

AN ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE ON THE EASTERN FRONTIER OF THE NEO-ASSYRIAN EMPIRE.

Current research at the Grd-i Tle site (2021–2023)

GÁBOR KALLA¹ – TAMÁS DEZSŐ² – ATTILA KIRÁLY³ – BARZAN BAIZ⁴ – ATTILA BOTOND SZILASI⁵ – FRUZZINA ALEXANDRA NÉMETH⁶ – LÁSZLÓ ALMÁDY⁷ – IRINGÓ TATÁR⁸ – ÁKOS KUTYIFA⁹ – DOROTTYA LÁNG¹⁰
Hungarian Archaeology Vol. 13. (2024) Issue 1, pp. 9–18. <https://doi.org/10.36338/ha.2024.1.2>

During the last three excavation seasons, the ELTE Archaeological Mission to Iraqi Kurdistan focused on the Neo-Assyrian period. On the top plateau of the tell settlement, we uncovered parts of the citadel's fortification and, at a depth of several metres, two monumental buildings which, in our view, were palaces. Research was carried out on the northern slope of the tell in two residential buildings belonging to officials' households. These structures contained several intramural burials of different types, further indicating the Neo-Assyrian character of the settlement. Tools of imperial administration have been found, such as a duck-shaped stone weight, a cuneiform tablet, a cuneiform bulla, and a new cylinder seal. The three fieldwork campaigns significantly enriched our knowledge about an important local administrative centre of the Neo-Assyrian Empire (9th–7th centuries BC).

Keywords: Grd-i Tle, Neo-Assyrian Empire, palace, house, intramural burials, stone weight, cuneiform tablet, bulla, cylinder seal

The Archaeological Mission to Iraqi Kurdistan of the Eötvös Loránd University began its fieldwork at the tell settlement of Grd-i Tle in 2016. We had reviewed the 2016–2019 excavations in this journal (KALLA & DEZSŐ 2019); however, since the publication of that paper, significant new results worthy of another summary emerged. In 2020, we were unable to continue our work in Iraq due to the pandemic. In 2021, we had an opportunity to dig for two months and a month each in 2022 and 2023.¹¹ This article presents our preliminary results of these campaigns, focusing on the Neo-Assyrian record.¹²

¹ Department of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology, Institute Of Archaeological Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: kalla.gabor@btk.elte.hu, ORCID: 0000-0003-4465-0358

² Department of Assyriology and Hebrew Studies, Institute of Ancient and Classical Studies, Faculty of Humanities, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: dezso.tamas@btk.elte.hu, ORCID: 0000-0001-5150-5277

³ Archaeology Doctoral Programme, Doctoral School of History, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: attila.kiraly@koveto.com, ORCID: 0000-0002-4993-8206

⁴ Raparin Antiquities and Heritage Directorate, email: shwenawar.barzan@yahoo.com

⁵ Archaeojedi Kft., 25 Kossuth Lajos Street, 9763 Vasszécsény, Hungary, email: office@archaeojedi.com

⁶ Archaeology Doctoral Programme, Doctoral School of History, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: nemeth.fruzsina.alexandra95@gmail.com, ORCID: 0000-0002-9541-5203

⁷ Archaeology Doctoral Programme, Doctoral School of History, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: almadylacilaci97@gmail.com

⁸ Archaeology Doctoral Programme, Doctoral School of History, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: iringotatar@gmail.com

⁹ ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: kutyifaakos@gmail.com

¹⁰ ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, email: lang.dorottya12@gmail.com

¹¹ The Hungarian Scientific Research Fund supported the fieldwork and the processing of the finds within the frame of the OTKA project entitled *Intensive archaeological investigation of a local administrative center of the Neo-Assyrian Empire* (NFKFIH ID K 132429).

¹² The excavation results concerning later historical periods are intended to be discussed in another article in this journal.

THE CITADEL AND ITS PALACES FROM THE NEO-ASSYRIAN PERIOD (9TH-7TH CENTURIES BC)

Already in 2019, fieldwork concentrated on the central terrace of the northern slope and the upper plateau, but in that season, the Neo-Assyrian levels were only reached on the top of the northern slope (1A). In the last three seasons (2021, 2022, and 2023), work continued in three larger (1B, 1C and 1D/E) and two smaller trenches (1F and 1G), unfolding the construction history of the Neo-Assyrian citadel (Fig. 1). We already knew that the Assyrians had transformed the *tell* significantly with substantial earthworks. In some places, they enlarged the upper plateau with a reddish fill at least 6 m thick and created a steep glacis around it to protect the citadel from besiegers (KALLA 2021, 46).¹³ In 2021, we identified the at least 5-metre-wide Neo-Assyrian foundation made of red clay bricks under a Hellenistic-Parthian stone wall on the northern edge of the upper plateau (Trench 1B). As the rising walls of the fortification had been destroyed by erosion, their original thickness could not be determined. We examined the foundations in more detail in 2022.¹⁴ It consisted of alternating layers of stone, clay bricks, rammed clay, and wooden beams secured by rammed clay, stabilising the edge of the plateau. This structure ensured a high degree of flexibility and prevented the *tell*'s body, incorporating layers of different densities, from slipping. We have not reached the bottom of the foundation, but based on analogies, they are expected to be found at a significant depth.

