

# ARIT Newsletter



American Research Institute in Turkey

Number 31, Spring 2001

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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I am very happy to announce the establishment of a new fellowship for ARIT, named in honor of John Freely of *Strolling through Istanbul* fame. Funds for the new fellowship have been generously provided by the Joukowsky Family Foundation (JFF). The John Freely Fellowship is especially apt for the honoree. He has long been a staunch supporter of ARIT in Istanbul and has given generously of his time to share his intimate knowledge of the city with Friends of ARIT on day trips. The first Freely Fellow will be Ms. Rebekah Green, a doctoral candidate in Civic and Environmental Engineering and Anthropology, Science, and Technology Studies from Cornell University. Her research topic: "The Kocaeli Earthquake and Disaster Mitigation in Turkey."

The JFF has also extended its generosity to an area where ARIT has long been deficient, namely fellowships for non-U.S. citizens. As many of you may know, the State Department, which is our principal federal source for fellowship funding, stipulates that its monies for research in Turkey be given only to U.S. citizens. Now, with the generosity of the JFF, and with the continuing generosity of the Friends of ARIT-Istanbul, ARIT will be able to offer considerably more fellowships to non-American citizens than has been possible in past years. I would like to offer special thanks to the President of the JFF, Ms. Nina Joukowsky Köprülü, who has been delightful to work with. Lest it sound as though ARIT has scored a fund-raising coup, I need to add that Ms. Joukowsky approached us saying that the Foundation wanted to support ARIT, especially with a fellowship honoring John.

While in Washington this past March for the annual conference of the American-Turkish Council (ATC), I had the opportunity to pay calls on the good people at the federal agencies that so generously support us: David Levin in the State Department, Cheryl Gibbs at the Department of Education, and Joel Schwartz at the National Endowment for the Humanities. It was especially good to be able to bring them up to date on recent developments, such as the Aegean Fellows Exchange Program and the new JFF Fellowships. Our guardian angel in Washington, Mary Ellen Lane at the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), happened to be in Chapel Hill at the time. I gave the annual ARIT Lecture at the ATC conference, in conjunction with being the proud recipient of the ATC's Education Award for 2001. I spoke about the history and achievements of ARIT since its founding in 1964, including the (to me) amazing fact that ARIT has awarded a total of 1,085 fellowships. I concluded the talk by announcing the beginning of a new membership category for ARIT, that of Corporate Member. We have long talked about forming such a category but never did it. I thank former President and current Director Lee Striker for the encouragement to do so.

Thanks also to those who keep ARIT up and running: Nancy Leinwand and Ria Ellis in Philadelphia, the Terrific Tonies in Turkey (TTTs). Best wishes to you all for the spring and summer.

G. Kenneth Sams

## ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

### ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

The weather in Turkey has been mild this winter, but not so the economic climate. The economy lurched from crisis in November to collapse in February. As I write, the outlook for the future is not at all clear. We wait to see if the present austerity program and reforms package can and will be implemented and what effects they will produce.

The effects on scholarly research and interchange have so far been predictable, if devastating—the dollar value of most academic salaries has been cut in half, funds from government and private sources for research projects have dried up, and university budgets are suffering Draconian cuts across the board. The effects will be drastic, both in state universities, where lowered salaries may drive people to seek jobs elsewhere, and in the private universities, where jobs will be cut or expansion plans scuttled; less-well funded private ones may go under. The expansion of academic employment opportunities that has characterized recent years will come to a sudden stop, and there will presumably be more Turkish academics looking for employment abroad, and fewer jobs for the recent Ph.D.s from the U.S. who plan to return to Turkey. The extraordinarily difficult financial conditions facing their Turkish colleagues is something that all American scholars with academic and personal relations here will be well advised to bear in mind.

