

THE AKKADIAN OCCUPATION IN THE NORTHWEST AREA
OF THE TELL LEILAN ACROPOLIS

Francesca de Lillis Forrest – Lucio Milano – Lucia Mori *

In years 1999 and 2002 the Yale University Tell Leilan Project, directed by Prof. Harvey Weiss, focussed the excavation fieldwork on Tell Leilan Acropolis upon the Akkadian occupation of the site. The exposure now comprises 1200 square meters, and has provided new perspectives on Akkadian imperialism and Subarian adaptations. A 600 square meter unit was opened in 1999 in the Northwest Acropolis area, to the east of the 1993 excavation area, which had produced important data on the occupation in periods Leilan IIa (pre-Akkadian) and Leilan IIb (Akkadian) (Weiss 1997; Weiss *et al.* 2002; Ristvet – Weiss 2004).

In year 2002 the excavation was further enlarged northwards, 600 square meters were added to the already exposed area, and produced a complex Akkadian administrative centre across the street from an Akkadian administrative building, shedding light on the Akkadian imperialization of Tell Leilan and its environs.

In particular, in square 44 W 16 the retrieval of school tablets associated with the earliest Akkadian building exposed produced important evidence that scribal training was initiated alongside Akkadian administration at an early stage of the Akkadian occupation of Tell Leilan.

The present preliminary report concerns specifically the excavation of that area (100 square meters), which revealed the existence of a long lasting Akkadian presence, articulated at least into three main sub-phases, arranging the Akkadian stratigraphy and exposing the archaeological context in which tablets were found. A presentation of the epigraphical finds is included at the end of the report (see the Appendix, by Lucio Milano).

* The excavation report presented in this article has been written by F. de Lillis Forrest and L. Mori, who were responsible for the field work in square 44 W 16; the philological report in the Appendix has been written by L. Milano.

Summarizing the archaeological evidence excavated in square 44 W 16, the earliest Akkadian phase (IIb3) is represented by a room storing tablets, adjacent to a “bathroom installation”. In the following period (IIb2) the tablet room walls were razed and the area was levelled. To the south, the stone foundations of a large building and a drainage system connected to it were laid, while the central area of the square was arranged as a courtyard connected with a small “service” room to the west (in square 44 W 15).

As the construction of the large building went on, the floor of the courtyard was repaved (IIb1), two baked brick platforms were set on top of it, and the area was used for food processing, as the presence of kitchen installations indicates.

Abandonment followed during the period 2200-1900 BC. No cultural activity is evident after the accumulation of ash lenses and burnt deposits on the last IIb1 floor. A human burial, carelessly thrown in a circular pit, was uncovered in the south-eastern corner of square 44 W 16 and can be assigned to this abandonment period.

The area was not rebuilt during Leilan period I (ca. 1900-1728). The earliest 2nd millennium settlement shifted further east and did not occupy the western end of the acropolis. As a matter of fact, 20 m east from this area, in square 44 W 18, mudbrick architecture pertaining to the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC was uncovered.

On top of the abandonment phase, was a ca. 4 m thick deposit with a considerable number of garbage pits and no traces of significant architectural features, as was the case for the westernmost squares excavated in 1993 (Weiss 1997).

THE BUILDING PHASES

Leilan IIb3

Tablet room

The excavation of the earliest Akkadian occupational phase in this area revealed the existence of a “tablet room”, in which a group of school tablets were retrieved, and which is probably contemporary to the phase when a IIa cultic platform area, located further west (squares 44 W 14 and 15) and excavated in the course of the 1993 campaign, was levelled (Weiss 1997).

44 W 16 Room 1 (Fig. 1) measures approximately 483×435 cm. The walls are made of orange mudbricks, square in shape (ca. $35 \times 35 \times 8/9$ cm), and their state of preservation varies from a minimum of two brick courses (ca. 20 cm) for the eastern wall, to a maximum of six brick courses (ca. 60 cm) for the northern one. The mudbrick walls were partly built on baked brick foundations.

A large pit, possibly dating to Leilan I phase, cut most of the inner area of the room, but adjacent to the north-western and south-western corners the remains of two floors were brought to light, both preserved in a restricted area adjacent to the S wall and to the N one. The earliest floor was a white plastered surface, whitish in colour. In the SW corner of the

room some baked bricks enclosed a small square shelter, in which fragments of big jars were found. The upper floor surface was resting ca. 20 cm on top of the previous one, and ca. 15 cm below the razing level of walls. It was preserved even in a smaller extent, in the NW corner of the room. It appeared as a burnt dark brown surface, with some spots of charcoal. A sample of the seeds were submitted to Dr. Thomas Guilderson, at the Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry, Lawrence Livermore Radiation Laboratory, and provided an uncalibrated date of 3845 ± 35 BP.



Fig. 1. Room 1 in square 44 W 16.

On a low mud bench, ca. 30×30 cm in extent, located in the NW corner, 15 cuneiform tablets and fragments have been found (see the Appendix). Among these tablets, are school texts which date to an earlier Akkadian phase than other Akkadian tablet fragments retrieved in the upper layers. Unfortunately, they were found in a poor state of preservation mingled in wet mud.

The room was probably part of a larger building as traces of an E-W oriented mudbrick wall were found adjacent to Room 1 E side, but they remain unexcavated for the moment. To the north, it was delimited by an E-W oriented sherd and cobble street, which appears to have been kept in use throughout the later Akkadian phases (see below).

Bathroom installation

The area west of Room 1 had a different function. A sherd floor was prepared with a layer of finer and smaller sherds on top of coarser and larger ones below. In the middle of the floor a rectangular ablution basin was built (only partially exposed). The excavated part (Fig. 2) is approximately 2×2.25 m in extent. It is built as a rectangular depression delimited north and south by a E-W oriented row of baked bricks, preserved only for two courses along the S side and for one course on the N one. The floor is heavily plastered and it slopes eastwards, following the slope of the whole area.