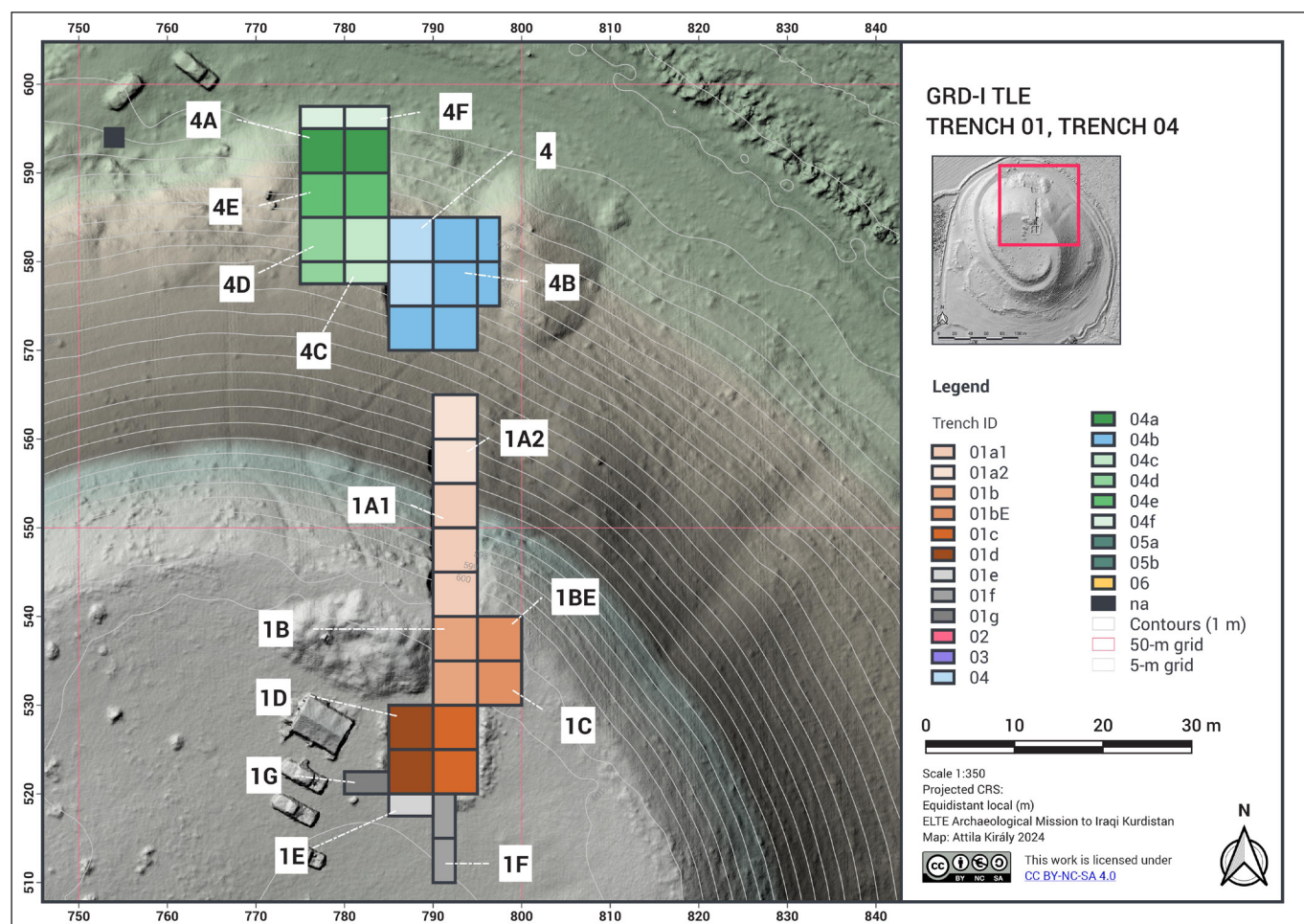


Fig. 1. Grd-i Tle, trenches on the upper plateau and northern slope of the tell (data and map by Attila Király)

¹³ Tamás Dezső was responsible for the fieldwork in trench 1A.

¹⁴ Tamás Dezső was responsible for the fieldwork in trench 1B, with the help of László Almády and Iringó Tatár.

