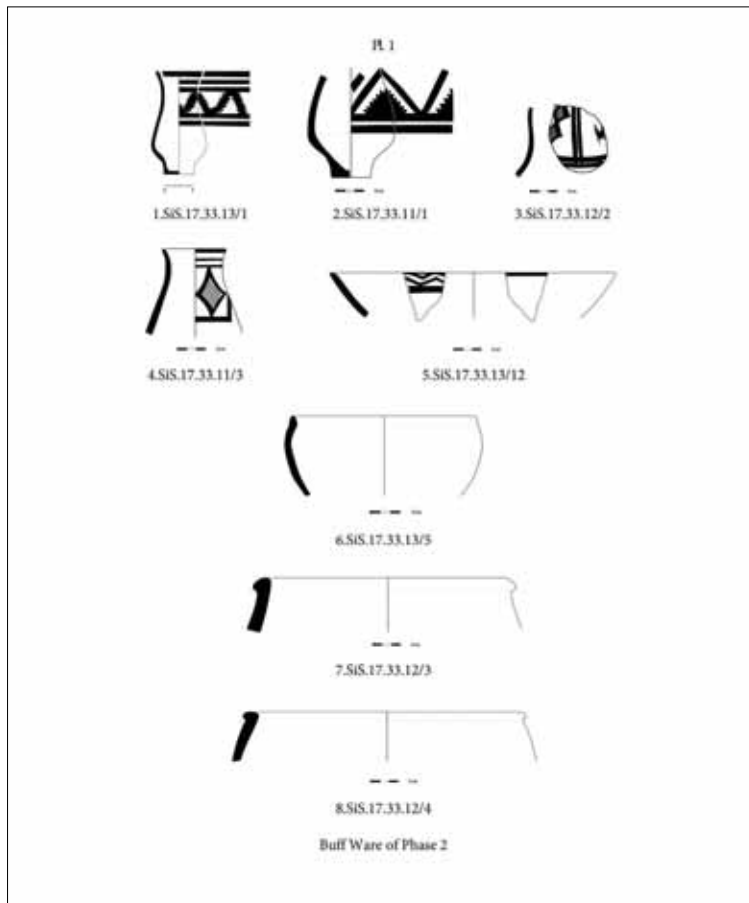
4. The finds of Area 33

A total of 149 objects were discovered during the excavation campaign conducted in Shahr-i Sokhta in November-December 2017, five of which belonged to the building's oldest phase of occupation, discovered below the flooring in L.15, L.16 and L.17 (Ascalone 2019c). Although this is not the place in which to conduct an analysis and study of the individual artefacts,⁶ we shall make some simple and preliminary considerations and give a brief presentation of the corpus of objects discovered.⁷

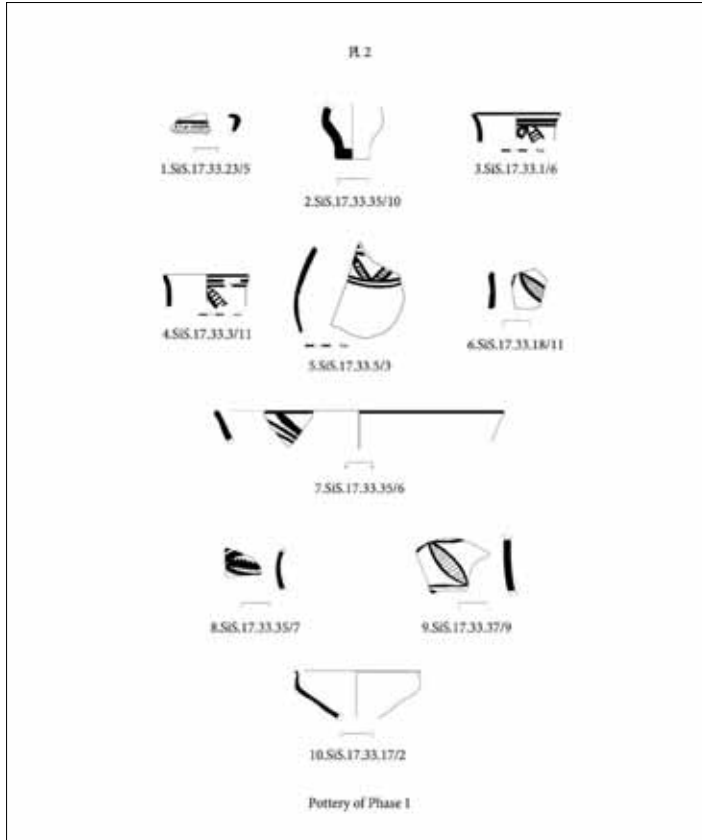
6. In addition to the palaeobotanical, archaeozoological, anthropological topographical and environmental studies, monographs on individual classes of object have been assigned to members of the mission: the bone awls to Alberto Potenza, the alabaster vessels to Silvia Festuccia and the seals and weights to the author. I would like to thank S.M.S. Sajjadi, who supported and made available the study of the material gathered by the mission which he has headed since 1997.

7. The nomenclature used to identify the excavated objects follows an overall and consecutive order which specifies the site (SiS), the year of discovery (17), the area of provenance (33) and its progressive excavation number.

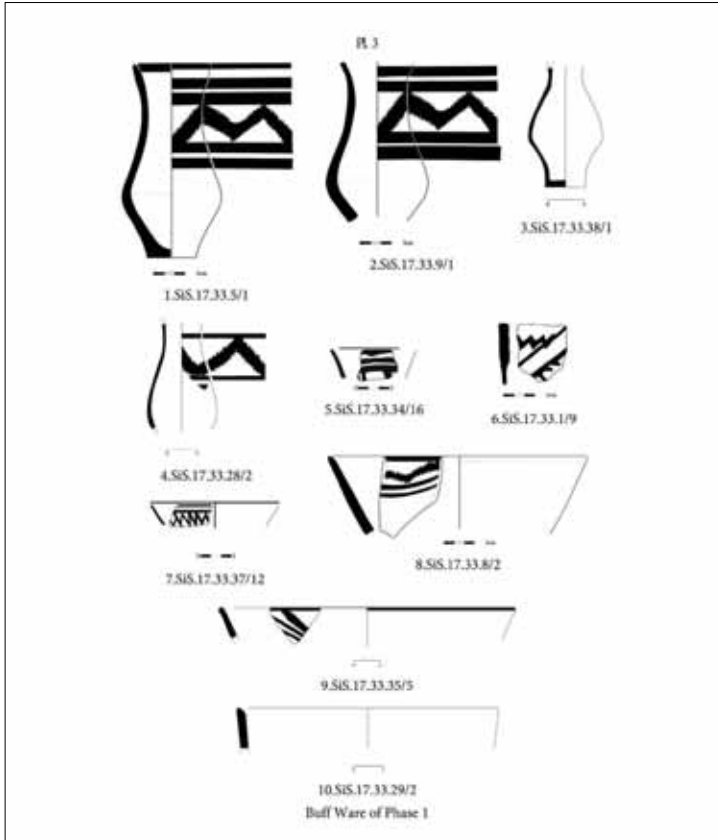
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SiS.17.33.13/1	2	L.17	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
2	SiS.17.33.11/1	2	L.15	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
3	SiS.17.33.12/2	2	L.16	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	Br Paint
4	SiS.17.33.11/3	2	L.15	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
5	SiS.17.33.13/12	2	L.17	Wheel	Medium	10YR 8/2 (out.) 7.5YR 7/4 (in.)	Bu Slip Br Paint
6	SiS.17.33.13/5	2	L.17	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/6	Bu Slip
7	SiS.17.33.12/3	2	L.16	Wheel	High	10YR 8/2	
8	SiS.17.33.12/4	2	L.16	Wheel	High	10YR 8/3	



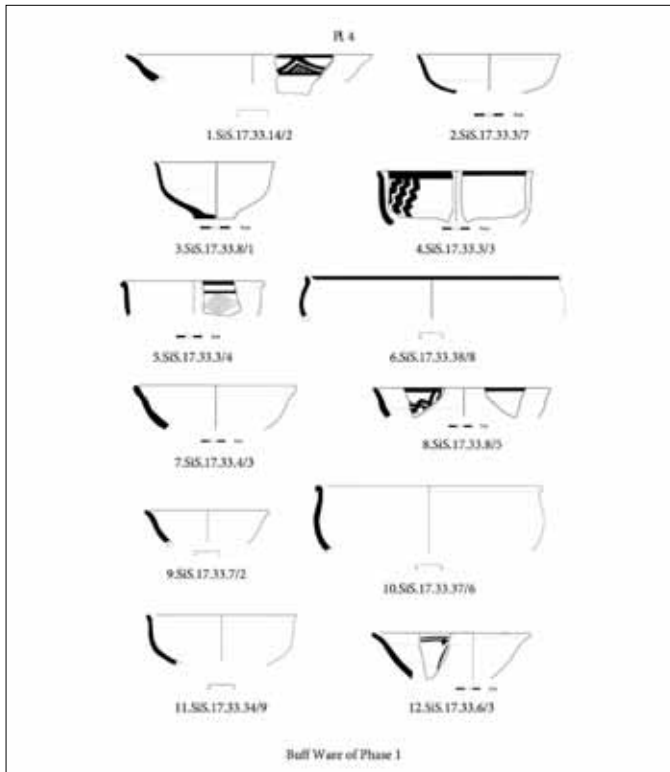
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	Sis.17.33.23/5	1	Surface	Wheel	High	5Y 5/1	Bl Paint
2	Sis.17.33.35/10	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	
3	Sis.17.33.1/6	1	Surface	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	W Slip Br Paint
4	Sis.17.33.3/11	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 6/4	W Slip Br Paint
5	Sis.17.33.5/3	1	L.6	Wheel	High	5YR 6/6	R Slip Br Paint
6	Sis.17.33.18/11	1	L.20	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Br Paint
7	Sis.17.33.35/6	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	Br Paint
8	Sis.17.33.35/7	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	W Slip Bl Paint
9	Sis.17.33.37/9	1	L.5	Wheel	High	5YR 5/4	W Slip Br Paint
10	Sis.17.33.17/2	1	L.19	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	W Slip