I suppose ARIT can consider itself fortunate because its economic health is relatively independent of this turn of events. In terms of research conditions it does not appear that the prospects of individual American scholars coming to do work in Turkey will be affected. Hopefully, there will be no further staff cuts or closures in Turkey's already seriously underfunded and under-staffed cultural institutions. In the area of research applications and permissions there is even a glimmer of hope that conditions may be improving. Officials in the Foreign Ministry have announced a move that could significantly shorten the period some foreign scholars spend unhappily twiddling their thumbs at home while waiting for a research visa to be granted. From now on, rather than waiting for a positive answer from all the work sites applied for, the Ministry will be issuing research visas once it has received a positive response from any one of these work sites; with this visa the scholar will be able to come to Turkey, get a residence permit, and begin work at the particular site for which permission has been granted, in expectation that permission for the other sites will come through in due time.

Turning to the situation at the Institute itself, this fall and winter ARIT-Istanbul hosted a variety of scholars of different backgrounds and interests. In contrast to most years, many of them were long-term residents, so that the hostel was always more than half full even in the usually slow months of early winter. The rich and varied fare of lectures listed below helped keep the intellectual climate lively:

"The Cigar Store Sultan: The Cult of Oriental Luxury in the Industrial U.S.," by Ariel Salzman, Department of Middle Eastern Studies, New York University

"The Ancient Library of Alexandria," by Andrew G. Jameson, Vice Chancellor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley

"Drawing the Line and Knowing the Ropes: On the Origins of Architectural Drawings in the Medieval Mediterranean."

by Robert Ousterhout, School of Architecture, University of Illinois

"Novelty, Westernization, and Ottoman Canons of Architectural Beauty in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century," by Shirine Hamadeh, ARIT/NEH Fellow

"Who Guards the Turkish Press?" by Andrew Finkel, long-time foreign correspondent in Turkey

"Göbeklitepe: an Early Neolithic Mountain Sanctuary in Southeastern Anatolia," by Klaus Schmidt, Director, the Oriental Division of the German Archaeological Institute

The Institute library, which is now up over 11,000 volumes, continues to draw in an average of 2-5 researchers a day. Last year outside visitors totaled over 900, up 200 from the year before. As usage increases, lack of space, both shelf space and working space, looms as a major issue for the years to come. On the bright side, we have finally, three and a half years down the line, completed the integration of the Snipes donation into the existing collection. Some 500 books in Byzantine and related studies from our old collection have been moved upstairs into the Snipes Byzantine Collection, and our library is now properly divided into a "Byzantine" and an "Islamic-Ottoman-Turkish" floor. Some 1600 offprints and xeroxes from the Snipes bequest have now been catalogued (not including duplicates and discards) and entered into the computer database. Until some better arrangement can be made they are being stored in the office and are being made available upon request to researchers. One project remains--some 300 Greek and Slavic language offprints await cataloguing.

The following individuals donated books and offprints to the ARIT library over this past fall and winter---Nurhan Atasoy, Oktay Belli, Eleazar Birnbaum, Kathleen Brandes, Andrew Finkel, Aleksander Fotic, Alan Fisher, Paul Henze, John Freely, Henryk Jankowski, Heath Lowry, Bruce McGowan, Nancy Page, Şevket Pamuk, and Scott Redford---and the following institutions---Harvard Ukrainian Studies Institute (Victor Ostopchuk), İstanbul Büyükşehir Belediyesi (İSKİ), and Orient-Institut (Gunter Seufert). I am very grateful to all of them.

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### ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

There is no end to the new and fascinating places to visit in Turkey. After 16 years of arranging tours around the country, as many as fifteen a year, it sometimes seems like FARIT has just scratched the surface. The ideas for trips to places unseen and sites as yet unvisited bubble up much faster than FARIT can find the time to make the arrangements, and more importantly, find the kind of knowledgeable guides that make these trips special. We appreciate the many suggestions we get from Friends for places to organize trips to, and regret that we are not able to act on them as often as we would like.

This fall we opened the season with a trip to Gökçeada (İmroz), long on our list of planned trips. In fact we had set off to go once before but high winds and heavy seas had prevented ferries from crossing. With Steering Committee member and long-time island resident Aylin McCarthy in charge, this time we were in luck. In splendid fall weather, we strolled at length in five villages, taking full advantage of all of Aylin's contacts to seek out residents and visit them in their houses. By ARIT standards it was a sybaritic tour—we actually took time off for a swim before a superb fish lunch at a deserted beach.