THE YOUNGER NEO-ASSYRIAN PALACE

Under the thick Hellenistic-Parthian layers, a monumental building was attached directly to the fortress wall. Its first part was discovered in 2021, roughly 2.5 metres below the present surface, and further details were unearthed in 2022 and 2023.¹⁵ So far, we have examined 160 m² of this building but only identified one room in Trench 1B. The probably elongated rectangular room with a south-east-northwest orientation was 5 metres wide, and only the 1.1-m thick southern wall, which separated it from a large courtyard, fell into the trench. The floor of the room had a yellow clay brick foundation covered with fired clay bricks, which had only been preserved in a patch. The surviving lower section of the southern wall was laid with reddish clay bricks (40 × 40 cm), typical of the Neo-Assyrian period. The original doorway was indicated by a stone door socket and an elongated stone that once fastened the threshold. The wall had a two-course stone foundation. In 2021 and 2022, we excavated an extensive courtyard paved with flat stones on a larger surface in two parallel, 4 × 9-m trenches (1C and 1D/E) (Fig. 2). Two outstanding finds were recovered from this area: a duck-shaped stone weight from the room and our first object with a cuneiform text, a small clay tablet, from the fill of the courtyard.



Fig. 2. Grd-i Tle, paved courtyard uncovered in trenches 1C and 1D/E (drone photo by Ákos Kuttyifa)

Two narrower trenches were opened in 2023 to find the edge of the courtyard and the rooms opening from it. In Trench 1F, beneath the Islamic and Hellenistic-Parthian layers, the paving of the palace's large courtyard was found at a depth of 1.6 metres. Thus, the courtyard found in the previous seasons continued for at least another 8 metres to the south; therefore, it must have had an at least 18.5-metre long side. In Aššur, which provides the best analogies, the side length of the main courtyard does not exceed 12 metres, even in the largest, almost palace-sized houses (PREUSSER 1954). Unfortunately, in Trench 1F, Hellenistic-Parthian period features (pit, wall, canal) destroyed all other architectural remains of the palace, so it was not possible to determine the position of the room next to the courtyard; however, the phenomena of the earlier level compensated us.

The results of the three campaigns confirmed our earlier assumption that Grd-i Tle contains the remains of a Neo-Assyrian fortified administrative centre. The building with a large courtyard, thick walls, and strong doors was probably an imperial administrative centre, i.e., a palace. Previously, such palaces were known only from the western part of the empire and provincial capitals; this is the first palace from the eastern regions, which makes the Grd-i Tle site particularly interesting.

THE OLDER NEO-ASSYRIAN PALACE

At the very end of the 2022 season, we examined the layers under the courtyard in a 1-metre area in the southern part of Trench 1C and found a wall section made of yellow clay bricks. In 2023, similar yellow clay brick walls appeared approximately 2 metres below the present surface in trenches 1F and 1G; the three sections certainly belonged to the same building (Fig. 3). The level of this wall under the stone-paved courtyard was examined in more detail in the northern part of Trench 1F. The southeast-northwest-oriented wall section ran 1.0–1.5 metres from the northern trench wall. This wall and another wall

¹⁵ Fruzsina Alexandra Németh was responsible for the fieldwork in trenches 1C, 1D/E with the help of Ákos Ekrik in 2021. In 2022, Gábor Kalla worked there with the help of László Almády and Iringó Tatár. Attila Botond Szilasi was responsible for the fieldwork in trench 1F and Iringó Tatár in trench 1G in 2023.