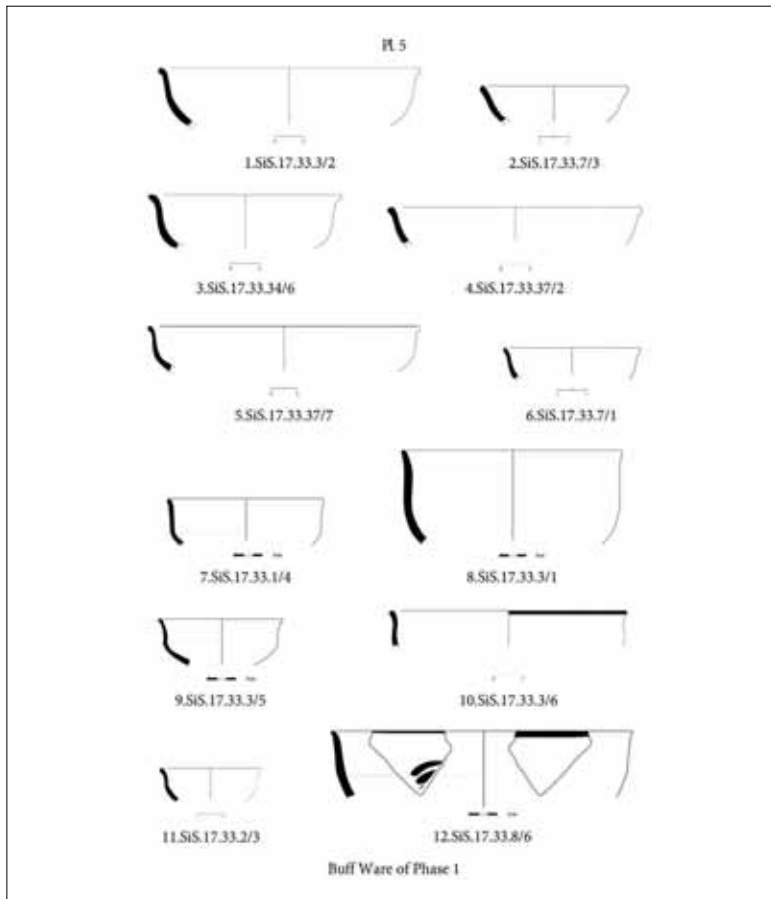
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SiS.17.33.5/1	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 6/6	Bu Slip Br Paint
2	SiS.17.33.9/1	1	L.10	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	Br Paint
3	SiS.17.33.38/1	1	L.16	Wheel	High	10YR 8/4	
4	SiS.17.33.28/2	1	-	Wheel	High	2.5YR 6/6	Bu Slip Br Paint
5	SiS.17.33.34/16	1	L.36	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	Bu Slip Bl Paint
6	SiS.17.33.1/9	1	Surface	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
7	SiS.17.33.37/12	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 6/1	Bl Paint
8	SiS.17.33.8/2	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
9	SiS.17.33.35/5	1	L.43	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/2	Br Paint
10	SiS.17.33.29/2	1	L.34	Wheel	High	5YR 7/4	



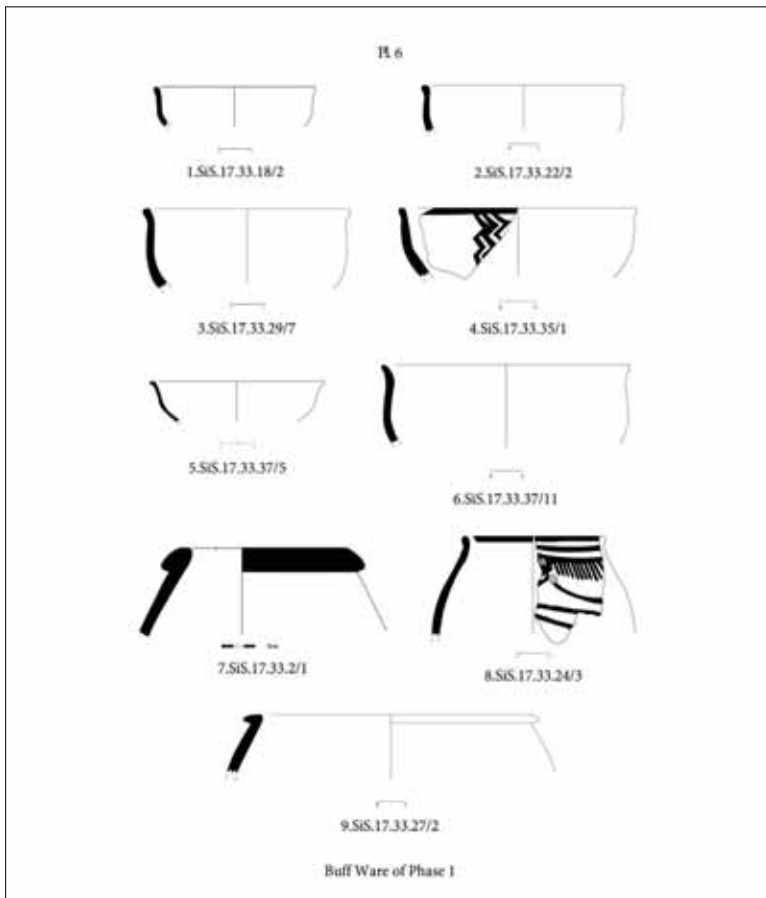
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	Sis.17.33.14/2	1	L.10	Wheel	High	10YR 8/2	Bu Slip Br Paint
2	Sis.17.33.3/7	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	
3	Sis.17.33.8/1	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	Bu Slip
4	Sis.17.33.3/3	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 6/3	Bu Slip Br Paint
5	Sis.17.33.3/4	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Br Paint
6	Sis.17.33.38/8	1	L.16	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/3	Bu Slip Br Paint
7	Sis.17.33.4/3	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 6/6	
8	Sis.17.33.8/5	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	Bu Slip Br Paint
9	Sis.17.33.7/2	1	L.7	Wheel	High	10YR 6/4	
10	Sis.17.33.37/6	1	L.5	Wheel	Medium	10YR 7/4 (out.) 5YR 6/6 (in.)	Bu Slip
11	Sis.17.33.34/9	1	L.36	Wheel	High	10YR 8/3	
12	Sis.17.33.6/3	1	L.4	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	Bu Slip Br Paint



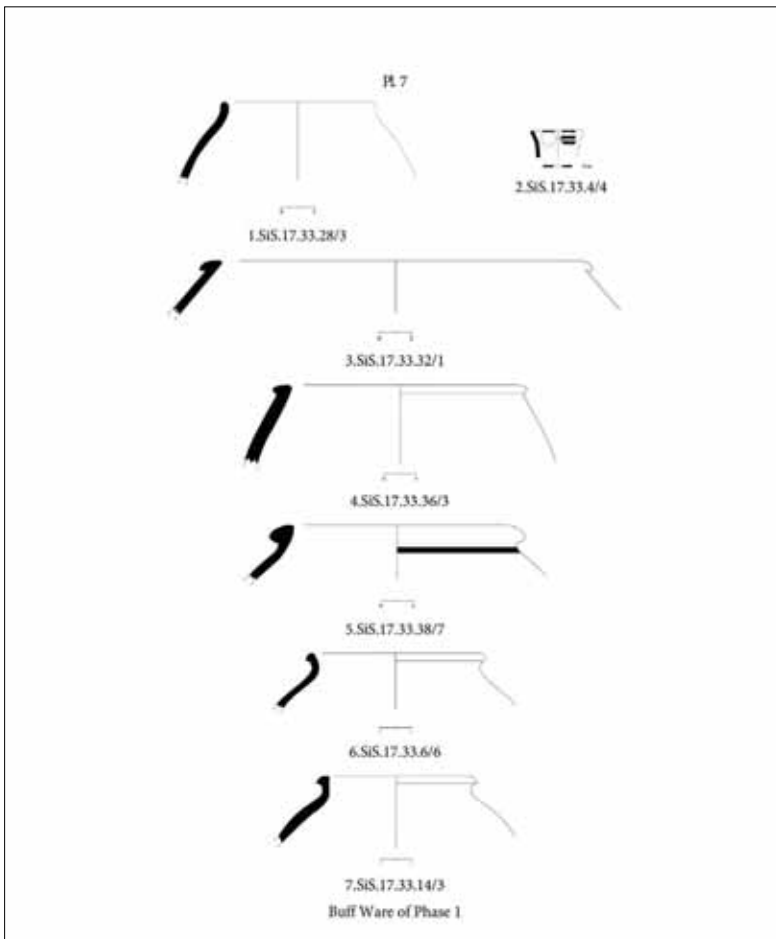
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SIS.17.33.3/2	1	L.5	Wheel	High	5YR 6/6	Br Paint
2	SIS.17.33.7/3	1	L.7	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
3	SIS.17.33.34/6	1	L.36	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	Bu Slip
4	SIS.17.33.37/2	1	L.5	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	Bu Slip
5	SIS.17.33.37/7	1	L.5	Wheel	High	5Y 7/2	
6	SIS.17.33.7/1	1	L.7	Wheel	High	2.5Y 6/4	Bu Slip
7	SIS.17.33.1/4	1	Surface	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	
8	SIS.17.33.3/1	1	L.5	Wheel	High	5YR 6/6	
9	SIS.17.33.3/5	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/2	
10	SIS.17.33.3/6	1	L.5	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	
11	SIS.17.33.2/3	1	L.4	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	Bu Slip Bl Paint
12	SIS.17.33.8/6	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/4	Br Paint