Talk about "off the beaten track." How many of us, with all the years spent in Turkey, and for all we may have read about the Isaurians, have ever actually been to the mountain fastness of Isaura? How many have even heard of the Hellenistic site of Adada? The Friends were there at the end of October, led by the indefatigable Turgut Saner, architectural historian from Istanbul Technical University. Taking advantage of newly opened roads south of Lake Eğirdir, they set off in the morning from Konya to Isaura (where there's an access road to the site itself now), then to the Eşrefoğlu Mosque in Beyşehir, the Hittite sacred spring at Eflatun Pınar, and overnight in Eğirdir. The next they traveled south through the Kovada Park to Adada, then after lunch hurried south to catch Perge before nightfall and return to Istanbul.

On a cool and crisp weekend in early December the Friends were fortunate enough to have Professor Heath Lowry of Princeton University lead them on an excursion to İznik (Nicaea), a city that figures prominently in a new book he is completing on the rise of the Ottomans. Site of two of the major ecumenical councils that determined the direction the early church would take, capital of the Byzantine Empire in the 13<sup>th</sup> century when Constantinople was occupied by the Fourth Crusade, in the 14<sup>th</sup> century the first major urban center of the Ottomans, and in the 16<sup>th</sup> century center of the Ottoman tile industry, İznik is now a sleepy agricultural town still confined within and dwarfed by its massive Roman walls, in many ways the best-preserved in all of Anatolia. Professor Lowry gave us a very thorough tour of that wall system, and brought the city's rich past to life as he pointed out its remnants on every street.

In early January the Friends hit the streets again with a stroll in the old city with Professor John Freely, this time the itinerary taking us from the Hippodrome down and along the Marmara in and around the remains of the Byzantine Great Palace, with lunch at the incomparably-named "Karışma Sen" Restaurant on the Marmara. It was a fine day with a memorable, if eclectic, selection of sights and sites, more bits and pieces of Byzantium, as Professor Freely is fond of saying. Unfortunately this was literally true—as we came across some marble bits on the ground from a recent partial defacing of the monogram of Justinian in the gate in the walls near the Bucoleon.

Finally in February we continued the Byzantine theme, with a stroll along the Golden Horn with Dr. Feridun Özgümüş, Byzantine art historian from Istanbul University, who took us on the rich and picturesque route from the Tekfur Saray to the Patriarchate, getting us into several buildings that ARIT tours had not been into before.

The generosity of the Friends in little and big ways made a major difference in the lives of everyone at the Institute. Friends donations gave us a new xerox machine, new towels and bed sheets, and smoke alarms throughout the building. Departing Friends Chris and Sally Jones left us wonderful new office furniture, and as the one who benefits the most, I should not neglect mentioning the new coffee machine for the office donated by Caroline Finkel.

As always the Friends' biggest donation was to cover fellowships for non-U.S. citizens ineligible for the major part of the ARIT fellowship money that comes from the U.S. government. This year, as in all of the past seven years, the Friends have promised a minimum donation of \$7,000 for these fellowships, as well as \$2,500 for fellowships distributed in Turkey through the Dernek Fellowship Program. Generous as these figures are, they are increasingly inadequate. Every year a larger number of Turkish and other non-U.S. citizens rank at or near the top of ARIT fellowship competitions, but remain unfunded because they are ineligible for much of the money ARIT has to distribute. The Friends Steering Committee has promised to look into ways to raise more money to address this need.

## ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

### ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

Ever since the hostel was moved to a much nicer apartment at Kent Sitesi in June, 1999, occupancy has steadily increased. In July, for example, we were somehow able to house medium- and long-term researchers and still welcome excavators staying a few nights on their way to and from sites. Our twenty-two guests that month included archaeologists working at Gordion (8), Orontes Survey (1), Çadır Höyük (6), Üçağızcı cave (3), and two ARIT Mellon Fellows, past and present, plus scholars investigating modern Turkish theater and contemporary politics. Most were American, but happily mixed in were researchers from Britain, Bulgaria, Greece, Israel, Sweden, and Yugoslavia.