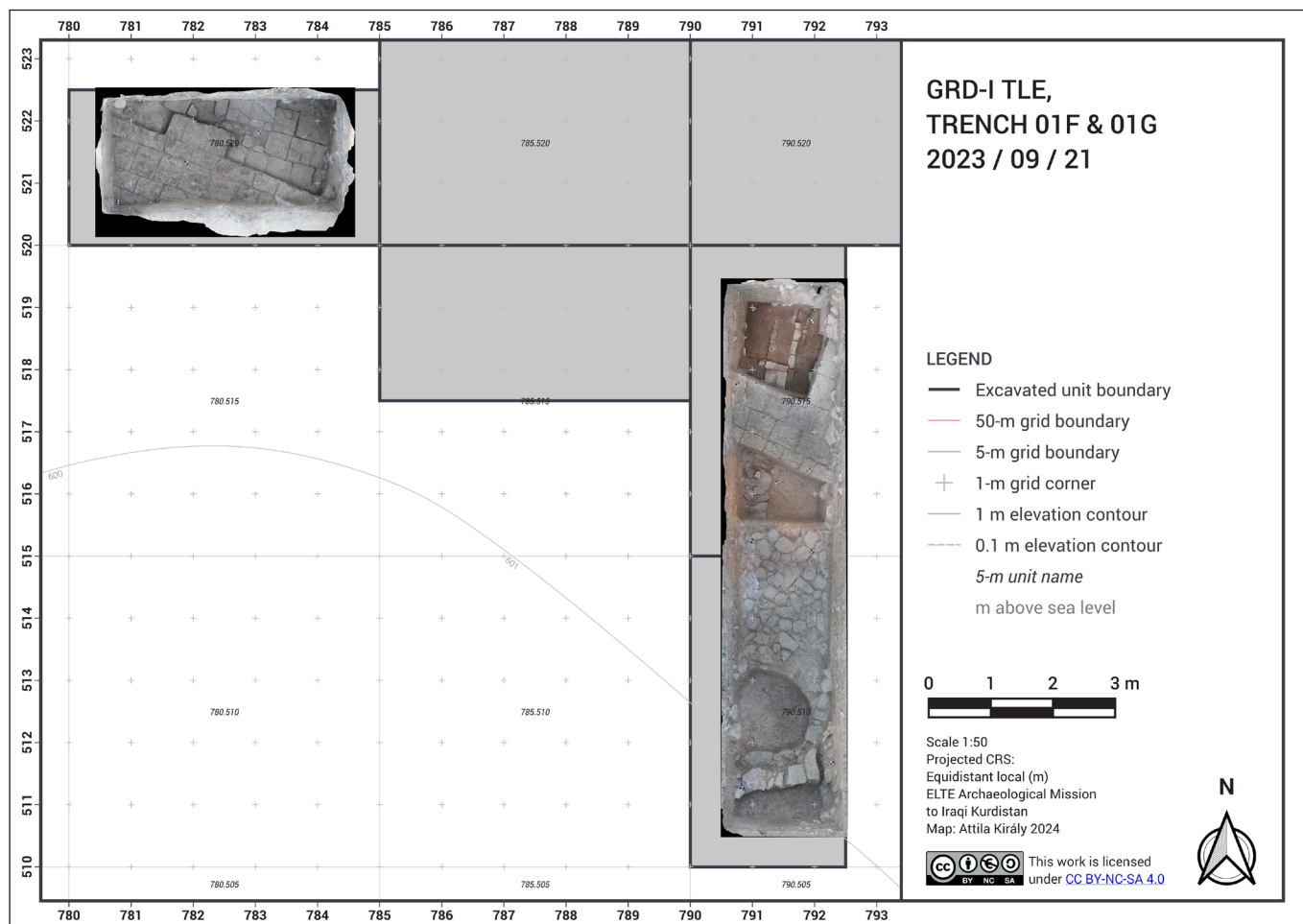


Fig. 3. Grd-i Tle, structures exposed in trenches 1F and 1G (photogrammetry and map by Attila Király)

section attached to it at a right angle were laid out of two and a half rows of 37×37 cm bricks; thus, their thickness was approximately one metre. Two brick courses have remained from these walls, built without a stone foundation. A structured deposit found under the southwestern corner of the wall indicates a foundation ritual preceding construction. The deposited large ceramic vessel contained heavily burnt small ruminant bones in the lower part of its fill. A fired clay brick drainage channel was found in the room under a thick yellow clayey fill. Similar brick constructions were characteristic elements of Assyrian palaces; they were used to drain both rainwater and sewage.

Another section of the same wall was found in Trench 1G, approximately eight metres further west. Fortunately, almost the entire wall and two narrow rooms north of it fell into the 4-metre-long trench. The metre-wide wall was divided in two by a single-brick wide and 2.5-brick thick pillar, probably a jamb. The fired brick flooring of the rammed earth floor has survived almost intact in the eastern room.

Characteristic Neo-Assyrian pottery sherds were found in the fills both below and above the walls in trenches 1F and 1G. Also, the thickness of the walls and the carefully constructed drain indicate that an earlier Neo-Assyrian palace stood in place of the later one. We believe the site has two major Neo-Assyrian period construction phases.

The palaces on the upper plateau are of special importance because, until now, we have known no palaces in citadels from the eastern region of the Assyrian Empire and hardly any from lower towns. The large building from the earlier period is particularly promising, as the paving of the younger palace courtyard sealed off its remains, implying closed assemblages that may contain written sources and other important finds. Therefore, we want to concentrate on this area in the upcoming seasons.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS ON THE NORTHERN SLOPE

The Neo-Assyrian residential building found in 2018 (KALLA & DEZSŐ 2019, 7–8) was studied in a contiguous area of roughly 170 m² in 2021 and then another 45 m² in 2023, in trenches 4B, 4C and 4D (Fig. 4).¹⁶ The entire excavation surface was divided into a 1 × 1 m grid; five 10-cm-thick levels were unearthed, and a soil sample was taken from each.¹⁷ Contrary to our expectations, the remains encompassed not one but two houses, a larger one in the east (House 1) and a smaller one in the west (House 2). The northern walls of the two houses stood directly at the edge of today's terrace, and erosion had already taken away the surface north of them. The clay brick walls of both buildings were raised on a foundation made of small stones and a plinth from larger stones. However, the clay bricks of the wall have already been eroded. The average wall thickness ranged from 60 to 70 cm.