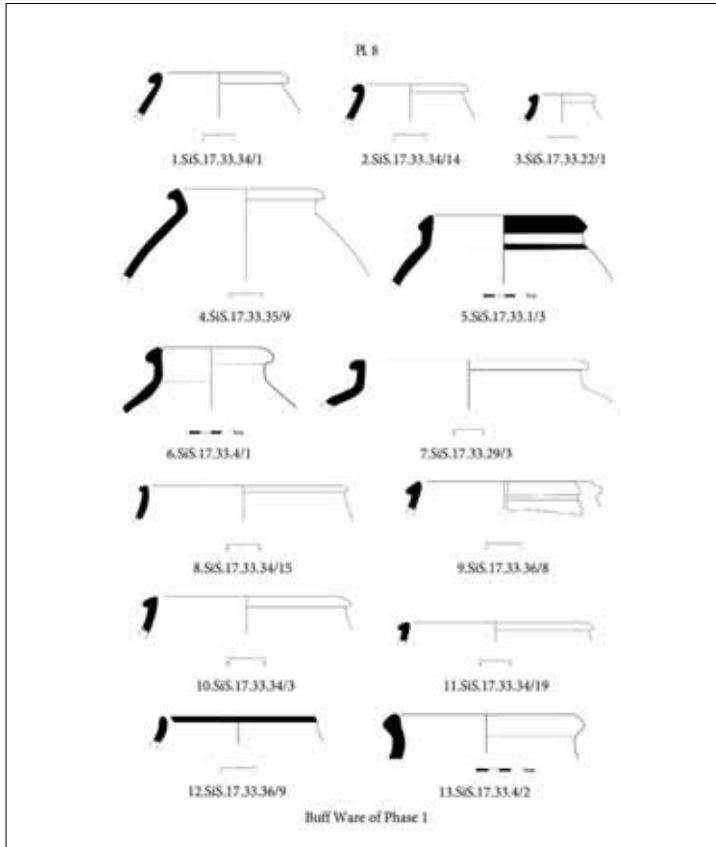
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SiS.17.33.18/2	1	L.20	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/6	Incised
2	SiS.17.33.22/2	1	L.26	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	R Paint
3	SiS.17.33.29/7	1	L.34	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	Bu Slip
4	SiS.17.33.35/1	1	L.43	Wheel	High	5Y 5/6	Bu Slip Br Paint
5	SiS.17.33.37/5	1	L.5	Wheel	High	5Y 7/1	
6	SiS.17.33.37/11	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 8/3	R Paint
7	SiS.17.33.2/1	1	L.4	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	
8	SiS.17.33.24/3	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 8/3	Br Paint
9	SiS.17.33.27/2	1	L.33	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/3	Bu Slip



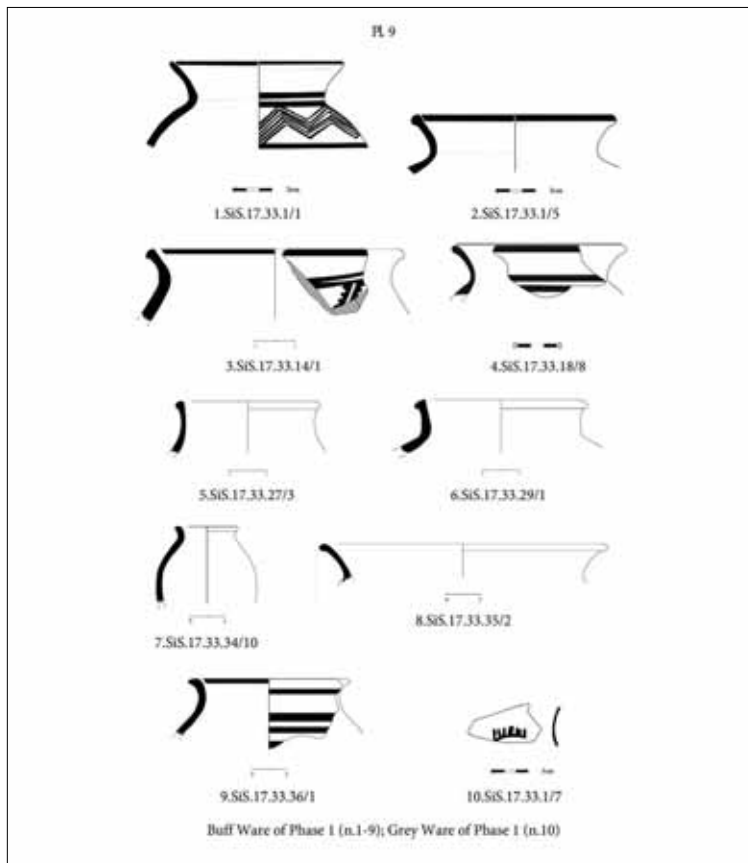
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SIS.17.33.28/3	1	-	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/6	
2	SIS.17.33.4/4	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
3	SIS.17.33.32/1	1	L.37	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/3	
4	SIS.17.33.36/3	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 8/2	
5	SIS.17.33.38/7	1	L.16	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/2	Bu Slip Br Paint
6	SIS.17.33.6/6	1	L.4	Wheel	Medium	2.5Y 7/4 (out.) 5YR 8/1 (in.)	Bu Slip
7	SIS.17.33.14/3	1	L.10	Wheel	High	10YR 7/2	



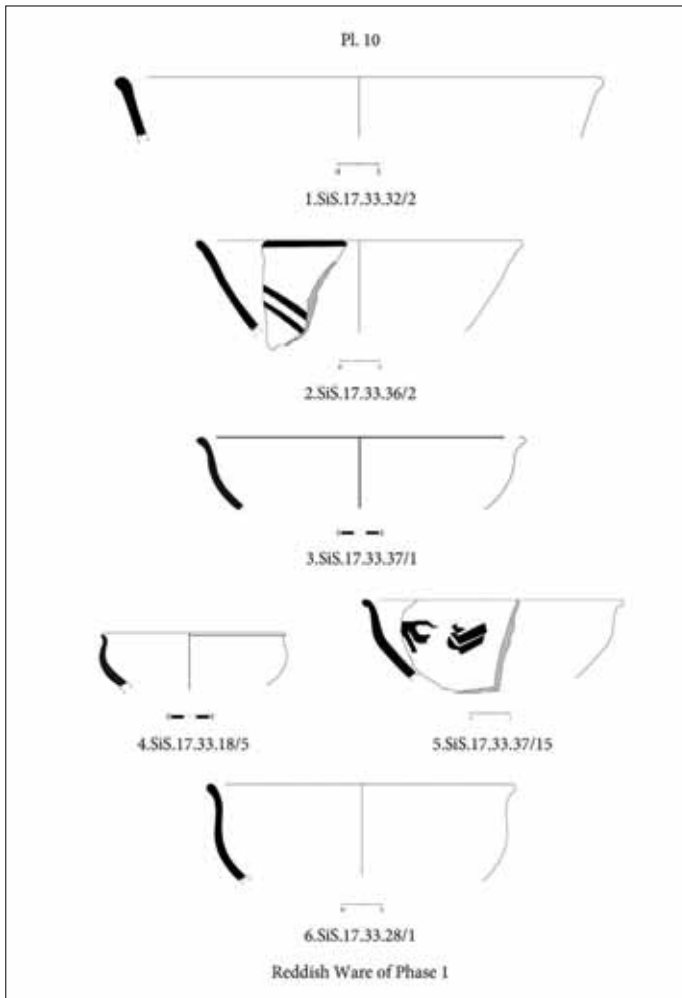
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SIS.17.33.34/1	1	L.36	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/3	
2	SIS.17.33.34/14	1	L.36	Wheel	High	10YR 8/2	Bu Slip
3	SIS.17.33.22/1	1	L.26	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/3	
4	SIS.17.33.35/9	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 8/3	
5	SIS.17.33.1/3	1	Surface	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	Bu Slip Br Paint
6	SIS.17.33.4/1	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	
7	SIS.17.33.29/3	1	L.34	Wheel	High	5Y 8/3	
8	SIS.17.33.34/15	1	L.36	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	Bu Slip
9	SIS.17.33.36/8	1	L.43	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	Br Paint
10	SIS.17.33.34/3	1	L.36	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	Bu Slip
11	SIS.17.33.34/19	1	L.36	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/3	
12	SIS.17.33.36/9	1	L.43	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/2	Br Paint
13	SIS.17.33.4/2	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	



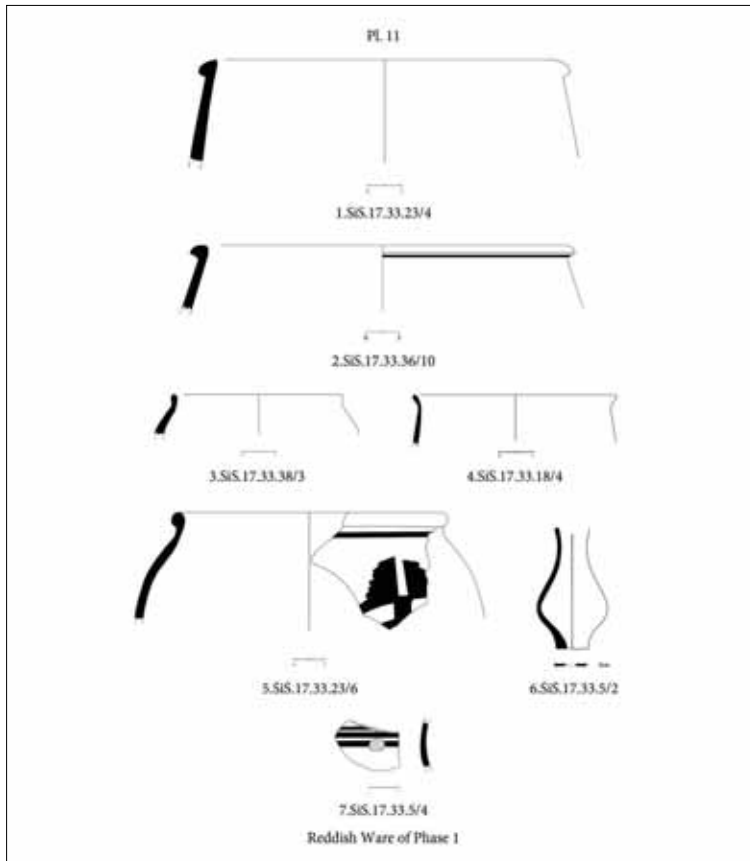
No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SiS.17.33.1/1	1	Surface	Wheel	High	10YR 6/4	Bu Slip Bl Paint
2	SiS.17.33.1/5	1	Surface	Wheel	High	2.5Y 7/4	Br Paint
3	SiS.17.33.14/1	1	L.10	Wheel	Medium	10YR 7/4 (out.) 5YR 7/4 (in.)	Bu Slip Bl Paint
4	SiS.17.33.18/8	1	L.20	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	Bu Slip Bl Paint
5	SiS.17.33.27/3	1	L.33	Wheel	High	5YR 6/6	Bu Slip
6	SiS.17.33.29/1	1	L.34	Wheel	High	2.5Y 8/3	
7	SiS.17.33.34/10	1	L.36	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	
8	SiS.17.33.35/2	1	L.43	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	Bu Slip
9	SiS.17.33.36/1	1	L.43	Wheel	High	7.5YR 6/4	Bu Slip Bl Paint
10	SiS.17.33.1/7	1	Surface	Wheel	High	5Y 5/1	Bl Paint



No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf.treat.
1	SiS.17.33.32/2	1	L.37	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	
2	SiS.17.33.36/2	1	L.43	Wheel	High	5YR 7/4	W Slip Br Paint
3	SiS.17.33.37/1	1	L.5	Wheel	High	7.5YR 7/4	
4	SiS.17.33.18/5	1	L.20	Wheel	High	5YR 6/6	R Paint
5	SiS.17.33.37/15	1	L.5	Wheel	High	10YR 7/3	R Paint
6	SiS.17.33.28/1	1	-	Wheel	Medium	2.5Y 8/2 (out.) 10YR 8/3 (in.)	