The hostel is furnished entirely with donations, from bedding, curtains and furniture, to refrigerator, ovens (regular and microwave), and washing machine. When USIS donated our one and only TV almost a decade ago, it was received with some fanfare. True, it was even then a vintage model, and one young visitor was discovered in desperate search of the (non-existent) remote. For several months, guests had been warning

us that this venerable item was about to tune out. Responding to their plight, fellow guest Professor Ken Harl, of Tulane University and Gordion Excavations, donated \$600 for the purchase of a new TV plus a VCR. After much roaming of malls, I was able to purchase on sale a large Sony TV and a Sanyo multi-system VCR. Hostel guests were thrilled, and swore these sleek new beauties would not lure them from the path of scholarship. Other welcome additions to the hostel were donated by FARIT past president Beverly Bridgers and spouse John Cobb, and departing FARIT Judy Roach.

All hostel guests are asked to fill out a standard form that ends with a request for their honest opinion. Comments this fall included, "Wow. It's so much more luxurious than I imagined," and, "Absolutely great. Made my transition to Ankara very easy." A former ARIT delegate, who clearly remembers us from the (perhaps not so) good old days, noted: "Unexpectedly pleasant and hospitable in a fine location" – I love that "unexpectedly"! No matter how spacious and well equipped, however, a hostel is still a hostel, with as many as eight guests, most of them strangers to one another, sharing one apartment.

As the comments make clear, they manage to live together amicably (good, or at least willing, cooks, are especially popular) while making scholarly progress: "I had a wonderful time and got lots of work done, too." More than one researcher, in fact, has said that the best part of staying in the hostel is the opportunity to meet and talk with colleagues. After all this back patting, let me admit that we were also taken to task for being too far from the inter-city bus station, and for not having guests leave their shoes at the door. This last would surely be seconded by housekeeper Elmas Demirel, who, among other duties, cleans the hostel, prepares beds, and launders sheets and towels for all those guests.

Aside from managing the hostel, the library, and staff vacations, we spent much of the summer helping project directors secure permits for excavations and surveys. In almost all cases, the problems were purely administrative: there are now so many archaeological projects in Turkey that the volume of paperwork threatens to overwhelm the system. Twenty-four of the twenty-five American projects were eventually approved, but for many the process was a long and dispiriting struggle.

Mention was made in previous newsletters about the rebirth of the Turkey-Greece Scholar Exchange as the Aegean Fellows Program. The Ankara Branch is administering the program in this its first year, which began June 1, 2000, in cooperation with the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. This summer, ARIT awarded its half of the funds to four Turkish scholars for research in Greece: Yiğit Erbil, Ph.D. candidate, Archaeology, Hacettepe University; Dr. Suna Güven, History of Architecture, METU; Professor Yıldız Ötügen, Byzantine Art and Architecture, Hacettepe, and Sinan Sülüner, Ph.D. candidate, Architecture, METU.

All four grantees went to Athens in early fall, where the American School offered superb hospitality – room and board at Loring Hall, workspace in the library, free passes to archaeological museums and sites issued by the Greek government. Continuation of the program depends upon its success this year, so I am delighted to report that our grantees got rave reviews from colleagues in Athens. We look forward in spring, 2001, to the arrival of our first two Greek fellows. Dr. Ourania Kouka, curator, Archaeological Society at Athens will work on the "Corpus Artis Cycladicae," a study and publication of artifacts of the Early Cycladic Period. Dr. Gina Salapata, assistant professor at Massey University, New Zealand will research "Hellenistic and Roman Monuments of Southwestern and Southern Turkey."

An archaeological site now familiar to most readers is the Roman frontier city of Zeugma on the Euphrates, threatened by construction of a dam. Zeugma hit the news in May, 2000, and from then until well into the fall, the Ankara office received an astonishing number of journalistic queries, from Associated Press to *60 Minutes*. Our popularity culminated in a visit from a film crew preparing a documentary, *Ancient City Found and Lost*, which was broadcast on the History Channel early in 2001. Not surprisingly, most of our hours-long session ended up on the cutting room floor. One benefit was a photo of the Ankara staff of three, looking quite spiffy, which with gracious permission appeared on the back cover of our New Year's card.

#### ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

Most of the FARIT activities listed here are trips, since we naturally take advantage of the good travel weather in summer and fall. Although none were quite as thrilling as several recent

Istanbul FARIT tours, all were both enjoyable and true learning experiences, thanks to our expert guides. May the brief descriptions that follow serve as a nostalgia tour for readers, evoking fond memories of visits to these same places. Better yet, come to Turkey and join us!

Our annual day trip to Gordion took place in July, with Ken Sams, ARIT president and Gordion Project director, our guide to site and museum. Of the twenty-six fortunate Friends on this tour, possibly the most enthusiastic were FARIT president Charles Gates and myself, since neither of us had recently visited Gordion. We were especially pleased to be able to spend time at the Gordion Museum, which, with its marvelous new wing, is not to be missed.

In September, Geoff and Françoise Summers, METU, led twenty-eight Friends on a three-day visit to Van and environs. The group visited Van citadel, with remains from the Iron Age through the late Ottoman, the Urartian sites of Anzaf, Çavuştepe, and Ayanis, and the medieval castle at Hoşap. But for most, the highlight was undoubtedly Aktamar Island in Lake Van, with its 10th century Armenian Church of the Holy Cross. The exterior walls of the church are covered with reliefs, some depicting Old Testament scenes such as David and Goliath and Jonah and the Whale. While on the island, many participants took the opportunity to have a swim in the brilliant blue waters of Lake Van, a most unusual and cleansing experience, since the "blue" of the lake is chemically similar to the blue-ing in detergents.

A much less happy September event was saying farewell to Honorary President Joan Parris, along with her husband, Ambassador Mark Parris. Joan proved a staunch Friend and energetic President, and was herself a participant on several FARIT trips. That same month, Ambassador Robert Pearson and spouse Margaret Pearson arrived in Ankara. Very soon after their arrival, Mrs. Pearson visited the Ankara Branch and kindly agreed to serve as Honorary President of the Friends. As an active Foreign Service officer in the Public Affairs (formerly USIS) section, Maggie Pearson is certain to bring a new approach and unique understanding to our organization.

In October, nineteen Friends joined Dr. Norbert Karg on our annual day trip to the Hittite capital at Boğazköy and the nearby religious sanctuary at Yazılıkaya. No matter how many times we visit, the site retains its fascination, especially with a guide as knowledgeable as Norbert. The same month, Dr. Julian Bennett led twenty Friends on a weekend trip to an area not visited for some years: the Phrygian highlands. This little-known region, between Eskişehir and Afyon, is home to numerous Phrygian and Roman-period sites and monuments. The group saw rock-cut Phrygian shrines and Roman tombs, the mesa-top Phrygian site known as Midas City, and Roman Aizanoi with its well-preserved Temple of Zeus, theater, stadium, market area, baths, and two bridges still in use. Other highlights were the Bektaşî dervish tekke at Seyitgazi, and an overnight stay at a hotel with thermal baths.

In November, Dr. Jean Öztürk guided twenty-one Friends on our annual Thanksgiving Day trip to Antalya. Once again, the Sheraton Voyager gave us a "family" welcome, accommodations with spectacular views, and an excellent Thanksgiving dinner. On Friday, the group visited two unexcavated Pisidian sites in the mountains north of the city, Termessos and Ariassos. Both required a bit of strenuous hiking, so the group needed the fortifying, between-site lunch at Keptur, an offshoot of Antalya's famed 7 Mehmet restaurant. On Saturday, the

Friends headed west along the coast into what was ancient Lycia. The first stop was at Arykanda, 30 kms. into the pine-covered mountains, with its mainly Roman and early Byzantine remains on a rather steep slope. The reward was another good lunch, this time of fresh trout, in a lovely setting alongside a nearby stream. Then it was back down the mountain to the coastal site of Limyra, home of two famous funerary monuments, that of the 4th century B.C. Lycian dynast Pericles and of Gaius Caesar, grandson of Augustus, who died here in A.D. 9. Throughout the trip the Friends were blessed with warm and sunny weather, ideal for both site-seeing and al fresco dining.