Approximately in the middle of the ablution area a vessel, 60 cm in diameter, was sunk into the floor, possibly with the function of a lustration basin.



Fig. 2. The “bathroom installation” with the ablution basin.

Leilan IIB2

In the following phase, the area underwent a total rearrangement. Connected to the construction of the basalt stone foundations of a large building to the south (“Unfinished Building”), the area was articulated in a two room structure: a small “service room” (in square 44 W 15) and an open courtyard with kitchen installations (in squares 44 W 15 and 16) — a surface measuring ca. 20 m from east to west, and ca. 5.5 m from north to south (Fig. 3).

The walls of the tablet room were razed and both bathroom installation and Room 1 were covered by a 20 cm thick floor preparation levelling the surface to lay a courtyard floor. A baked bricks drain was built under the courtyard, running S-N and channeling waste from the stone foundation of the northern wall of the large building under construction, to the northern street, where it was connected to two baked brick drains, part of a carefully planned drainage system.

The large public building wall foundations

The E-W oriented northern wall of the large public building develops for a length of about 13.50 m, making the corner to the east (in square 44 X 15), with a similarly built N-S oriented wall. Its average thickness is about 2 m. It is built of huge foundation basalt boulders (ca. 55 × 50 × 45 cm), upon which a mud preparation and a layer of large potsherds is set,

with the function of levelling their surface before setting the mudbricks. The whole wall is then topped by orange square mudbricks ($35 \times 35 \times 8$ cm), preserved on the average for three or four courses. Some baked bricks of about 14 cm in width occasionally appear on top of stone foundations, with the function of supporting and levelling the superimposed surface. The foundations were surely laid in this phase, but their construction continued through the following phase, IIb3, as the repaving of the courtyard and service room abuts its northern face and is not cut by its foundations.

The drainage system

A baked brick drain (Fig. 3) was built in connection with the foundations of the building's northern wall: it is N-S oriented and consists of one snaking channel built of vertically laid rectangular baked bricks ($35 \times 20 \times 8$ cm), 3.35 m long, sealed by an horizontal line of square baked bricks ($35 \times 35 \times 8$ cm). Adjacent to the wall outer face, the brick-line veers eastward, thanks to a grinding stone (40 cm long) stuck on the underlying surface. Northwards, the drain goes underneath the stone foundation of a W-E oriented mudbrick wall, which encloses the courtyard area to the north, thus channelling water from inside the room into the "Northern Street", where two further baked brick drains (Drain A and Drain B) let the waste flow eastwards under the street floor (Fig. 4).

Drain A, the southernmost one, and Drain B to the north are preserved for about 1.9 m, and both consist of two lines of baked bricks running parallel to one another, delimited by 2 huge basalt stones. Within Drain B, whose water running surface is paved by sherds, a complete jar has been retrieved, resting amid the two lines of baked bricks. Its possible function as shaft has to be confirmed by further excavation. The drains were both covered with large pottery sherds, among which a sila-bowl kiln wasters (composed of 22 units) has been retrieved.

The courtyard and the small service room adjacent to the northern wall of the large public building

Apart from the northern street, the entire area of square 44 W 16 was part of a probable courtyard, extending to the west, in square 44 W 15. It was delimited to the north by an E-W oriented mudbrick wall, with basalt stone foundations, 4.75 m long and with a width ranging from a minimum of 50 cm in the western part, to a maximum of 75 cm close to its eastern preserved end. Its preserved height was 45 cm ca. from the floor level with 5 distinguishable courses of bricks. Its E end was cut by a 2nd millennium pit, and no wall delimiting the eastern end of this area has been found up to now.

On the contrary, to the west, the structures were better preserved and a SE-NW oriented mudbrick wall, also with stone foundations, was enclosing the courtyard area. It was 70 cm wide and preserved to a height of ca. 55 cm, and adjacent to its western face a small room, connected to the courtyard has been found. This westernmost area, measuring ca. 2×2.5 m, with the door located to the north, was filled in, almost sealed, with a massive

amount of pottery and some grinding stones were found. It could be used as a sort of “service room” for the wide court, where functional items, such as bowls for distribution, cooking pots, and grinding stones were kept.