No.	Pottery No.	Phase	Context	Techn.	Firing	Fabric color	Surf. treat.
1	SiS.17.33.23/4	1	Surface	Wheel	Medium	2.5Y 8/3 (out.) 10YR 7/4 (in.)	W Slip
2	SiS.17.33.36/10	1	L.43	Wheel	High	10YR 7/4	
3	SiS.17.33.38/3	1	L.16	Wheel	Medium	10YR 7/4 (out.) 10YR 8/3 (in.)	W Slip
4	SiS.17.33.18/4	1	L.20	Wheel	High	5YR 6/4	R Paint
5	SiS.17.33.23/6	1	Surface	Wheel	High	5YR 6/4	W Slip Bl Paint Br Paint Incised
6	SiS.17.33.5/2	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5Y 6/6	
7	SiS.17.33.5/4	1	L.6	Wheel	High	2.5YR 5/8	R Slip Bl Paint



In addition to the alabaster vessel fragments (see in this volume the paper by Silvia Festuccia), numerous fragments of worked flint (blades, arrowheads, debitage and cores) were discovered, making 24 objects in all (SiS.17.33.1-4, 11, 13, 18-19, 27, 32, 43, 49, 53-54, 56, 61, 63, 72-73, 83-85, 90, 114). Almost all of these were discovered in the northern sector of *Building 33*, which was used for preliminary food processing and subsequent cooking, together with numerous fragments of bronze, unfortunately so badly damaged (in some cases pulverised) as to prevent precise identification, with the exception of the awl SiS.17.33.92). Of special interest are the beads, discovered in a variety of archaeological contexts but typologically homogeneous, divided into two main shapes, one perfectly cylindrical, made of soapstone (SiS.17.33.50), alabaster (SiS.17.33.33, 66, 124), quartz (SiS.17.33.70, 144), carnelian (SiS.17.33.41) and turquoise (SiS.17.33.30, 80), and one ovoid, exemplars of which include SiS.17.33.46 (lapis lazuli) and SiS.17.33.123 (turquoise). At the current stage of the research, there are no exemplars of types recognised in the course of past excavations, whose forms are mainly discoid, rhomboid and lenticular (see Tosi 1969: 373-375; Sajjadi 2003: 79-80).

In addition to the weights discovered (SiS.17.33.58, 64 and 127, all three sphenonoids, two with a base), which will be dealt with separately (see also Ascalone 2019d), a stamp seal made of chlorite/soapstone belongs to a typological class that is widely attested in Shahr-i Sokhta, throughout the valley of the Hirmand and around the oases of Margiana. The seal (SiS.17.33.24), quadrangular but not perfectly square, which measures 3.7 x 4.0 cm with a thickness of 0.6 cm, was discovered in L.5, in an area near the kitchens sector (L.33, L.36, L.37, L.43) bordering L.34 and L.35, two rooms of fairly modest dimensions. In the absence of archaeological material due to their as-yet incomplete investigation (the two rooms are positioned beyond the current limit of the excavation), the structural characteristics of L.34 and L.35 support their interpretation as areas intended for the storage of the foodstuffs used in the adjacent rooms immediately to the east of the complex.

The morphology of the seal and the material it is made from embody a type that is widely attested in Shahr-i Sokhta, where seals with geometric, linear,

rhomboid, circular, square and cross decoration, mostly in chlorite with two holes on the back, are well known (Piperno - Salvatori 2007: 209; Tosi 1968: fig. 95; 1969: fig. 264, 266-273; Sajjadi 2003: 78, fig. 36; 2004: 4; 2009: 240). Seals of the same type have been identified in Mundigak, specifically four specimens from Periods III.5, III.6 and IV of the site (Casal 1961: 256-257, plate 45: z3, 5, 7), Margiana (in Dashly 1, Togolok, Gonur South, Taip 1, but see also Sarianidi 1986: nos. 1675.1-2; 1676.1-2, 1729.1 and Salvatori 2008: 103, fig. 7.7.1),⁸ Shahdad (Salvatori - Vidale 1982; Hakemi 1987) and Sibri in Baluchistan (Jarrige 1985: fig. 5). The Shahr-i Sokhta seal seems to be of local production, its craftsmanship recognisably associated with the valley of the Hirmand, perhaps Margiana, where however quadrangular soapstone seals, often bifacial, exhibit a more elaborate iconographic development, with animal and mythological figures represented on the surface. This aniconic approach, with no mythological meaning supported by figurative or narrative descriptions, together with the geometric and linear style on a quadrangular base, carved in soapstone in which two holes can be seen on the reverse of the specimen, is a feature of the so-called 'Hirmand civilisation'. This cultural feature characterises all the regions through which the river Hirmand flows, with Shahr-i Sokhta and Mundigak at opposite extremes in cultural and probably political terms as well as geographically. It is hard to make more detailed historic considerations on the aniconic approach in the glyptic tradition of Hirmand, just as it appears decidedly premature to seek a relationship between the geometric glyptics of Shahr-i Sokhta (including its types) and the settlement's dominant classes. However, there may well have been a link between the human groups present in Shahr-i Sokhta and the (fairly stereotyped and repetitive) geometric patterns on the above-mentioned seals.

Confirming the consistent cultural horizon regarding glyptics along the course of the river Hirmand, a seal was discovered in Mundigak, identical in terms of morphology, craftsmanship and decoration (Casal 1961: 257, pl. 45: 9). The presence of material used to fill or embellish the grooves carved on the surface of this seal suggests that this was also originally the case with SiS.17.33.24. The Mundigak seal comes from non-specified layers belonging to Period IV of the

8. For the bibliography of reference, see Salvatori 2000: 132.

site, which corresponds chronologically to the phases verified for *Building 33*, i.e. Phase 4 early Phase 3 of Period III in Shahr-i Sokhta.

An identical specimen was found in Tomb 311 of Shahr-i Sokhta, where a multiple burial characterised by at least two uses in separate phases was excavated (Piperno - Salvatori 2007: 205-209). The seal, made of lapis lazuli and smaller in size (1.6 x 1.45 x 0.4 cm), has the same morphology, with holes allowing it to be hung, and in terms of decoration is fairly similar to our specimen. The seal was discovered in archaeological association with polychromatic ceramics of Period II in Shahr-i Sokhta, numerous conical beakers of Phase 5, Period II and two specimens belonging to Phase 4, Period III. On the basis of the stratigraphic contexts and the archaeological associations of our seal, the seal from Tomb 311 should also be seen in relation to the more elongated versions of the so-called “Pear-shaped Beakers”, forms that began to be seen only in Phase 4 of the site, just after the midpoint of the 3rd millennium BC (see also Vidale 1984). In the same way, our seal was discovered in archaeological association with a high-necked beaker (SiS.17.33.4/4) which in typological terms should undoubtedly be ascribed to Phase 4 of the settlement, characterised by a clear typological break with the preceding Phase 5, belonging to Period II of the site.

To summarise, on the basis of the identified parallels and the reconstructed archaeological associations, Seal SiS.17.33.24 should be considered an autochthonous product, unambiguously rooted in the cultural fabric of Shahr-i Sokhta and the entire glyptic horizon of the valley of the Hirmand, datable with a fair degree of reliability to the period 2500-2400 BC (Shahr-i Sokhta III.4).

Excluding debitage, which includes numerous fragments of carnelian, the pestles (SiS.17.33.28, 38, 67, 125, 126, 145, 147-148), loom weights (SiS.17.33.23, 42), fragments of grinding stones (SiS.17.33.76), smoothing stones (SiS.17.33.93, 113, 119, 146) and counting tokens (SiS.17.33.25, 60, 65, 69, 74-75, 107, 110-111, 141-143) paint a fairly consistent picture of the activities performed inside the building, which seem to cover every single necessity

associated with daily life, confirming the total independence of *Building 33* with respect to the surrounding urban fabric. Indeed, the entire building seems to exhibit strong sectoral differentiation (see the chapter by the current author on the architectural and functional analyses of the building), appearing to be an elaborate and carefully structured complex that served to gather and organise, on a fully autonomous basis, the main activities typical of a residential complex with clearly central status.

The catalogue of the objects found is designed to give a list of all the artefacts excavated during the 2017 campaign. In the following captions the data are given following the following order:

Figure; date; object; material; condition; length; width; thickness; area; square; US/locus; level; layer; period of the site; chronology.