Four rooms, almost the entire paved courtyard, and small parts of three more rooms of House 1 have been excavated so far, covering 105 m². As House 1 possibly surrounded House 2, its southern and northern walls could be at least 18 metres long. This is indicated by the fact that the courtyards of larger Neo-Assyrian houses are usually surrounded by rooms on at least three sides (MIGLUS 1999, Taf. 71–78). Traces of reconstruction were observed at several points in the house: some rooms were divided in two (Rooms 3 and 4), while others were made smaller (Room 2).

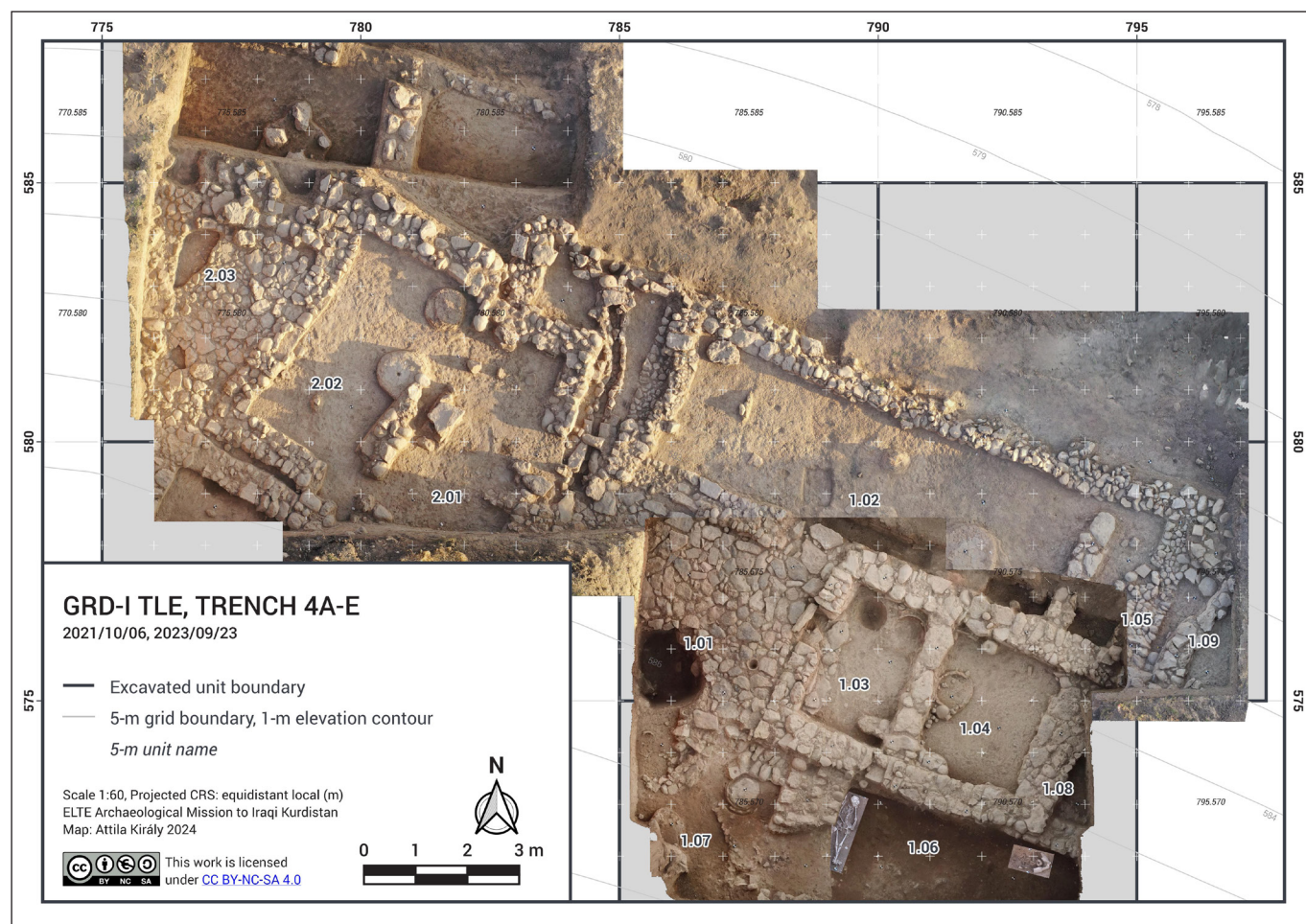


Fig. 4. *Grd-i Tle*, partially excavated residential buildings on the northern slope of the tell in trenches 4, 4B, 4C, and 4D (photogrammetry and map by Attila Király)

¹⁶ Gábor Kalla, with the help of Ákos Kutya and András Kovács, led the fieldwork in Trench 4B in 2023. Attila Király was responsible for fieldwork in trenches 4C and 4D. The work of Ádám Vér, Iringó Tatár, and Dorottya Láng on the northern slope represented considerable help throughout all three seasons.