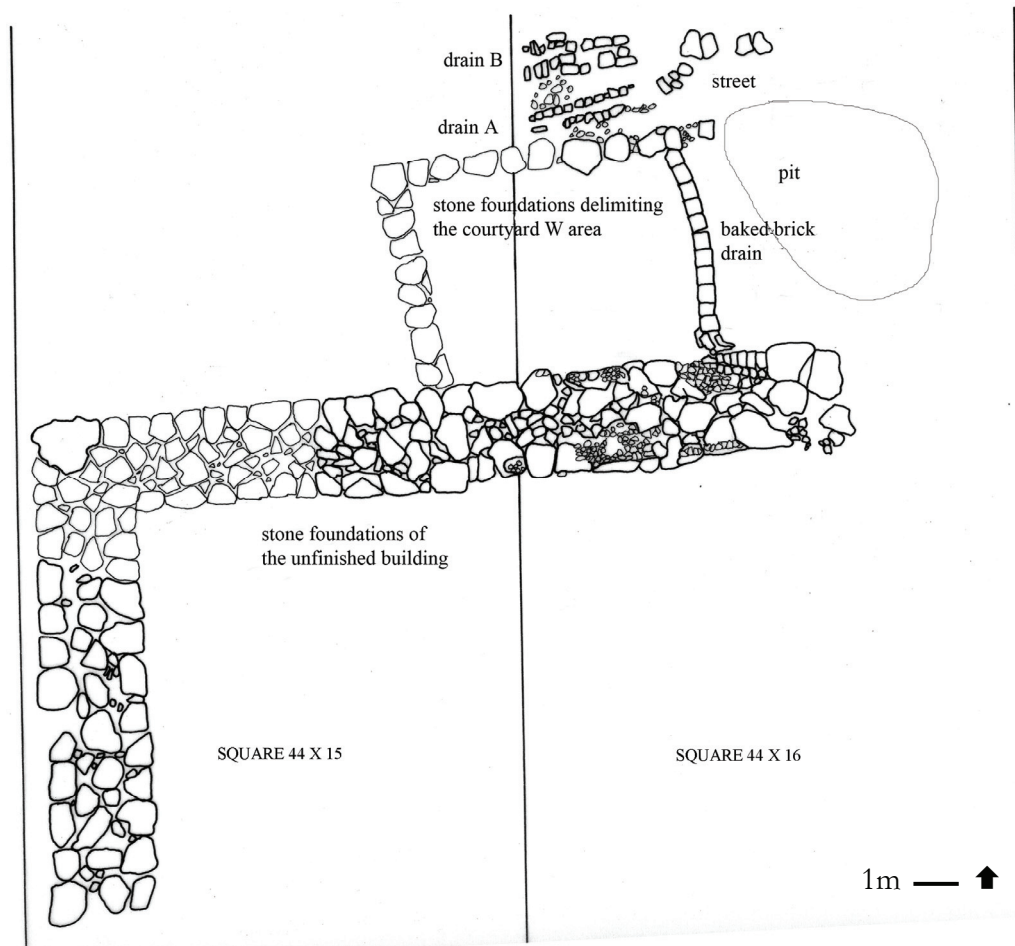


Fig. 3. The drainage system connected to the stone foundation of the “Unfinished Building” and the courtyard.

The structures to the east

Pertaining to the same chronological phase, Leilan IIb2, in the western half of square 44 W 17 a floor with a conical grain bin has been found (Fig. 5), but no walls can be connected to this area up to now. The bin is 90 cm high, with a diameter ranging from 70 cm at the base to 40 cm at the rim. It is made of clay, with a thickness of 4 cm, probably slipped on the outer and inner surfaces. The inner face is lined with a reed mat, covering all the inside area and the bottom. The top is open and has a flat thick rim, while at the bottom a small ceramic duct, 6 cm wide and 5 cm long, is inserted in the bin wall at the floor level. The inside was filled in with a hard, compact soil containing grains, while the bottom was coated with a 10 cm thick charcoal and ashy layer.



Fig. 4. The drains on the northern street in square 44 W 16.



Fig. 5. The grain bin in square 44 W 17.

A baked brick drainage is again present on this floor surface, 1.3 m west of the bin, running N-S. It consists of 6 rectangular baked bricks (34 x 18 x 10 cm), vertically set in the floor; in addition a small channel, 10 cm wide and 5-6 cm deep and possibly connected to a sort of mudbrick platform with a basin-like depression in the middle, has been excavated adjacent to its eastern side.

A period IIa wall (E-W oriented), razed to the floor level, was re-used as a surface (44 W 17 wall H).

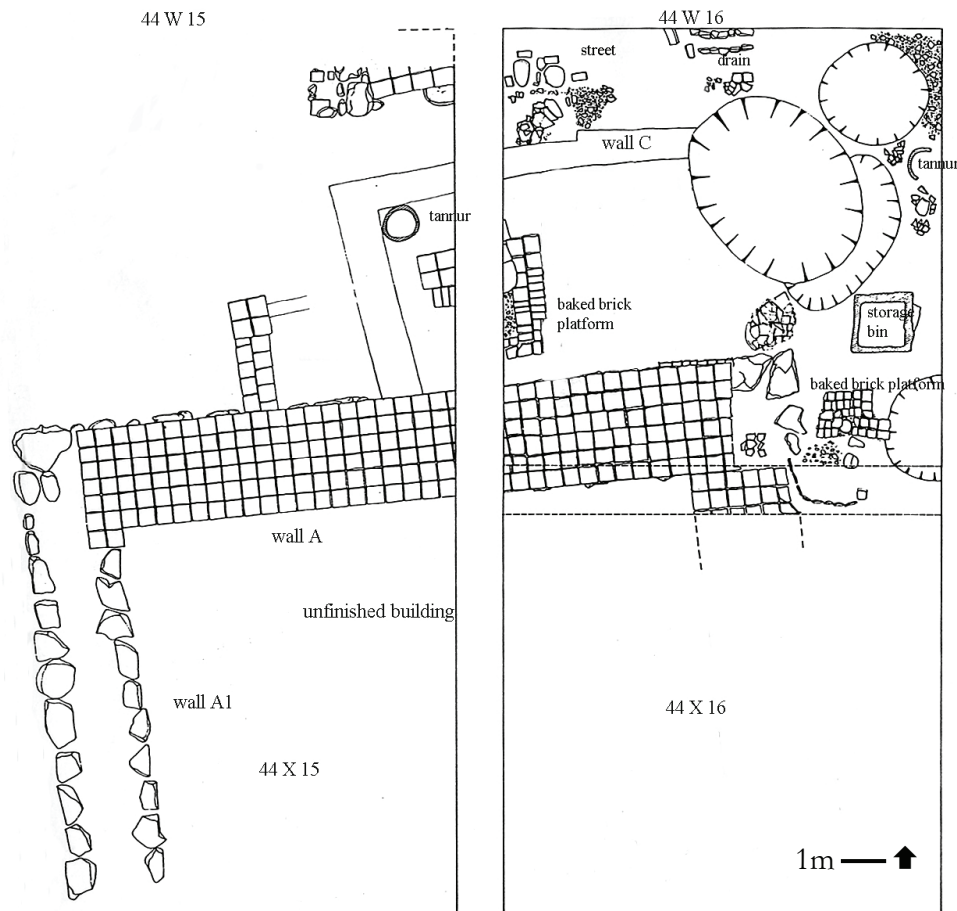


Fig. 6 – Plan of square 44 W 16 phase IIb1.

Leilan IIb1

The area under examination kept its function as a food storing and processing space in the following period. This space was connected to an administratively-controlled public area (Fig. 6), as shown by the presence of seal impressions and tablet fragments, retrieved in a dumping context but surely connected to this phase.