Fig. 61: SiS.17.33.1; 04.11.2017; flint blade debitage; flint; fragmentary; 2.6 cm; 1.7 cm; 0.9 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.2; 04.11.2017; blade; flint; fragmentary; 2.5 cm; 1.4 cm; 0.4 cm; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.3; 04.11.2017; blade; flint; fragmentary; 2.8 cm; 1.5 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.4; 04.11.2017; arrowhead; flint; excellent; 3.7 cm; 1.6 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 62: SiS.17.33.5; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.5 cm; 1.0 cm; 1.1 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.6; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.0 cm; 1.0 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.7; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject?); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.3 cm; 1.0 cm; 1.0 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.8; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject?); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.3 cm; 1.1 cm; 0.9 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.9; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject?); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.4 cm; 1.2 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.10; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject?); carnelian; fragmentary; 0.9 cm; 0.8 cm; 0.3 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 63: SiS.17.33.11; 04.11.2017; blade; flint; good; 3.3 cm; 2.2 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOH+OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 64: SiS.17.33.12; 04.11.2017; indeterminate spherical object; bronze; slightly eroded; 1.6 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.10 cm; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 65: SiS.17.33.13; 04.11.2017; core, flint, fragmentary; 2.1 cm; 1.5 cm; 0.3 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 66: SiS.17.33.14; 04.11.2017; carved object (reject?); carnelian; fragmentary; 1.3 cm; 1.4 cm; 0.8 cm; 33; OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

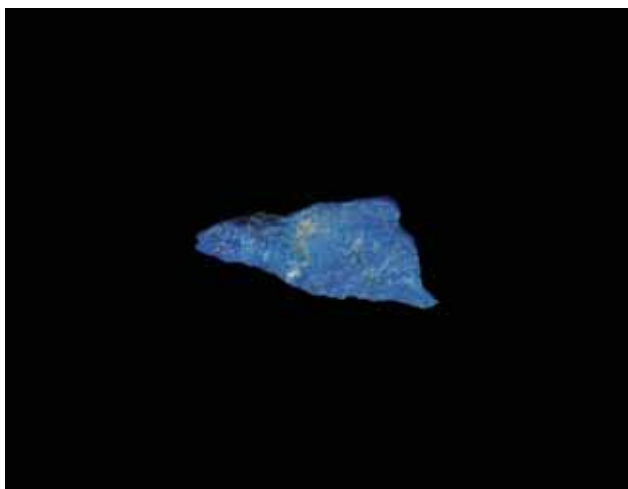


Fig. 67: SiS.17.33.15; 05.11.2017; carved object; lapis lazuli; fragmentary; 1.0 cm; 0.4 cm; 0.2 cm; 33; OOM; surface; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.16	
Date	05.11.2017
Object	fragment of vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.2 cm
Width	1.1 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOM
US/Locus	surface
Level	0.05 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.17	
Date	05.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.7 cm
Width	4.2 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOM
US/Locus	surface
Level	0.05 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 68: SiS.17.33.18; 05.11.2017; blade; flint; good; 2.9 cm; 1.5 cm; 1.0 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.05 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 69: SiS.17.33.19; 05.11.2017; fragment of an object (debitage); flint; fragmentary; 2.3 cm; 1.5 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



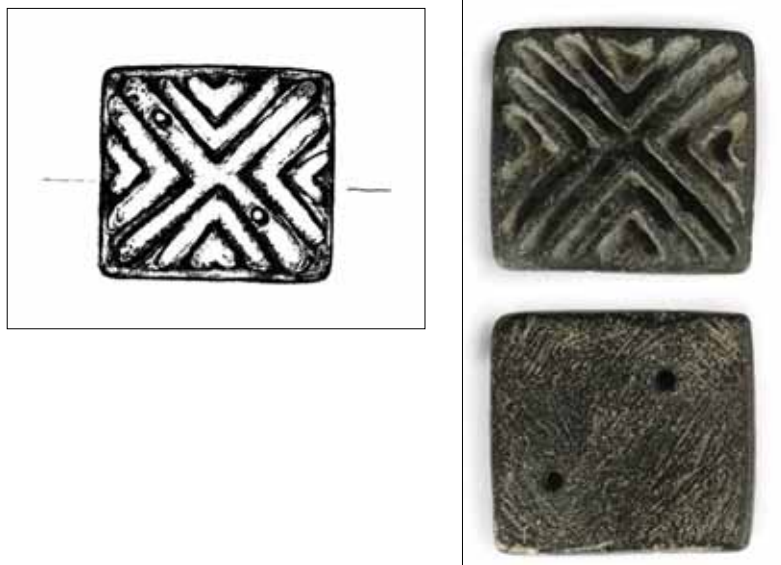
Fig. 70: SiS.17.33.20; 05.11.2017; smoothing stone; soapstone; excellent; 9.9 cm; 1.6 cm; 1.0 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.17 m; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.21	
Date	05.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	3.1 cm
Thickness	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOG4
US/Locus	L.4
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.22	
Date	05.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary almost pulverised
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOG4
US/Locus	L.4
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 71: SiS.17.33.23; 05.11.2017; loom weight; ceramics; half conserved; 3.4 cm; 1.7 cm; 1.0 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Figs. 72-73: SiS.17.33.24; 06.11.2017; stamp seal; soapstone; excellent; stamp seal using a single side, with two holes enabling possible applications on the reverse side. The seal bears geometric decorations based on a cross-type scheme widely attested in the site of Shahr-i Sokhta; 3.7 cm; 4.0 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOH4; L.5; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 74: SiS.17.33.25; 06.11.2017; flat ovoid object with smoothing marks on the surface, perhaps due to deliberate polishing; limestone; slightly chipped; 2.5 cm; 2.2 cm; 0.8 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.30 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.26	
Date	06.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	2.5 cm
Width	2.0 cm
Thickness	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOG4
US/Locus	L.4
Level	0.30 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 75: SiS.17.33.27; 06.11.2017; flat ovoid object with signs of grinding; flint; good; 4.9 cm; 4.2 cm; 0.9 cm; 33; OOH2+OOM1; L.6; 0.30 m; 1, III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 76: SiS.17.33.28; 06.11.2017; pestle; limestone; slightly chipped; 5.8 cm; 5.0 cm; 3.7 cm; 33; OOH2+OOM1; L.6; 0.30 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.29	
Date	06.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	3.0 cm
Width	2.7 cm
Thickness	1.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOM1
US/Locus	L.6
Level	0.35 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

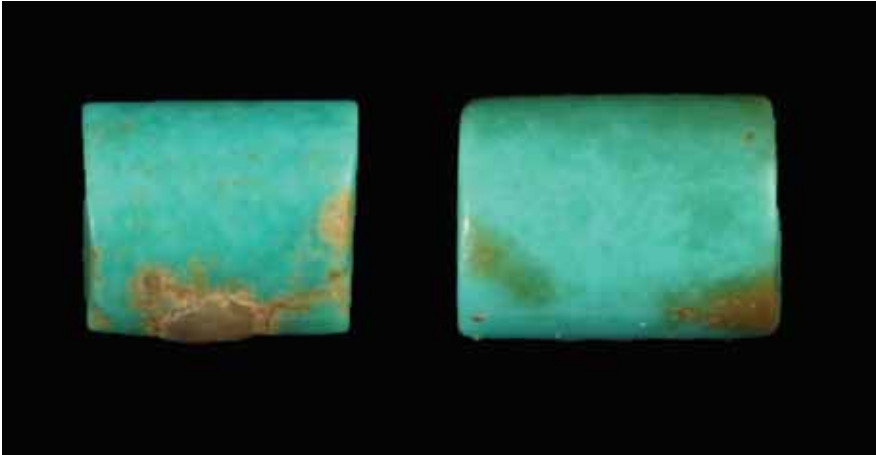


Fig. 77: SiS.17.33.30; 07.11.2017; two beads; turquoise; excellent; 0.4 cm x 0.3 cm; 0.3 x 0.2 cm; 33; OOH2+OOM1; L.6; 0.35 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.31	
Date	07.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	3.0 cm
Width	2.7 cm
Thickness	1.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOM1
US/Locus	L.6
Level	0.35 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 78: SiS.17.33.32; 07.11.2017; blade; flint; good; 2.5 cm; 2.0 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOH2+OOM1; L.6; 0.35 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.33	
Date	07.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	4.1 cm
Width	3.1 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOM3+OOM1
US/Locus	L.6
Level	0.15 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 79: SiS.17.33.34; 08.11.2017; smoothing stone; limestone; shows clear signs of abrasion from grinding on the surface; 33; OOH2+OOM1; L.6; 0.40 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.35	
Date	10.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	1.9 cm
Width	1.7 cm
Thickness	0.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOM1
US/Locus	L.15
Level	0.47 m
Layer	3
Period of the site	III (Phase 5a)
Chronology	2850-2620 BC



Fig. 80: SiS.17.33.36; 10.11.2017; indeterminate carved object (fragment of a vessel?); quartz; fragmentary; 2.1 cm; 1.0 cm; 0.8 cm; 33; OOM1; L.15; 0.33 m; 3; III (Phase 5a); 2800-2620 BC.



Fig. 81: SiS.17.33.37; 10.11.2017; smoothing stone; limestone; good; 10.5 cm; 2.7 cm; 1.7 cm; 33; OOM1; L.17; 0.48 m; 3; III (Phase 5a); 2800-2620 BC.



Fig. 82: SiS.17.33.38; 10.11.2017; pestle; breccia; good with signs of percussion on the base; 6.3 cm; 4.3 cm; 3.4 cm; 33; OOM1; L.15; 0.47 m; 3; III (Phase 5a); 2800-2620 BC.