¹⁷ Bertalan Pillik floated the soil samples and analysed the obtained heavy fraction.

A part of the 3.3×4.4 m courtyard was excavated in 2018. It was paved with flat stones of different sizes and colours (white, grey, red, and dark blue), apparently pursuing an aesthetic appearance (KALLA & DEZSŐ 2019, 7). A similar pavement was found by the Danish Archaeological Expedition to Iraq in Grd-i Gulak, located roughly 20 km from Grd-i Tle (SKULDBØL *et al.* 2021, 170–171, pl. 17), so it is likely a regional feature. The rainwater was led from the courtyard towards the northern slope by a drainage channel made of irregular stones.

Rooms 2, 3 and 4, located north and east of the courtyard, are associated with economic activities. Particularly interesting is Room 2, originally 9.3×2.7 m in size, the length of which was reduced to 8 metres during a rebuilding. Previously, this room perhaps had had representative functions because one could enter it through a 1.4-meter wide, probably double-winged door from the small street with a drainage channel underneath in the west. The place of the original, perhaps well-carved stone threshold was still visible. The furnishing of Room 2 indicates its later function: brewing vessels sunk into the ground and a fireplace next to them was unearthed in its western half in 2018 (KALLA & DEZSŐ 2019, 7–8; KALLA 2021, 51, 55–56). Three pairs of bezoar ibex trophies were found at the centre, perhaps indicating horn processing. The eastern part contained the floor of a large vaulted oven with a diameter of 1.2 m, a horseshoe-shaped fireplace at its eastern side, and a raised working platform made of clay, with its surface reinforced with gravel, pottery fragments, and animal bones on the other. A surprising assemblage was found next to the northern wall of the room, roughly at the middle: a large amount of iron lumps from ore smelting in a pit filled with ash. Due to erosion, it is unclear whether this pit belonged to the house or was dug into its remains later. The floor of Room 2 was covered with square, fired clay bricks, very few of which persisted.

Initially, Rooms 3 and 4 were a single space, divided later into two rooms functioning as kitchens. Room 3 (2.7×1.7 m) could be accessed from the courtyard through a 0.75 m-wide door. It contained a *tennūr* oven (open-top bread oven); next to it, a liquid container sunk into the ground and a raised working surface. Another *tennūr* oven and a working surface were installed in Room 4 (2.7×2.1 m). After the two rooms had been created, a 0.8-metre door with a surprisingly strong stone door socket ($26 \times 26 \times 24$ cm) opening to Room 2 was installed there.

The southern part of the trench seems to have covered only a small part of the usual representative spaces (reception room and great hall). Unfortunately, the area south of the courtyard was destroyed by a Hellenistic period building, but the partially exposed, very strong (1.1 m) western wall of Room 6 implies that the reception room may have stood there.

House 2, which has two rooms, could be accessed from the west, from another courtyard; perhaps additional rooms belonged to it, opening from the western (unexcavated) and northern (eroded) sides of the courtyard. A vaulted oven, similar to the one in House 1, with a *tennūr* oven next to it, was found in its second room (4.2×2.4 m). This room could be entered from the courtyard through a 0.8-metre wide door, the fired clay brick socket of which was found *in situ*.

BURIALS

In 2021 and 2023, six burials of different types were found in House 1. These included simple inhumations (Room 2: infant; Room 6: adult), pot burials (Room 5: two burials; Room 4: one burial), and a double-pot burial (Room 6). Young children were buried flexed in the vessels, while the only adult was buried in an extended position (Grave 78). Most graves did not include grave goods except for the adult who wore two bronze rings on his left hand; besides, jewellery items were found in the pot burial in Room 5 (Grave 66).

Here, we present two burials in more detail. In Grave 66, the body of the 1.5–2 year-old¹⁸ child was placed in a large pottery container on her left side in a slightly flexed position and buried below the floor of Room 4 (Fig. 5). We found small bronze lunulae (moon-shaped beads, pendants) and bronze and Egyptian blue beads, which may have been attached to a headdress, around her head. A bronze bracelet was placed behind the skull. Based on the artefacts, this was probably a girl's burial.

¹⁸ The preliminary physical anthropological study of the human remains was carried out by Ágota Madai.