The courtyard floor underwent a series of floor repavings, with no significant change in architecture, separating the ca. 50 cm difference in level between the two occupational phases, proving that the area was continuously used with presumably similar functions. Unfortunately, the bad state of preservation of the eastern courtyard surfaces, cut by three large pits probably dating to the 2nd millennium BC, has not allowed extensive excavation of the floors, but two Akkadian tablet fragments have been found under the most recent of the later floors (Leilan 02-6 and Leilan 02-7). This surface is the better preserved one, and the only one which preserved features connected to the processing and distribution of food.

It was partly repaved with baked bricks, and several features were found: among others, a square clay store measuring 1.15 m × 1.20 m. Its northern and southern walls were thicker (ca. 20 cm) than the eastern and western ones (ca. 10-15 cm). It was preserved to a

height of 60 cm ca. from the floor level, but inside it has been further excavated, 30 cm deeper than the outer structure, to reach a total depth of ca. 90 cm. The inner wall surface is glazed by firing. Burning traces are also evident: in the upper part they form horizontal lines. The first clear one, with the exception of some scattered burnt patches, lies 35 cm below the opening of the structure; its bottom is more homogeneously burnt than its upper part. The filling composition of the structure consists of dumping material: a ca. 10 cm thick layer of bricky collapse (collapse of its very walls), covering a light brown dirt layer. At this depth we have found half of a period II jar, preserved in profile from rim to base and filled with burnt soil. At the same depth, a beautiful seal impression portraying women in the act of storing goods (L99-27) has been found. Underneath the period II jar, three baked brick fragments form a sort of pile. The rest of the filling is composed of brown loose dirt, not burnt or ashy, with some sherds and shells. The structure filling and the area around it has been sampled for archaeobotanical analyses.

Three seal impression fragments, one of which is inscribed (L99-34), and a cuneiform tablet fragment (L99-35) have been retrieved inside this same structure. A big jar with bitumen traces is set close to it, and two sherd concentrations, consisting mainly of bowls, lie just 2 m to the north.

Two round *tannurs* also belonged to this phase: the better preserved one was built in the courtyard NW corner, with an opening at its bottom and filled with a considerable amount of sherds. The second one was located in the NE end of the same courtyard, but retrieved in a poor state of preservation.

An orange mudbrick square podium was standing approximately in the centre of the courtyard area; measuring 1.15×1.30 m and consisting of one course of square mudbricks (36×36 cm), set on a filling of compact clay rich in inclusions. Stuck right into the N face of this podium, and amid the filling itself, about 15 sling bullets of unbaked clay were collected (L99-169E).

As we mentioned above, part of the courtyard floor was paved with baked bricks. Two platforms were brought to light, one located close to the NW corner of area, measuring approximately 2.50×2.70 m. The dimensions of the bricks range from 15×30 cm for the rectangular ones, to 30×30 cm for square ones. The second platform was placed in the SE corner of area, and it is preserved for surface of 1×1.10 m, its eastern part being cut by a pit. It is just one baked brick thick, and the bricks are generally broken. The only entire one measures 30×15 cm. Some bricks have bitumen traces, and in the central area a jar, containing ashes, was stuck in the platform.

The "Northern Street"

To the north, the 2 m wide street, E-W oriented was still in use, and underwent a repaving made of sherds and cobbles scattered uniformly all along the surface and stuck into a mud preparation. In the middle of trench 44 W 16, next to the N baulk, an ashy area with a higher concentration of sherds and an entire jar (L99-181) filled in with burned grains was

found. The burnt seeds were dated giving the uncalibrated datation of 3770 ± 30 BP (Weiss – de Lillis – DeMoulins *et al.* 2000, fig. 10).

A clay figurine representing a horse (L99-145), a bowl (L99-49) and a conical cup with string cut base (L99-48) were also found on this surface. And a small baked brick drain (1.37×32 cm long), always running W-E was excavated. It was built of two parallel rows of five baked bricks (all measuring 20×8 cm) vertically set into the cobble surface.

The abandonment phase following the Akkadian layers

The “Unfinished Building” remained visible also in the following abandonment phase, during which the entire area became a sort of trash deposit. This is portrayed by the retrieval of burnt layers alternated by ashy layers covering the last Akkadian floor level.

A burial, dating to this same period, was partially excavated in the course of the 2002 campaign. Adjacent to square 44 W 16 E baulk and partly in the baulk itself (which has been left unexcavated), a burial pit, cutting the Akkadian courtyard floors, has been found. It consists of a single individual burial, lying in a small ovoidal shaped pit whose maximum diameter measures 1.10 m. It is a simple hole in the ground, and the body seems just thrown in the pit. His head is facing S-E and is leaning on the right arm, which stretches southwards, while the left arm is bent on the chest. Only the upper part of the body has been excavated (from head to chest, vertebrae and ribs included), while the legs still lie in the baulk. The bones have been found in a good state of preservation and the skull is complete and with teeth.

Inside the burial pit are a few sherds, set under the skull (a jar rim with combed decoration). No entire pots or other kind of objects have been found. The pit filling consists of loose dirt while the pit bottom is coated with a thin burnt layer.

Pd.	Construction	14C sample nos.	wgtd. avg.
IIb1	<i>Akkadian Administrative Building</i> next-to-last floor Street, terminal <i>The Unfinished Building wall construction</i> courtyard floor rebuilding with baked brick repaving	L02 44S16 lot 33 (2 sub-samples) L99 44W16 lot 29 (8 sub-samples)	2280 - 2040 2273 - 2147
IIb2	<i>Drainage system under courtyard floor</i> courtyard with grain bin in 44W17 Street, middle		
IIb3	<i>Akkadian tablet room</i> Akkadian tablet room floor 1 Bath installation Akkadian tablet room floor 2 Street, early	L02 44W16 lot 415 (2 sub-samples)	2400 - 2200
IIa	<i>Wall H in 44 W 17 (razed in IIb3)</i> Cultic platform storeroom fire	L93 44W13 lot 15 (5 sub-samples)	2580 - 2470

Table 1. Leilan Acropolis NW, Akkadian Constructions (cal BC \pm 2 σ).