SiS.17.33.39	
Date	10.11.2017
Object	slag
Material	bronze
Length	2.5 cm
Width	2.1 cm
Height	1.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOM3+OOM1
US/Locus	L.16
Level	0.48 m
Layer	3
Period of the site	III (Phase 5a)
Chronology	2800-2620 BC



Fig. 83: SiS.17.33.40; 11.11.2017; indeterminate spherical object; limestone; small parts missing; 1.1 cm; 33; OOG4+OOL3; L.19; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 84: SiS.17.33.41; 11.11.2017; cylindrical bead; carnelian; fragmentary; 0.7 cm; 0.6 cm; 0.7 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG; L.4; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 85: SiS.17.33.42; 12.11.2017; loom weight; clay; half conserved; 5.1 cm; 2.2 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.15 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 86: SiS.17.33.43; 12.11.2017; debitage; flint; fragmentary; 2.5 cm; 2.5 cm; 0.7 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.15 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.44	
Date	12.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	2.2 cm
Width	1.5 cm
Thickness	1.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH2+OOG4
US/Locus	L.4
Level	0.35 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.45	
Date	12.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	limestone
Condition	good
Length	4.3 cm
Width	3.5 cm
Thickness	1.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOG4+OOL3
US/Locus	L.19
Level	0.15 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 87: SiS.17.33.46; 13.11.2017; cylindrical bead slightly narrowing at each end; lapis lazuli; good; 0.4 cm; 0.3 cm; 33; OOF+OOK; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 88: SiS.17.33.48; 13.11.2017; blade; stone; fragmentary; 5.5 cm; 4.0 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOF+OOK; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 89: SiS.17.33.49; 13.11.2017; debitage; flint; fragmentary; 2.4 cm; 1.3 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOF; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 90: SiS.17.33.50; 13.11.2017; cylindrical bead; soapstone; fragmentary; 0.6 cm; 1.0 cm; 33; OOF; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.51	
Date	14.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.7 cm
Width	2.4 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOE+OOG
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.52	
Date	14.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	1.7 cm
Width	1.7 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOE+OOG
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.53	
Date	14.11.2017
Object	blade
Material	flint
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.6 cm
Width	1.6 cm
Thickness	1.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOE+OOG
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.54	
Date	14.11.2017
Object	core
Material	flint
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.4 cm
Width	2.7 cm
Thickness	2.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOE+OOG
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.55	
Date	14.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	limestone
Condition	highly fragmentary
Area	33
Square	OOG4+OOL3
US/Locus	surface
Level	0.15 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 91: SiS.17.33.56; 15.11.2017; arrowhead; flint; excellent; 3.1 cm; 1.4 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOE+OOG; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 92: SiS.17.33.57; 15.11.2017; indeterminate; limestone; fragmentary; 6.5 cm; 3.6 cm; 1.7 cm; 33; OOH2+OOG4; L.4; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 93: SiS.17.33.58; 15.11.2017; ovoid weight; stone; good; 4.8 cm; 2.0 cm; 1.9 cm; 33; OOG2+OOL1; L.20; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.59	
Date	15.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.1 cm
Width	2.9 cm
Height	2.9 cm
Area	33
Square	OOK3
US/Locus	L.26
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.60	
Date	16.11.2017
Object	token
Material	limestone
Condition	good
Length	3.0 cm
Width	3.0 cm
Thickness	0.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 94: SiS.17.33.61; 16.11.2017; arrowhead; flint; good; 2.8 cm; 2.2 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOI+OON; L.36+L.43; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.62	
Date	16.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	2.2 cm
Width	1.5 cm
Thickness	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.63	
Date	16.11.2017
Object	core
Material	flint
Condition	fragmentary
Length	5.0 cm
Width	2.5 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	2
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 95: SiS.17.33.64; 16.11.2017; ovoid weight with base; limestone; good; 4.2 cm; 1.5 cm; 3.1 cm; 33; OOI+OON; L.36+L.43; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.65	
Date	16.11.2017
Object	token
Material	limestone
Condition	good
Length	3.0 cm
Width	2.2 cm
Thickness	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 96: SiS.17.33.66; 18.11.2017; bead; alabaster; fragmentary, half missing; 1.5 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOI+OON; L.36+L.43; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.67	
Date	18.11.2017
Object	pestle
Material	limestone
Condition	good
Length	4.3 cm
Width	3.2 cm
Height	3.1 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.68	
Date	18.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	7.9 cm
Width	0.7 cm
Height	0.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.69	
Date	04.11.2017
Object	token
Material	stone
Condition	good
Length	5.1 cm
Diameter	4.0 cm
Thickness	0.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.70	
Date	04.11.2017
Object	bead
Material	quartz
Condition	good
Height	2.1 cm
Diameter	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.71	
Date	04.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Height	3.4 cm
Length	3.2 cm
Width	1.9 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 97: SiS.17.33.72; 19.11.2017; blade; flint; 3.9 cm; 1.6 cm; 0.9 cm; 33; OOH4; L.37; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.73	
Date	19.11.2017
Object	debitage
Material	flint
Length	3.4 cm
Width	1.7 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1+OOM3
US/Locus	L.33
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 98: SiS.17.33.74; 18.11.2017; token; limestone; good; 1.9 cm; 1.9 cm; 1.2 cm; 33; OON1+OOM3; L.33; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 99: SiS.17.33.75; 19.11.2017; token; soapstone; good; 3.1 cm; 1.7 cm; 0.7 cm; 33; OON1+OOM3; L.33; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 100: SiS.17.33.76; 19.11.2017; grinding stone; basalt; fragmentary; 6.9 cm; 5.1 cm; 1.7 cm; 33; OOH4; L.37; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.77	
Date	19.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	stone
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	6.9 cm
Width	4.9 cm
Thickness	2.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH4
US/Locus	L.7
Level	0.30 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.78	
Date	19.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	fragmentary
Length	1.8 cm
Width	1.5 cm
Thickness	1.1 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH4
US/Locus	L.5
Level	0.30 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.79	
Date	19.11.2017
Object	slag
Length	6.5 cm
Width	5.8 cm
Thickness	2.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI+OON
US/Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.80	
Date	19.11.2017
Object	bead
Material	turquoise
Condition	good
Diameter	0.25/0.22 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.81	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	quartz
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.2 cm
Width	1.8 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.82	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	inlaid ornament
Material	stone
Condition	good
Length	2.3 cm
Width	2.1 cm
Thickness	0.3 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 101: SiS.17.33.83; 20.11.2017; blade; flint; fragmentary; 3.9 cm; 1.6 cm; 0.8 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 102: SiS.17.33.84; 20.11.2017; blade; flint; fragmentary; 1.7 cm; 1.8 cm; 0.8 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 103: SiS.17.33.85; 20.11.2017; core or unfinished blade; flint; fragmentary; 5.8 cm; 4.2 cm; 1.8 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.86	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	handle
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.9 cm
Width	1.5 cm
Thickness	0.9 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.88	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	1.6 cm
Width	1.2 cm
Thickness	0.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 104: SiS.17.33.87; 20.11.2017; indeterminate; quartz; fragmentary; 2.5 cm; 2.1 cm; 0.7 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 105: SiS.17.33.90; 20.11.2017; blade; flint; fragmentary; 2.0 cm; 2.3 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 106: SiS.17.33.92; 20.11.2017; awl; bronze; good; 7.2 cm; 4.8 cm; 0.7 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.89	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.7 cm
Width	2.9 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.91	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.7 cm
Width	2.3 cm
Thickness	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
US/Locus	L.36+L.37
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 107: SiS.17.33.93; 20.11.2017; smoothing stone; stone; good; 6.4 cm; 3.1 cm; 2.8 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 108: SiS.17.33.94; 20.11.2017; pebble; limestone; good; 3.0 cm; 2.3 cm; 2.2 cm; 33; OOI2+OOH4; L.36+L.37; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.95	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	7.2 cm
Width	4.8 cm
Thickness	0.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.96	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	4.2 cm
Width	3.4 cm
Thickness	0.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.97	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	base of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.6 cm
Width	2.2 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.98	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.2 cm
Width	1.9 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.99	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.3 cm
Width	2.3 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.100	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.5 cm
Width	1.4 cm
Thickness	1.3 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.101	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Description attached to SiS.17.33.95	3.3 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	2
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.102	
Date	20.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.7 cm
Width	1.4 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OOH4
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.103	
Date	21.11.2017
Object	base of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Height	1.9 cm
Thickness	0.3/0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.104	
Date	21.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.105	
Date	21.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.8 cm
Width	2.5 cm
Height	1.7 cm
Area	33
Level	0.10 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.106	
Date	21.11.2017
Object	two indeterminate objects plausibly belonging to the same artefact
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length 1)	1.1 cm;
Length 2)	1.2 cm
Width 1)	0.9 cm;
Width 2)	0.8 cm
Thickness 1	0.8 cm;
Thickness 2	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.108	
Date	04.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	fragmentary
Length	1.1 cm
Width	0.8 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
Level	0.15 cm
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 109: SiS.17.33.107; 21.11.2017; token; stone; good; 3.0 cm; 2.9 cm; 0.6 cm; 33; OOI2; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.109	
Date	21.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	1.0 cm
Thickness	0.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.110	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	token
Material	breccia
Condition	good
Length	1.3 cm
Width	1.1 cm
Thickness	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 110: SiS.17.33.111; 22.11.2017; token; limestone; good; 2.9 cm; 2.1 cm; 0.9 cm; 33; OOH4; L.5; 0.25 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.112	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	stone
Length	3.6 cm
Width	3.3 cm
Thickness	2.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.113	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	smoothing stone
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.5 cm
Width	1.8 cm
Thickness	1.6 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	0.25 m
Level	L.43
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.115	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	two indeterminate fragments plausibly belonging to the same utensil
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length 1)	0.7 cm;
Length 2)	1.5 cm
Width 2)	1.3 cm
Thickness 1)	0.7 cm;
Thickness 2)	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OOH4
US/Locus	L.5
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.116	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	two indeterminate fragments plausibly belonging to the same utensil
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length 1)	2.5 cm;
Length 2)	1.1 cm
Width 1)	1.1 cm;
Width 2)	0.6 cm
Thickness 1)	1.0 cm;
Thickness 2)	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 111: SiS.17.33.114; 22.11.2017; blade; flint; good; 3.6 cm; 2.0 cm; 2.6 cm; 33; OON1; L.43; 0.25 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.118	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Length	4.7 cm
Width	2.6 cm
Thickness	2.1 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 112: SiS.17.33.117; 22.11.2017; triangular piece of stone used as a support for cooking pots on a hearth; limestone; fragmentary; 5.2 cm; 4.9 cm; 3.5 cm; 33; OON1; L.43; 0.25 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.119	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	smoothing stone
Material	stone
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.7 cm
Width	3.2 cm
Thickness	2.1 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 113: SiS.17.33.120; 22.11.2017; zoomorphic fictile figurine; clay; fragmentary; 4.7 cm; 2.6 cm; 2.1 cm; 33; OOI2; L.36; 0.25 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.121	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	highly fragmentary
Length	1.5 cm
Width	0.9 cm
Thickness	0.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2
US/Locus	L.36
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.122	
Date	22.11.2017
Object	indeterminate
Material	bronze
Condition	pulverised
Area	33
Square	OOH4
US/Locus	L.5
Level	0.20 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

Fig. 114: SiS.17.33.123; 23.11.2017; ovoid bead; turquoise; excellent; 3.5 cm; 0.9 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOM3+OOM1; L.16; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2450/2400-2350/2300 BC.