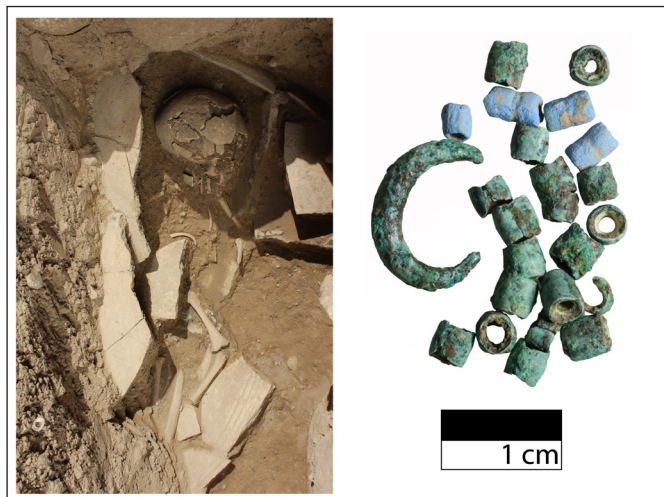


Fig. 5. Grd-i Tle, Grave 66 and its finds (photos by Gábor Kalla)



Fig. 6. Grd-i Tle, Grave 76 in various states of excavation (photos by Ákos Kutyaifa)

In Grave 76 in Room 6, the child was flexed on its right side in two facing open ceramic containers, without any grave goods (Fig. 6). Interestingly, the two pots were so well sealed that only the lower halves were filled with soil.

These burial types are well known from the first Assyrian capital, Aššur, where a large number of pot and double-pot burials were found (HAUSER 2012). The Assyrian character of the household in House 1 is indicated, amongst other finds, by the intramural burials and the funerary use of everyday storage containers.

IMPORTANT SMALL FINDS OF THE THREE EXCAVATION SEASONS

Throughout the three seasons, a huge amount of pottery was found, including special ones such as 'palace ware' or fragments of glazed vessels. In addition, several beads and amulets made of special materials such as serpentine, carnelian, and a synthetic material named Egyptian blue were collected. Relatively rare clothing items, such as bronze and bone clothespins and bronze brooches, complete our collection. Here, we present only four items of special historical importance.

The administrative function of the palace is indicated by the duck-shaped weight found there, on which the unit of weight was not indicated by the cuneiform script but by four strokes engraved on its side. Measuring $17.5 \times 13.0 \times 11$ cm, roughly carved from limestone, the weight of the measuring tool is 4,479 g or around four *minas* (1,120 g; Fig. 7). Weights with a similar design are also known from the royal palaces of the Assyrian Empire (PEYRONEL 2015).



Fig. 7. Grd-i Tle, a duck-shaped limestone weight from Trench 1 (photo by Gábor Kalla)

Perhaps even more important is the small ($4.20 \times 2.12 \times 1.50$ cm) clay tablet with cuneiform writing, the surface of which is secondarily burnt (Fig. 8, left). The 16-line text was not an official document but a short memorandum, so the scribe did not date it. The text lists quantities and persons, but what items are counted remains unclear. Some persons appear with their names, such as the typical Assyrian names Aššur-šallim-šunu and Aššur-ah-iddina; others with their office, such as court official, eunuch (*ša rēši*), and local



Fig. 8. Left: Grd-i Tle, a cuneiform clay tablet from Trench 1; right: Grd-i Tle, a cuneiform bulla from the southern slope of the tell (photos by Gábor Kalla)



Fig. 9. Grd-i Tle, cylinder seal and its impressio from Trench 4B (impression and photo by Gábor Kalla)

city leader (city lord = *bēl āli*). The latter is particularly interesting since, usually, *bēl āli* were local holders of power on the eastern fringes of the Neo-Assyrian Empire (VÉR 2018, 98–112).

Another object with a cuneiform text was accidentally found on the surface at the southern foot of the tell in 2022, confirming our hope for discovering even more written sources is justified.¹⁹ The sealed bulla, measuring $3.8 \times 3.0 \times 1.9$ cm, was preserved in extremely good condition despite its long exposure on the surface (Fig. 8, right). The five-line inscription mentions persons (e.g., Bēl-dān, Zizî) and quantities of grain. Clay bullae were usually hung from papyrus rolls tied with twine; thus, unauthorised persons could not open them (RADNER 1997, 26–31). Accordingly, the imprint of the twine is visible in the middle of this bulla. This find is an example of the bilingual administration of the Neo-Assyrian Empire: texts were written on the clay bullae in cuneiform Akkadian and the papyri they sealed were written using paint in Aramaic. Of course, the papyri had been decayed by now.

A second cylinder seal stands out from the many excavated finds of the private houses on the northern slope. The first cylinder was found in a mixed layer in Trench 1C in 2021 (KALLA & DEZSŐ 2019, 8–9; KALLA 2021, 62–63); the item presented here was discovered in its original context in the middle of Room 4, House 1, in Trench 4B (Fig. 9). The dark green serpentine artefact (2.2×1.1 cm) was engraved in the so-called linear style, and bore almost no sign of wear. The engraving depicts a dog with a curly tail attacking a bull dropping on its front legs. Between them is a tree; above it, the Moon and the Evening Star (Venus) are seen. The scene, belonging to the mythical animal fight iconographic group, is a typical Neo-Assyrian type. The cylinder seal, dated to the 8th century BC (COLLON 2001, 55), has relatively few direct analogies but is strikingly higher quality than them.