**The Ankara Library Most Wanted:** This time it literally is most wanted. When taking annual inventory, the librarian discovered that the following had 'disappeared' from the shelves:

Cicero. *Philippics*, Loeb Cicero volume VX (London, 1951)

Fyfe, Theodore. *Hellenistic Architecture: an Introductory Study* (Cambridge, 1936)

Kleiner, Gerhard. *Die ruinen von Milet* (Munich, 1950)

Lippold, Georg. *Die Griechische Plastik. Handbuch der Archäologie III.I* (Munich 1950)

Lucian. Loeb Lucian volume II (London 1915)

Monro, D.B. *A Grammar of the Homeric Dialect* (Philadelphia 1992)

Popko, Maciej. *Religions of Asia Minor* (Warsaw 1995)

Sahin, Çetin. *Die Entwicklung der Griechischen Monumentalaltäre* (Bonn 1972)

**NOTE:** Friends may still make contributions toward the Hans G. Güterbock Memorial Volume: J. D. Hawkins *Corpus of Hieroglyphic Luwian Inscriptions Volume I: Inscriptions of the Iron Age* (Berlin 2000). Please state the purpose when sending a donation to ARIT headquarters in Philadelphia.

Our last activity of the year was a talk at ARIT, "Current Turkish Politics: From Özal to Ecevit," by Heath Lowry, visiting Fulbright professor during the 2000/2001 academic year. Holder of the Atatürk Chair of Ottoman and Turkish Studies at Princeton University and a long-time ARIT delegate, Heath started off his distinguished career as resident director of Istanbul ARIT.

Heath's talk was based on his chapter in a recent book edited by former ambassador to Turkey Morton Abramowitz, *Turkey's Transformation and American Policy* (New York: Century Foundation Press, 2000).

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**REPORT ON ARIT FELLOWSHIPS**

**The Upper Tigris Archaeological Research Project (UTARP): the Year 2000 Field Season**  
[http://history.utah.edu/utarp/]

Dr. Bradley J. Parker, Department of History, University of Utah, ARIT fellowship supported by the U.S. Department of State and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers

The site of Kenan Tepe is located about fifteen kilometers east of the modern town of Bismil just off the Diyarbakir to Batman highway in southeastern Turkey. It stands on a limestone outcropping commanding a beautiful view of the Tigris river as it winds its way through a broad valley known as the Upper Tigris River Valley. Kenan Tepe is a relatively large mound measuring about five hectares in area and more than

twenty meters in height. Its position, and the presence of at least two springs, meant that Kenan Tepe was an ideal locale for human occupation. Unfortunately, with many other sites in the Upper Tigris River Valley, it will soon be destroyed by the reservoir that will build up behind a huge dam currently under construction on the Tigris river. During the summer of 1999, members of UTARP surveyed the site and found that occupation there stretched back at least until the Uruk period (ca. 3400-3300 B.C.) and included several phases during which foreign states projected their power into southeastern Anatolia establishing colonial outposts, trading centers, and even provincial capitals in this traditionally frontier zone. Encouraged by the survey results and seeing the potential to study various aspects of the archaeology of imperialism and colonialism,

UTARP began full-scale systematic archaeological excavations at Kenan Tepe during the summer of 2000. This research was made possible by generous support provided by the National Geographic Society's Committee for Research and Exploration, the American Philosophical Society, the American Research Institute in Turkey, and the University of Utah.



Figure 1. View of Kenan Tepe with the Tigris River in the background. Note the tents over the trenches.



The goal of our first season was to define the chronology of the site and to determine precisely the nature and focus of settlement at Kenan Tepe during each period it was occupied. Our intention is to refine and adjust our research questions and working hypotheses, and devise a strategy for addressing those refined research goals through further excavations over the next five to seven years.