APPENDIX

The epigraphic finds from the “tablet room” of the Leilan IIb3 Akkadian building and from later Akkadian layers.

As reported in the archaeological section of this article, a few tablets and tablet fragments were found in the so-called “tablet room” (Room 1) excavated in square 44 W 16 — portion of an administrative building belonging to the earliest Akkadian occupation at Tell Leilan (Leilan IIb3). In spite of the extremely poor conditions of these texts, it is quite interesting to find among them a group of school tablets, which provides a vivid illustration of how the Akkadian bureaucratic control over the Leilan region actually developed through the establishment of schools and the training of local scribes.

The school texts are of similar size and round or rounded shape, with a diameter of ca. 60-70 mm. One of these is unwritten (**no. 5.** = L02-19), while three others represent exercises (**no. 4.** = L02-18, **no. 6.** = L02-20 and **no. 9.** = L02-38), bearing the rough impression of a cuneiform sign, several fingerprints and traces of rulings. According to the text layout, it is also possible that fragmentary tablets **no. 1.** (L02-15) and **no. 12.** (L02-41) belong to the category of school exercises.

In one tablet (**no. 3.** = L02-17) the text is fully preserved: it is written in Akkadian and reports on the assignment (*i-dî-in*) of 5 eggs to an individual called ti-HAR (a Semitic name?).

Tablet fragments **no. 2.** (L02-16), **no. 8.** (L02-35), **no. 11.** (L02-40), **no. 15.** (L02-45), and **no. 16 A-C.** (L02-47) contain a few readable signs, but nothing can be said about the text type and context. Fragments **no. 7.** (L02-21), **no. 10.** (L02-39), **no. 13.** (L02-42) and **no. 14.** (L02-44) are unwritten.

Some more tablet fragments were also found in archaeological layers of this area belonging to a later period (Leilan IIb1), when Room 1 structures had been razed (during Leilan IIb2) and a courtyard had replaced the older building complex. Once again, these poor epigraphical finds, rather insignificant *per se*, witness to the administrative control of this public space, which was probably devoted to food processing. Some fragments discovered in 2002 (**no. 17.** = L02-06 and **no. 18.** = L0-07) contain only a few lines of writing, while other tablet fragments (**no. 19.** = L99-10, **no. 20.** = L99-16, **no. 21.** = L99-34) and an inscribed seal impression (**no. 22.** = L99-35) from a previous season of excavations are equally disappointing for their bad state of preservation.

From the palaeographical point of view, these latter texts belong to the “classical” period of the Old Akkadian script, as can be inferred from the shape of the sign DU, UŠ, RI, and from the straight lines of most of the wedges (see in particular TAB, I, etc.). On the contrary, the palaeographical features of the tablets in Room 1 point to an earlier stage. In particular, the head of the wedges is less regular, and some of the signs are less elongated than in the later period. The only occurrence of the sign DA shows the typical older shape. A more secure, independent, palaeographic chronology would require a wider range of data.

Leilan IIB3 (Room 1)**1. L02-15**

Fragment of a rectangular tablet with slightly rounded edges (ca. $\frac{1}{2}$ is preserved: $61 \times 45 \times 17$ mm). Colour: pinkish. Surface is rather flat, thinner at the edges. In the Obverse 3 lines of writing are preserved (only LUM is clearly visible). A vertical line cuts the writing (crossing out). In the Reverse one sign (GI?) is visible in the center.

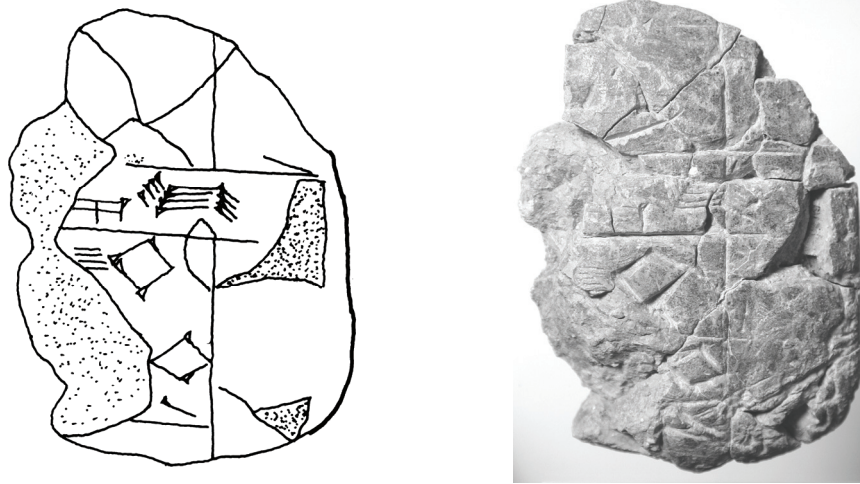


Fig. 7. L02-15, Obverse.

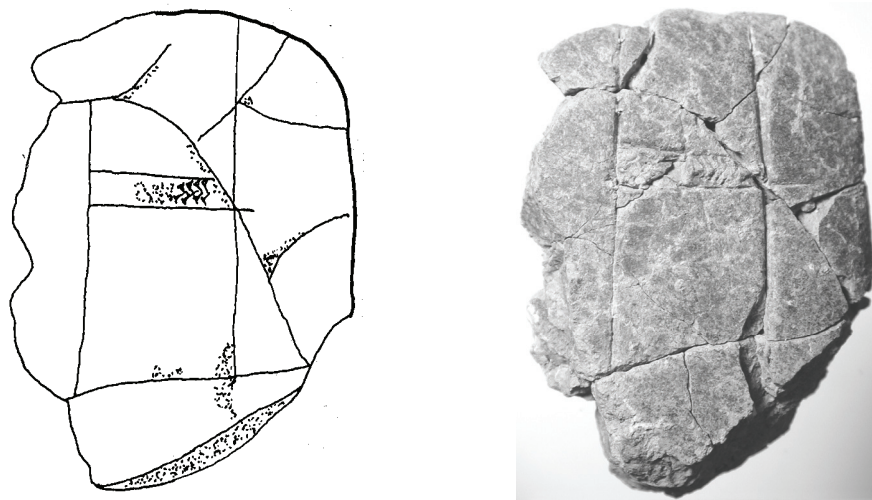


Fig. 8. L02-15, Reverse.