SUMMARY

The results of the last three excavation seasons have confirmed our earlier assumption that Grd-i Tle was a local administrative centre of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. The personal names and official ranks on the cuneiform texts, the weight, the cylinder seals, the construction of the houses, the funerary rites, and the costume elements prove that Assyrian officials lived there. The primary role of the settlement in the empire may have been to control agricultural production in the northwestern part of the Rania Plain, an area well-supplied with water and extremely fertile. The karst springs in today's Saruchawa village have an outstanding output, still providing water for irrigating large areas around the site today (VICZIÁN 2020). Grd-i Tle may have played a key role in supplying various major fortifications at the border, e.g., the imperial

¹⁹ Dorottya Láng found the bulla.

garrisons stationed in the nearby Usu Aska (MACGINNIS *et al.* 2021) or in the small forts at the top of the mountain range (SQUITIERI 2020), as well as the Assyrian army on its way to campaigns to the East.

REFERENCES

Collon, D. (2001). *Cylinder Seals V. Neo-Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian Periods. Catalogue of the Western Asiatic Seals in the British Museum*. London: British Museum.

Hauser, S. (2012). *Status, Tod und Ritual, Stadt- und Sozialstruktur Assurs in Neuassyrischer Zeit*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.

Kalla, G. (2021). The Neo-Assyrian occupation of the tell settlement at Grd-i Tle in Iraqi Kurdistan. In Dezső, T. & Kalla, G. (szerk.) (2021). *The Archaeology of the Raparin Region of Iraqi Kurdistan: A Review of Results from the Field and Directions of Further Research*. (Antiqua et Orientalia 9) Budapest: Eötvös Kiadó, 41–66.

Kalla, G. & Dezső, T. (2019). Hungarian Archaeological Expedition in the Mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan. Excavations Undertaken by the Faculty of Humanities, Eötvös Loránd University, at Grdi Tle (Rania Plain). *Hungarian Archaeology* 8:4, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.36338/ha.2019.4.4>

MacGinnis, J., Rasheed, K. R., Ismael, B. B., Dusting, A., Kertai, D., Greenfield, T., Hazell, G., Matney, T. & Heda, A. J. (2021). Excavations of the Assyrian fort at Usu Aska in Iraqi Kurdistan. In Dezső, T. & Kalla, G. (szerk.) (2021). *The Archaeology of the Raparin Region of Iraqi Kurdistan: A Review of Results from the Field and Directions of Further Research*. Antiqua et Orientalia 9, Budapest: Eötvös Kiadó, 93–149.

Miglus, P. A. (1999). *Städtische Wohnarchitektur in Babylonien und Assyrien*. Baghdader Forschungen 22. Mainz: P. von Zabern.

Peyronel, L. (2015). The lion, the duck and the scorpion. Royal Assyrian weights from the North-West Palace at Nimrud. *Mesopotamia* 50, 93–112.

Preusser, C. (1954). *Die Wohnhäuser in Assur*. Wissenschaftliche Veröffentlichungen der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft 64, Berlin: Gebr. Mann.

Radner, K. (1977). *Die neuassyrischen Privatrechtsurkunden als Quelle für Mensch und Umwelt*. (State Archives of Assyria, Studies 6) Helsinki: The Neo-Assyrian Text Corpus Project.

Skuldbøl, T. B. B., Colantoni, C., Hald, M. M., Makinson, M., Masoumian, M., Brahe, H. & Brahe, S. (2021). Gird-i Gulak. A Neo-Assyrian fort on the eastern frontier of Assyria. A salvage project by the Danish Archaeological Expedition to Iraq. In: Dezső, T. & Kalla, G. (szerk.) (2021). *The Archaeology of the Raparin Region of Iraqi Kurdistan: A Review of Results from the Field and Directions of Further Research*. Antiqua et Orientalia 9, Budapest: Eötvös Kiadó, 151–185.

Squitieri, A. (2020). Towards an understanding of the Assyrian Empire's defence strategies in the east. In: Hasegawa, S. & Radner, K. (szerk.), *The Reach of the Assyrian and Babylonian Empires: Case Studies in Eastern and Western Peripheries*. Studia Chaburensia 8, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 111–135. https://doi.org/10.13173/9783347114776_111

Gábor Kalla et al. • An administrative centre on the eastern frontier of the Neo-Assyrian Empire

Vér, Á. (2018). *Az Újasszír Birodalom keleti tartományai*. Ókor-Történet-Írás 6, Pécs: Pécsi Tudományegyetem, Ókortörténeti Tanszék – Budapest: L'Harmattan.

Viczián I. (2020). The geomorphological and environmental context of the Grd-i Tle archaeological site. *Hungarian Assyriological Review* 1:2, 137–145. <https://doi.org/10.52093/hara-202001-00010-000>