Archaeological investigation at Kenan Tepe began in earnest in the middle of July and continued until the end of August 2000. During the season we opened eleven five by five-meter trenches, began what will be a two by twenty-five meter step trench, dug large parts of three soundings and cleared two sections. What follows is a brief report summarizing the research conducted by UTARP during the year 2000 field season.

**Trench Summaries:** Area A is located on the top of the main mound at Kenan Tepe. **Trench A1** is a five by five meter unit at the center and highest point of the mound. The purpose of this trench is to discover and document the latest phases of occupation at the site and expose subsequent levels at the center of the mound. During our excavations in trench A1 we discovered at least 9 burials in various states of preservation. Since these burials all appeared in a five by five meter excavation unit we assume that the top part of the main mound at Kenan Tepe may contain 30 or more burials. We decided to excavate one of the best preserved burials meticulously and leave the others for next year when we will bring a team of physical anthropologists

to excavate large portions of Kenan Tepe's cemetery. Unfortunately, none of the burials discovered in A1 contained grave goods and although the fill around the burials did yield ceramics dating to the Early Iron Age and Hellenistic period, this evidence only shows that the cemetery must post-date the Hellenistic period. More precise dating of these remains awaits analysis of our carbon samples.

**Trench A2.** It is essential to document the ceramic and architectural sequence of occupation at Kenan Tepe. Instead of digging a deep sounding, we decided the most cost- and time-efficient way to reach this goal is to dig a step trench on the steepest slopes of the mound. We opened what will become a two by twenty-five meter trench beginning at the highest point of Kenan Tepe and stretching to the lowest point of the mound.

Although most of the excavation took place in the first eight meters of this trench, at the closing of excavations the step trench extended more than thirteen meters down the slopes of the mound. At the top we discovered an impressive mud brick fortification wall dating to the Hellenistic period. This wall was more than 1.5 meters in width and had two phases of a cobbled surfaces on its inside. Beneath the wall there appears to be an earlier phase of mud brick walls at a slightly different orientation. Outside the fortification wall we discovered the remains of a living area with walls, associated surfaces and an oven.

**Area B** is located on the gently sloping southeastern side of the mound. We placed two five by five meter trenches (**Trench**

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**B1 and B2**) in this area. Just below the surface in the southwest corner of trench B1 we discovered a wall with stone foundations. East of this wall is a large collapse layer composed of stones and ceramics. A pot smash was located against the west bank. All of this material can be firmly dated to the Early Iron Age by the presence of a large number of Early Iron Age Corrugated Bowl fragments. Trench B2 also yielded Early Iron Age architecture and ceramics. In the eastern half of the trench we reached a hard packed mud surface with a well articulated pot smash thereon. This surface was associated with a mud brick wall that ran approximately east-west through the trench.

**Area D** is located on the steep eastern slopes of the high mound of Kenan Tepe. Surface survey there and in area E suggested that we might be able to access the earlier levels of occupation relatively easily on this part of the mound. The rather thick layers of wash and surface erosion that characterized this area meant that we reached coherent levels only in our last

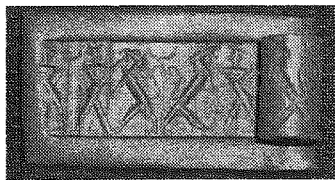


Figure 2. Akkadian period cylinder seal and its impression from D2.

week of excavation. One very encouraging find from this area is a perfectly preserved cylinder seal certainly dating to the Akkadian period (figure 2). We are hopeful that this seal will lead us to late third-millennium levels in coming seasons.

**Area E** is located on the southeast side of the lower slopes of the high mound. During a walking survey I discovered several Halaf and Ubaid sherds in a modern robber pit. Since the area was already damaged by modern earth moving, we decided to clean a three-meter wide profile in the damaged area. We continued the sequence in this profile by digging a two by two meter sounding. In the last few levels of the sounding began to produce Ubaid sherds and by the end of the last day the ceramics coming out of this area were purely Ubaid. Knowing that there is Ubaid occupation on this part of the mound, we plan to open several trenches in area E next year.