2. L02-16

Upper right corner of a rectangular tablet with slightly rounded edges (25 × 25 × 6 mm).
Colour: pinkish – dark brown.

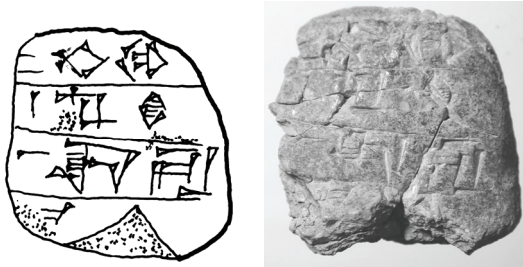


Fig. 9. L02-16, Obverse.

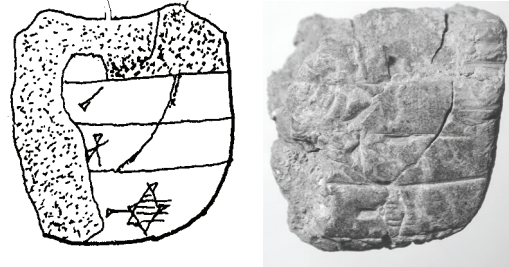


Fig. 10. L02-16, Reverse.

- Obv. 1.] 'x' UL
 2.] 'x' mā^{ki}
 3.] aš-da-ra
 4.] 'x' [
 Rev. 1'.] 'x'
 2'.] 'x'
 3'.] NA

3. L02-17

Tablet (29 × 23 × 10 mm). Shape: lenticular. Colour: pinkish – light brown.

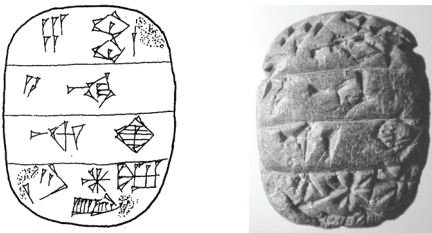


Fig. 11. L02-17, Obverse.

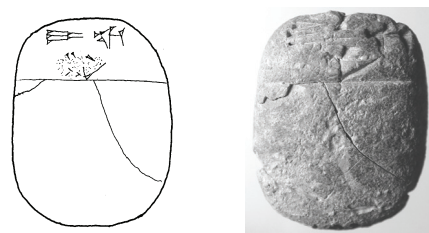


Fig. 12. L02-17, Reverse.

- Obv. 1. 5 nunuz 'mušen²¹
 2. a-na
 3. ti-HAR
 4. 'PAD' d²nin-ŠI[M²]
 Rev. 5. i-dî-'in'

“5 bird(?) eggs X has given to T.”

Line 3. Cf. $\text{HAR-}ti$, well attested in OAkk and Ur III.

Line 4. Reading of this line is unsure. One would expect a PN, but the presence of PAD at the beginning makes it very unsure. An alternative would be: $\text{šúkur}^d\text{nin-ŠIM}$, “food allocation for the goddess N.” But in this case, no subject for *iddin* would be mentioned in the text.

4. L02-18

Tablet of rounded shape ($62 \times 65 \times 14$ mm). Colour: dark brown on the Obv.; pinkish on the Rev. The Obverse is rather flat and seems to be divided into columns, with some oblique lines crossing the surface. No signs are visible, except for a possible broken sign at the bottom left ($\text{engar}^?$). The Reverse is very damaged (probably rather convex) and no sign is visible.

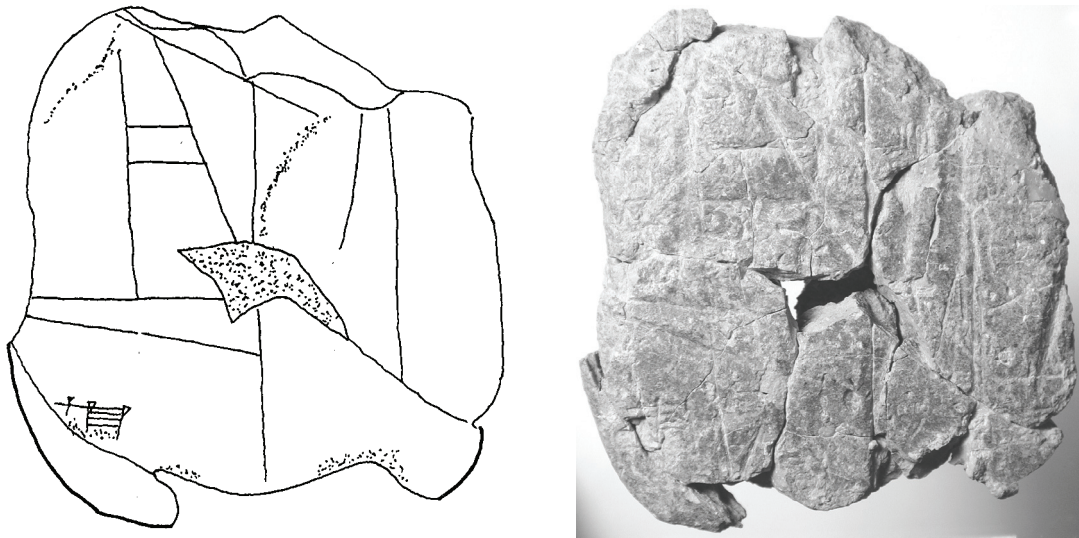


Fig. 13. L02-18, Obverse.