Fig. 115: SiS.17.33.124; 23.11.2017; cylindrical bead; alabaster; excellent; 5.5 cm; 1.0 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OOM3+OOM1; L.16; 0.10 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2450/2400-2350/2300 BC.



Fig. 117: SiS.17.33.126; 23.11.2017; pestle; limestone; excellent, with clear signs of percussion on the base; 7.0 cm; 4.3 cm; 2.3 cm; 33; OOH4; L.7; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 116: SiS.17.33.125; 23.11.2017; pestle; limestone; excellent, with clear signs of percussion on the base; 5.4 cm; 4.4 cm; 3.2 cm; 33; OOH4; L.7; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 118: SiS.17.33.127; 23.11.2017; spheroidal weight; limestone; highly eroded and broken; 6.0 cm; 4.4 cm; 2.0 cm; 33; OOM3+OOM1; L.16; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.128	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	9.4 cm
Width	8.0 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.129	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.6 cm
Width	3.7 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.130	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.5 cm
Width	3.7 cm
Thickness	0.9 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.131	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	3.2 cm
Width	1.6 cm
Thickness	0.7 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.132	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	6.3 cm
Width	4.1 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.133	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	4.9 cm
Width	2.9 cm
Thickness	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.134	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	base of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	6.2 cm
Width	1.9 cm
Thickness	1.0 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.135	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	6.3 cm
Width	4.9 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.136	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.5 cm
Width	1.8 cm
Thickness	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.137	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	4.2 cm
Width	3.7 cm
Thickness	1.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.138	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	5.5 cm
Width	4.5 cm
Thickness	1.5 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.139	
Date	30.11.2017
Object	rim of a vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.7 cm
Width	2.0 cm
Thickness	0.4 cm
Area	33
Square	OOI2+OON1
Locus	L.36+L.43
Level	surface
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.140	
Object	vessel
Material	alabaster
Condition	fragmentary
Length	2.7 cm
Width	1.4 cm
Thickness	1.2 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Level	0.25 m
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 119: SiS.17.33.141; 16.11.2017; token; limestone; good; 3.1 cm; 2.2 cm; 0.4 cm; 33; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

Fig. 120: SiS.17.33.142; 16.11.2017; token; limestone; good; 1.1 cm; 33; OOG4+OOL3; L.19; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 121: SiS.17.33.143; 18.11.2017; token; breccia; good; 5.1 cm; 4.0 cm; 0.5 cm; 33; OON1; 0.20 m; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.

SiS.17.33.144	
Date	18.11.2017
Object	bead
Material	quartz
Condition	good
Length	2.1 cm
Width	1.8 cm
Thickness	0.8 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 122: SiS.17.33.145; 23.11.2017; pestle; limestone; excellent, with clear signs of percussion on the base; 4.3 cm; 3.3 cm; 3.1 cm; 33; OON1; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC

SiS.17.33.146	
Date	23.11.2017
Object	smoothing stone
Material	breccia
Condition	good
Length	3.7 cm
Width	3.2 cm
Height	2.1 cm
Area	33
Square	OON1
US/Locus	L.43
Layer	1
Period of the site	III (Phase 4-3)
Chronology	2600-2450 BC



Fig. 123: SiS.17.33.147; 23.11.2017; pestle; breccia; good; 8.1 cm; 6.9 cm; 1.5 cm; 33; OOI2+OON1; L.36+L.43; surface; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 124: SiS.17.33.148; 23.11.2017; pestle; breccia; good; 7.2 cm; 6.0 cm; 4.6 cm; 33; OOI2+OON1; L.36+L.43; surface; 1; III (Phase 4-3); 2600-2450 BC.



Fig. 125: SiS.17.33.149; 23.11.2017; indeterminate; volcanic stone; fragmentary; 3.4 cm; 3.2 cm; 2.5 cm; 33; OOI2+OON1; L.36+L.43; surface.

Bibliography

- Ascalone, E., 2014. Intercultural Relations between Southern Iran and Oxus Civilization. The Strange Case of Bifacial Seal NMI 1660. *Iranian Journal of Archaeological Studies* 4, 1-10.
- Ascalone, E., 2018. Sistemi d'integrazione culturale (= ICS) tra la fine del III e l'inizio del II millennio a.C. Jiroft e le regioni dell'Oxus tra Simashki e la crescita Sukkalmalkh. In M.G. Micale e A. Vacca, S. Pizzimenti (eds.), *A Oriente del Delta. Scritti sull'Egitto e il Vicino Oriente antico in onore di Gabriella Scandone Matthiae*, Contributi e Materiali di Archeologia Orientale (= CMAO 18). Sapienza Università di Roma, Roma, 135-159.
- Ascalone, E., 2019a. Rapporto preliminare sugli scavi 2017 in Area 33 a Shahr-i Sokhta. In E. Ascalone and S.M.S. Sajjadi (eds.), *Scavi e Ricerche a Shahr-i Sokhta I (= ERSS I)*, Studies and Publications Institute, Iranian Center for Archaeological Research, Pishin Pajouh, Tehran, 19-74.
- Ascalone, E., 2019b. La ceramica dell'Area 33 a Shahr-i Sokhta. In E. Ascalone and S.M.S. Sajjadi (eds.), *Scavi e Ricerche a Shahr-i Sokhta I (= ERSS I)*, Studies and Publications Institute, Iranian Center for Archaeological Research, Pishin Pajouh, Tehran, 115-136.
- Ascalone, E., 2019c. Gli oggetti dell'Area 33 a Shahr-i Sokhta. In E. Ascalone and S.M.S. Sajjadi (eds.), *Scavi e Ricerche a Shahr-i Sokhta I (= ERSS I)*, Studies and Publications Iranian Center for Archaeological Research, Pishin Pajouh, Tehran, 75-114.
- Ascalone, E., 2019d. Potential Weights at Shahr-i Sokhta. In L. Rahmstorf and E. Stratford (eds.), *Weights and Marketplaces from the Bronze Age to the Early Modern Period*, Proceedings of Two Workshops Funded by the European Research Council (ERC) (= Weight and Value 1), Seminar für Ur- und Frühgeschichte der Universität Göttingen, Goettingen, 35-50.
- Ascalone, E., 2020. Pesì dall'Iran orientale. La metrologia a Shahr-i Sokhta e Konar Sandal Sud all'interno di un sistema culturale integrato. In M. Vidale, D. Usai and S. Tuzzato (eds.), *Tales of three worlds. Archaeology and beyond: Asia, Italy, Africa. A Tribute to Sandro Salvatori*, Padova, 3-16.
- Ascalone, E., in press. The Bronze Age Oxus-Jiroft-Elam Integrated Cultural System. *Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran und Turan* 49.
- Biscione, R., 1984. Baluchistan Presence in the Ceramic Assemblage of Period I at Shahr-i Sokhta. In B. Allchin (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1981*, Cambridge, 69-84.
- Bonora, G.L., Domanin, C., Salvatori, S., and A. Soldini, 2000. The Oldest Graves of the Shahr-i Sokhta Graveyard. In M. Taddei and G. De Marco (eds.), *South Asian Archaeology 1997*, Rome, 495-520.

- Bulgarelli, G.M., 1977. Stone-working Techniques and Bone Industry. In M. Taddei (ed.), *La città bruciata nel deserto salato*, Venezia, 263-276.
- Bulgarelli, G.M., 1981. Turquoise Working in the Hirmand Civilization: Some Observations. In H. Härtel (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1979*, Berlin, 65-69.
- Bulgarelli, G.M., 1983. A Clay-handled Stone Tool from Shahr-i Sokhta. In M. Tosi (ed.), *Prehistoric Sistan I* (= Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, Reports and Memoirs XIX 1), Roma, 211-264.
- Bulgarelli, G.M., 1998. La lavorazione delle perle in pietre dure del III millennio a.C.: Testimonianze da Shahr-i Sokhta (Sistan, Iran). In G. Lombardo (ed.), *Perle orientali. Tradizione antica e artigianato moderno nella lavorazione delle pietre semi-preziose del Medio Oriente*, Museo Nazionale d'Arte Orientale, Roma, 57-70.
- Casal, J.M., 1961. *Fouilles de Mundigak* (= Mémoires de la Délégation Archéologique Française en Afghanistan 17/1-2), Paris.
- Ciarla, R., 1979. The Manufacture of Alabaster Vessels at Shahr-i Sokhta and Mundigak in the 3rd Millennium B.C.: A Problem of Cultural Identity. In G. Gnoli, and A.V. Rossi (eds.), *Iranica, Napoli Istituto Universitario Orientale, Seminario di Studi Asiatici, Series Minor X*, Napoli, 319-335.
- Ciarla, R., 1981. A Preliminary Analysis of the Manufacture of Alabaster Vessels at Shahr-i Sokhta and Mundigak in the 3rd Millennium B.C. In H. Härtel (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1979*, Berlin, 45-63.
- Ciarla, R., 1985. New Material in the Study of the Manufacture of Stone Vases at Shahr-i Sokhta. *IsMEO Activities. East and West* 35, 418-425.
- Ciarla, R., 1990. Fragments of Stone Vases as a Base Material. Two Case Studies. In M. Taddei (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1987*, Roma, 475-491.
- de Cardi, B., 1970. *Excavations at Bampur; A Third Millennium Settlement in Persian Baluchistan, 1966*, New York.
- Fairservis, W.A., 1956. *Excavations in the Quetta Valley, West Pakistan*, New York, American Museum of Natural History.
- Fairservis, W.A., 1959. *Archaeological Surveys in the Zhob and Loralai Districts, West Pakistan*, New York, American Museum of Natural History.
- Foglini, L., and M. Vidale, 2000. Reconsidering the Lapis Lazuli Working Areas of Shahr-i Sokhta. In P. Matthiae *et al.* (eds.), *Proceedings of the 1st International Congress on the Archaeology of Ancient Near East*, Rome, 471-482.
- Frankfort, H., Lloyd, S., and T. Jacobsen, 1940. *The Gimilsin Temple and the Palace of the Rulers at Tell Asmar* (= Oriental Institute Publication 43), Chicago.