**Area F** is located on the edge of the lower city at Kenan Tepe overlooking the Tigris river. During surface survey we discovered Late Chalcolithic sherds eroding out the side of the hill in that area. We also observed obvious cultural deposits in the section exposed by erosion. For these reasons we decided to focus four trenches and one section cut in this area.

**Trenches F4 and F5** are the highlights of this area. **Trench F4**, located on the slope of the cliff where the site is eroding into the Tigris valley, began as a section clearing. We planned to clear a complete profile of the sequence of settlement in this part of the site. At about two meters below ground surface we reached well preserved Late Chalcolithic levels. At this point we had leveled a large enough area to open a five by five meter trench. Our first discovery in this trench was a nearly complete Uruk pot sitting in a bed of ash. We also found an associated surface and oven area both dating to the Late Chalcolithic period.

Because we converted F4 from a section clearing to a trench, we decided to open a second section clearing, **Trench F5**, a few meters down the hill from F4. We have exposed a beautiful profile with various occupation levels, pits and debris visible in section (figure 3). I am currently working on linking these to profiles to give a complete sequence of the lower town. In the last week of excavation we reached virgin soil. We have

thus determined that occupation on this section of the mound is about three meters deep. We also discovered a burial dug into virgin soil. Impressions in the clay around this burial suggest that the individual was buried in a cloth wrap. My preliminary assessment is that it is a Neolithic burial.

**On Recording and Data Processing:** The University of Utah recently awarded UTARP with a generous instrumentation grant. In addition, MIT's Lincoln Laboratories donated six laptop computers to the project. This equipment enabled us to digitize our data recording. The UTARP team uses an innovative method of combining GIS imagery with excavation and survey data to create an on-line research database. This database, "our global record" allows sophisticated searches, data sharing, access to GIS cartography, and our survey and excavation data.

**Conclusion:** UTARP's excavations during the summer of 2000 revealed that Kenan Tepe has a very rich history. The site may have been occupied during the Neolithic period (ca. 7000-5000 B.C.) The data further suggest that there was a substantial settlement in the lower town during the Uruk period (ca. 4000-3100 B.C.) Our excavations showed that the high mound contains remains dating to the Early Iron Age (ca. 1000-850 B.C.) and there is also evidence of a substantial pre-Iron Age town just beneath the Early Iron Age levels. During the Hellenistic period (ca. 200 B.C.) Kenan Tepe contained substantial fortification. The site was used as a cemetery some time after the Hellenistic period.

With this information in hand, we are currently refining our research goals and working out a five year research plan including anthropological analysis of the cemetery, study of the Early Iron Age ceramics and occupation of the site. Although Kenan Tepe appears to have substantial remains dating to the Early Iron Age, we have yet to find one sherd dating to the Assyrian Imperial period. Our hope is to address questions of culture contact, imperialism, and colonialism during the period immediately prior to Assyrian domination of the region. We will investigate the pre-Iron Age levels to clarify the culture of the Late or Middle Bronze ages in this valley. We plan to continue digging areas D and E in an effort to reach earlier periods including the late third millennium Ubaid and Uruk periods.

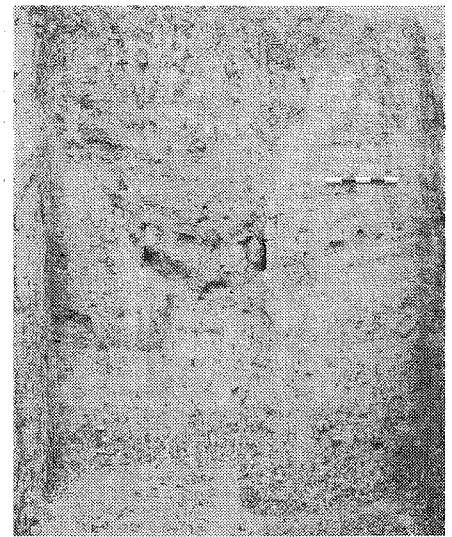


Figure 3. Profile of F5. Note the large Uruk period pit (dark area left center), various floor levels (dark lines below meter stick).

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