5. L02-19

Round tablet (diam. 69 mm, thickness 21 mm). Colour: pinkish – brown. The Obverse is flat and unwritten. The Reverse is rather convex with flat edges.



Fig. 14. L02.19, Obverse.

6. L02-20

Round tablet (diam. 65 mm, thickness 22 mm). The Obverse is flat, dark brown in colour. Two signs are visible. Many finger prints are impressed on the edges. The Reverse is rather convex, pinkish – brown in colour with no traces of writing.

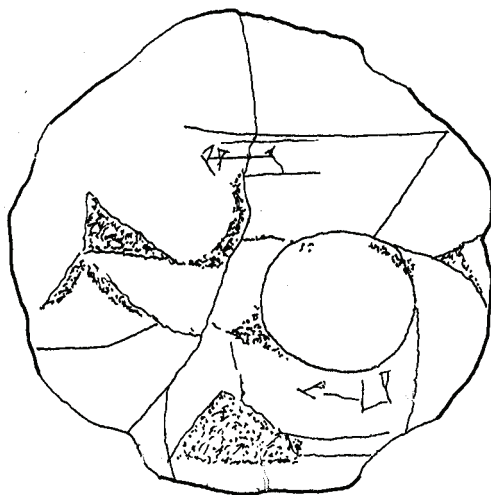


Fig. 15. L02-20, Obverse.

7. L02-21

Fragment of a rectangular tablet with rounded edges (ca. $\frac{1}{3}$ is preserved: $54 \times 24 \times 13$ mm). Colour: light brown. The Obverse (?) is slightly convex with thinner edges. The Reverse (?) is flat. Both Obv. and Rev. are unwritten. There are imprints of fibers on the upper left portion of the Obverse.



Fig. 16. L02-21, Obverse.

8. L02-35

Lower left corner of a rectangular tablet ($28 \times 20 \times 11$ mm) with slightly rounded edges; ca. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the tablet is preserved. Colour: pinkish – dark brown. Few signs preserved.

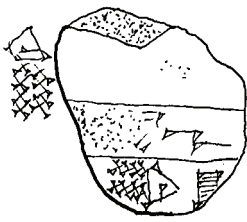


Fig. 17. L02-35, Obverse.



Fig. 18. L02-35, Obverse.

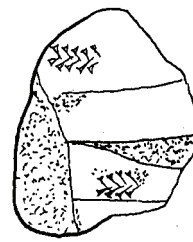


Fig. 19. L02-35, Reverse.

9. L02-38

Round tablet (diam. 60 mm, thickness 20 mm). Obverse: flat at the center and slightly convex on the edges. The upper part is divided into two columns. Four lines are impressed on the left column. Only one sign is visible, while the rest of the Obverse is not written. Colour: dark brown. Reverse: rather convex. The surface is very damaged: only one sign is visible at the bottom – right. Colour: pinkish – brown.

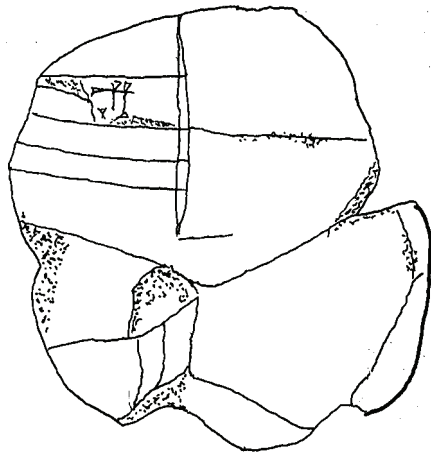


Fig. 20. L02-38, Obverse.



Fig. 21. L02-38, Reverse.

10. L02-39

Fragments of tablet where no signs are visible. Colour: brown – dark brown.

11. L02-40

Fragment of tablet ($27 \times 50 \times 8$ mm). Colour: pinkish – dark brown.

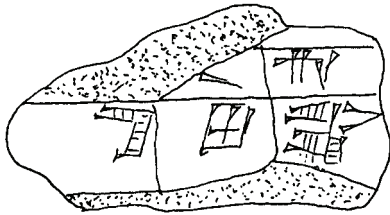


Fig. 22. L02-40.

1'.] 'x' RI [

2'.] LA LU UG [

12. L02-41

Fragment of tablet, rounded in shape, very badly preserved (diam. 44 mm, thickness 21 mm). Colour: pinkish – light brown. One or two wedges are visible.



Fig. 23. L02-41.

13. L02-42

Fragments of tablet where no signs are visible. Colour: brownish.

14. L02-44

Fragments of tablet inserted in a mudbrick where no signs are visible. Colour: pinkish.

15. L02-45

Fragments of tablet (Fr. A: $17 \times 19 \times 6$ mm; Fr. B: $15 \times 15 \times 5$ mm). Colour: pinkish. Few signs preserved.

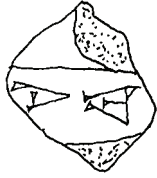


Fig. 24. L02-45, Fragm. A.



Fig. 25. L02-45, Fragm. A.



Fig. 26. L02-45, Fragm. B.

16. L02-47

Large amount of fragments belonging to different tablets. Three of them bear traces of cuneiform signs. Fr. A. ($20 \times 18 \times 4$ mm), pinkish; fr. B. ($24 \times 25 \times 14$ mm), pinkish; fr. C. ($18 \times 15 \times 10$ mm), pinkish.



Fig. 27. L02-47, Fragm. A.



Fig. 28. L02-47, Fragm. B.



Fig. 29. L02-47, Fragm. C.

Leilan IIb1

17. L02-06

Fragment of tablet ($35 \times 31 \times 11$ mm). Colour: dark grey. List of PN's.