- Ghirshman, R., 1968. *Tchoga Zanbil (Dur-Untash). Temenos, temples, palais, tombes* (= Mémoires de la Délégation Archéologique Française en Iran 40), Paris.
- Hakemi, A., 1997. *Shahdad, Archaeological Excavations of a Bronze Age Center in Iran*, Roma.
- Jarrige, J.-F., 1985. Les relations entre l'Asie centrale méridionale, le Baluchistan et la vallée de l'Indus à la fin du 3e et au début du 2e millénaire. In J.C. Gardin (ed.), *L'archéologie de la Bactriane ancienne* (= C.N.R.S.), Paris, 105-118.
- Mackay, E.J.H., 1937. *Further Excavations at Mohenjo-daro*, New Delhi.
- Madjidzadeh, Y., 2008. Excavations at Konar Sandal in the Region of Jiroft in the Halil Basin: First Preliminary Report (2002-2008). *Iran* 46, 69-104.
- Mariani, L., and M. Tosi, 1987. L'universo familiare a Shahr-i Sokhta: attraverso le attività domestiche e le strutture residenziali. *Orientalia Iosephi Tucci Memoriae Dicata* 56/2, 853-880.
- Masimov, I.S., and S. Salvatori, 2008. Unpublished Stamp-Seals from the North-Western Murgab Delta. In S. Salvatori, M. Tosi and B. Cerasetti (eds.), *The Bronze Age and Early Iron Age in the Margiana Lowlands: Facts and Methodological Proposals for a Redefinition of the Research Strategies* (= BAR International Series), Oxford, 99-109.
- Mofidi-Nasrabadi, B., 2018. Elamite Architecture. In J. Alvarez-Mon, G. Basello e Y. Wicks (eds.), *The Elamite World*, Routledge, London - New York.
- Mutin, B., Minc, L.D., Lamberg-Karlovsky, C.C., and M. Tosi, 2017. Regional and Long-Distance Exchange of an Emblematic "Prestige" Ceramic in the Indo-Iranian Borderlands. Results of Neutron Activation Analysis. *Paléorient* 43/1, 141-163.
- Piperno, M., and S. Salvatori, 1982. Evidence of Western Cultural Connections from a Phase 3 Group of Graves at Shahr-i Sokhta. In H.J. Nissen and J. Renger (eds.), *Mesopotamien und seine Nachbarn*, Berlin, 79-85.
- Piperno, M., and S. Salvatori, 1983. Recent Results and New Perspectives from the Research at the Graveyard of Shahr-i Sokhta, Seistan, Iran. *Annali dell'Istituto Orientale di Napoli* 43, 173-191.
- Piperno, M., and S. Salvatori, 2007. *The Shahr-i Sokhta Graveyard (Sistan, Iran). Excavations Campaigns 1972-1978*. Rome.
- Piperno, M., and M. Tosi, 1975a. The Graveyard at Shahr-i Sokhta, Iran. *Archaeology* 28/3, 186-197.
- Piperno, M., and M. Tosi, 1975b. The Graveyard of Shahr-e Suxteh (a Presentation of the 1972 and 1973 Campaigns). In F. Bagherzadeh (ed.), *Proceedings of the IIIrd Annual Symposium on Archaeological Research in Iran, 23th October-1st November 1974*, Tehran.

- Potts, D.T., 2001. *Excavations at Tepe Yahya, Iran, 1967-1975: Periods IVC and IVB (3000-2000 BC)*, Cambridge.
- Salvatori, S., 1979. Sequential Analysis and Architectural Reminds in the Central Quarters of Shahr-i Sokhta. In M. Taddei (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1977*, Napoli, 141-148.
- Salvatori, S., 2000. Bactria and Margiana Seals, A New Assessment of Their Chronological Position and a Typological Survey. *East and West* 50, 97-146.
- Salvatori, S., and M. Vidale, 1997. *Shahr-i Sokhta 1975-1978: Central Quarters Excavations. Preliminary Report*, Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente. Centro scavi e ricerche archeologiche, Roma.
- Salvatori, S., and M. Vidale, 1982. A Brief Surface Survey of the Protohistoric site of Shahdad, Iran: Preliminary Report. *Rivista di Archeologia* 6, 5-10.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., 2003. Excavations at Shahr-i Sokhta. First Preliminary Report on the Excavations of the Graveyard 1997-2000. *Iran* 41, 21-98.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., 2004. *Excavation at Shahr-e Sukhteh. Graveyard 1997-2000. Preliminary Report 1*, I.C.H.T.O. Tehran.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., 2005. Sistan and Baluchistan Project. *Iran* 43, 87-92.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., 2009. *Excavations at Shahr-e Sokhta. Second Preliminary Report on the Excavations of the Graveyard*, Iranian Center for Archaeological Research, Tehran.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., 2014. Some Preliminary Observations from the New Excavations at the Graveyard of Shahr-i Sokhta. In C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky *et al.* (eds.), *My Life is like the Summer Rose. Maurizio Tosi e l'archeologia come modo di vivere. Papers in Honours of Maurizio Tosi for His 70th Birthday*, Oxford, 665-676.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., and H. Moradi, 2014. Excavation at Buildings Nos.1 and 20 at Shahr-i-Sokhta. *International Journal of the Society of Iranian Archaeologists* 1/1, 77-90.
- Sajjadi, S.M.S., and H. Moradi, 2017. Shahr-i Sokhta 2014-2015 Excavations. The New Results in Areas 1, 20, 26 and 28. *Archeologia Aerea* 8/15, 149-167.
- Salvatori, S., and M. Tosi, 2005. Shahr-i Sokhta Revised. In F. Jarrige (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 2001*, 281-292.
- Salvatori, S., and M. Vidale, 1997. *Shahr-i Sokhta 1975-1978: Central Quarters Excavations. Preliminary Report*, Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente. Centro scavi e ricerche archeologiche, Roma.
- Sarianidi, V.I., 1986. *Myths of Ancient Bactria and Margiana on Its Seals and Amulets*, Moscow.
- Stève, M.-J., Gasche, H. and L. De Meyer, 1980. La Susiane au deuxième millénaire: à propos d'une interprétation des fouilles de Suse. *Iranica Antiqua* 15, 49-133.

- Tosi, M., 1967. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 17, 344.
- Tosi, M., 1968a. Excavations at Shahr-i Sokhta, a Chalcolithic Settlement in the Iranian Sistan. Preliminary of First Campaign. *East and West* 18, 9-66.
- Tosi, M., 1968b. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 18, 443-444.
- Tosi, M., 1969a. Excavations at Shahr-i Sokhta: Preliminary Report on the Second Campaign, 1968. *East and West* 19, 283-386.
- Tosi, M., 1969b. Shahr-i Sokhte. *Iran* 7, 181-182.
- Tosi, M., 1969c. Una missione archeologica italiana dell'IsMEO nel Sistan (Iran): lo scavo di Shahr-i Sokhta. *Archeologia* 51, 182-190.
- Tosi, M., 1969d. Shahr-e Sukhteh. *Bastenshenasi va Honar-e Iran* 4, 29-42.
- Tosi, M., 1969e. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 19, 544-545.
- Tosi, M., 1970a. Shahr-i Sokhta. *Iran* 8, 188-189.
- Tosi, M., 1970b. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 20, 508-509.
- Tosi, M., 1971a. Shahr-i Sokhta: un insediamento protourbano nel Sistan iraniano. *Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei* 160, 405-417.
- Tosi, M., 1971b. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 21, 422-424.
- Tosi, M., 1971c. Seistan v bronzovom veke. Raskopky v Shahri-Sokhte. *Sovetskaja Archeologia* 3, 15-30.
- Tosi, M., 1972a. Shahr-i Sokhta Project: Tepe Rud-i Biyaban 2. *Iran* 10, 174-175.
- Tosi, M., 1972b. Shahr-i Sokhta. *Iran* 10, 174-175.
- Tosi, M., 1972c. Shahr-i Sokhta. Un contributo degli archeologi italiani allo studio delle più antiche civiltà urbane ad oriente della Mesopotamia. *La parola del passato* 142-144, 186-208.
- Tosi, M., 1972d. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 22, 375-378.
- Tosi, M., 1973a. The Cultural Sequence of Shahr-i Sokhta. *Bulletin of the Asian Institute of the Pahlavi University* 3, 64-80.
- Tosi, M., 1973b. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 23, 418-420.
- Tosi, M., 1974. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 24, 477-478.
- Tosi, M., 1975. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 25, 540-544.
- Tosi, M., 1976a. Shahr-i Sokhta. *Iran* 14, 167-168.
- Tosi, M., 1976b. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 26, 596-599.
- Tosi, M., 1977. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 27, 455-458.
- Tosi, M., 1978. Shahr-i Sokhta. IsMEO activities. *East and West* 28, 330-331.

Tosi, M., 1983. Excavations at Shahr-i Sokhta, Season 1969-1970. In M. Tosi (ed.), *Prehistoric Sistan 1*, (= Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, Reports and Memoirs XIX 1), Roma, 73-126.

Trigger, B.G., 1996. *Storia del Pensiero Archeologico*, La Nuova Italia, Firenze.

Vidale, M., 1984. The Pear-Shaped Beaker of Shahr-i Sokhta: Evolution of a Ceramic Morphotype during the Third Millennium. In B. Allchin (ed.), *South Asian Archaeology 1981*, Cambridge, pp. 81-97.

Woolley, L., 1955. *Alalakh: An Account of the Excavations at Tell Atchana in the Hatay, 1937-1949*. The Society of Antiquaries. Oxford.

Wright, R., 1984. *Technology, Style and Craft Specialization: Spheres of Interaction and Exchange in the Indo-Iranian Borderlands, Third Millennium B.C.*, unpublished Ph.D. Thesis, Cambridge, Harvard University.