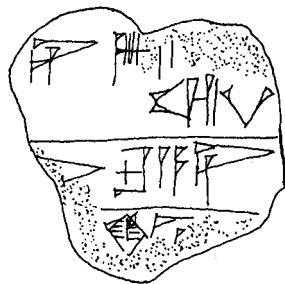


Fig. 30. L02-06.

- 1'.] NI-la-[x]-ar
- 2'.] NI²-lu-a-NI
- 3'.] HAR-'x' [

18. L02-07

Fragments of tablet (fr. A: 15 × 18 × 6 mm; fr. B: 13 × 19 × 4 mm). Colour: light brown. Only two signs are clearly visible (GA¹ on fr. A; NI on fr. B).

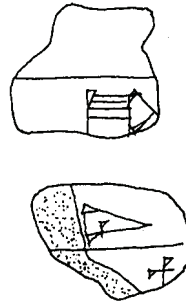


Fig. 31. L02-07.

19. L99-10

Fragment of tablet (40 × 45 mm) coming from an ashy filling in square 44 X 16. Colour: grey. Three columns of writing, two on the Obverse, and one on the Reverse of the tablet. The fourth column on the Reverse seems to be blank, except for some traces of wedges possibly belonging to erased signs. The interpretation of *bar.uš*, “stick”, *maš-kum*, “skin”, and *du-bu*^{ki} as single words is tentative, because of the broken context. The line division in Rev. 3'-4' is unsure, and a restoration *ma š. 'da' .ri. [a]* is not to be excluded. It may be further observed that some of the signs on the Reverse of this text are somehow anomalous and difficult to identify: see in particular the first sign in Rev. III' 1', 3' and 4'. The presence of scattered wedges throughout the surface of the fragment can be due to erasures.

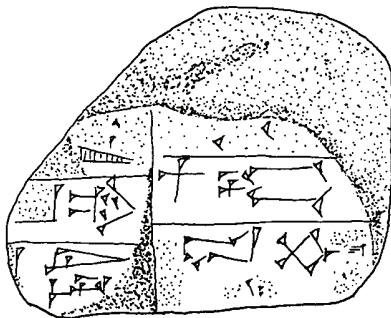


Fig. 32. L99-10, Obverse.

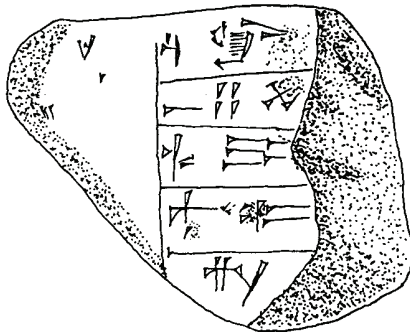


Fig. 33. L99-10, Reverse.

- Obv. I' 1'.] TR'
 2'.] 'x'-am
 3'.] 'x'-ni [...] ba r. uš
 II' 1'. (traces of signs)
 2'. *maš-kum* [
 3'. *du-bu*^{ki?} [
 Rev. III' 1'. x ANŠE[?] [
 2'. AŠ-za-'bu'[?] [
 3'. x-i-
 4'. MAŠ SAG[?]
 5'. RI [

20. L99-16

Fragment of tablet (68 × 45 mm) coming from the filling of a pit in square 44 X 16. Writing only on one side. Some of the signs occurring in this text look rather odd, compared to normal shapes: see e.g., NIM (l. 3'), BA (l. 5'). Both in L99-10 and in L99-16, the possibility that the shape of some signs reflect local peculiarities should not be ruled out. If one wants to indulge on speculations, lines 1'-3' might be interpreted as “[gol]den [...] dagger [...] provision of the Elamite”.

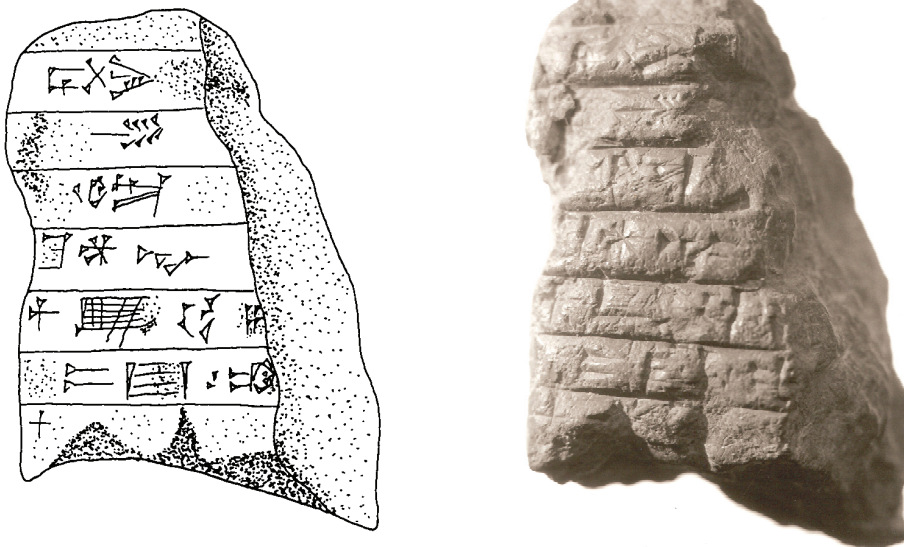


Fig. 34. L99-16.

- 1'.] ŠUM [
 2'.] 'GI' [
 3'.] PAD NIM [
 4'.] 'KU'[?] dⁱinanna[!] [
 5'.] *maš-ga ba-za* [
 6'.] *tab-x-am* [

21. L99-34

Fragment of inscribed seal impression (25 × 16 mm).



Fig. 35. L99-34.

22. L99-35

Fragment of tablet (20 × 25 mm). *al-su* “upon him”? A broken PN is also possible.

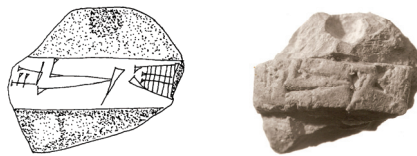


Fig. 36. L99-35.

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