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Khaleel Ibrahim Al-Muaikel

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A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE  
ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE JAWF REGION  
OF SAUDI ARABIA WITH ADDITIONAL  
MATERIAL ON ITS HISTORY AND  
EARLY ARABIC EPIGRAPHY

by

KHALEEL IBRAHIM AL-MUAIKEL

Thesis submitted to the  
Faculty of Arts in the University  
of Durham  
For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Graduate Society

November, 1988



- 6 JUL 1989

PLATE I



A. A group of stone pillars, al-Rajājīl site



B. A group of stone pillars showing their original position, al-Rajājīl site

PLATE II



A. Two stone pillars, al-Rajājīl site

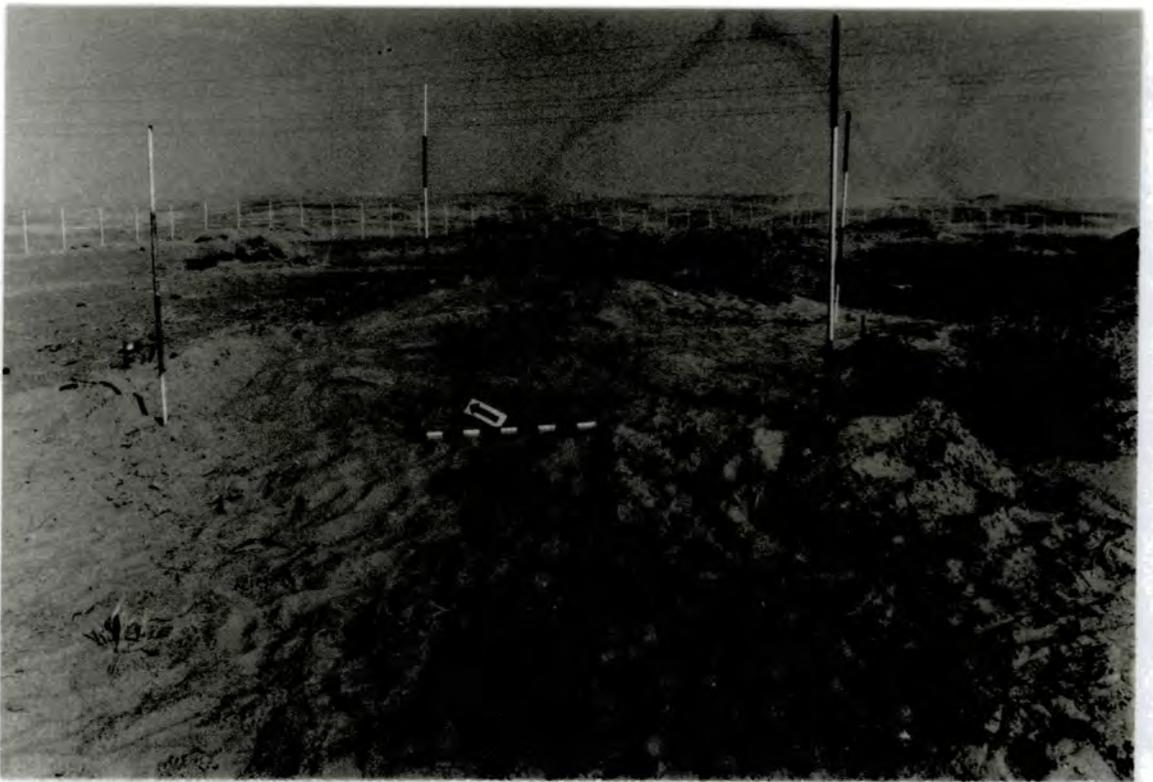


B. Two stone pillars showing the original height, al-Rajājīl site

PLATE III



A. Stone structure, al-Rajājīl site



B. General view of trench no. 1 at al-Ṭuwayr site before excavating

PLATE IV



A. Trench no. 1, al-Tuwayr site, the N part of the trench showing walls nos. 1, 2 and 3



B. Trench no. 1, al-Tuwayr site, the S part of the trench, the sealed entrance can be noticed

PLATE V



A. General view of trench no. 1, al-Tuwayr site, after excavation

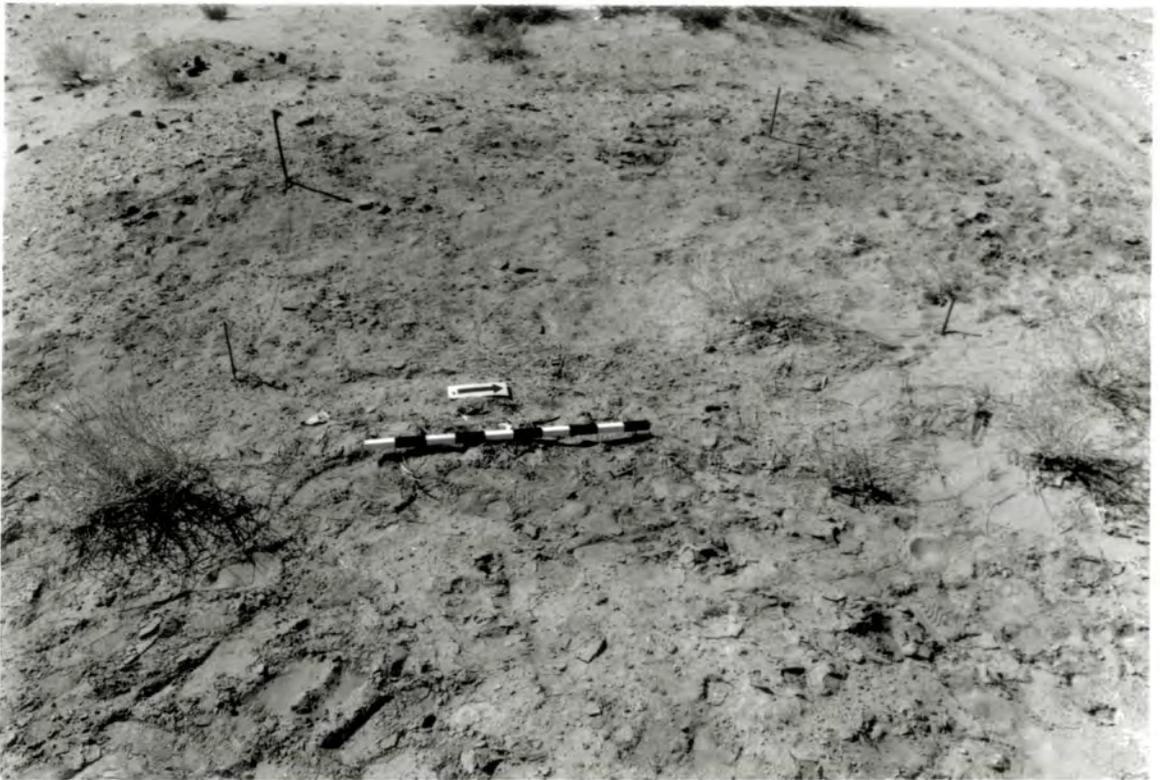


B. Trench no. 1, al-Tuwayr site, the W and N sections of walls nos. 1 and 2

PLATE VI

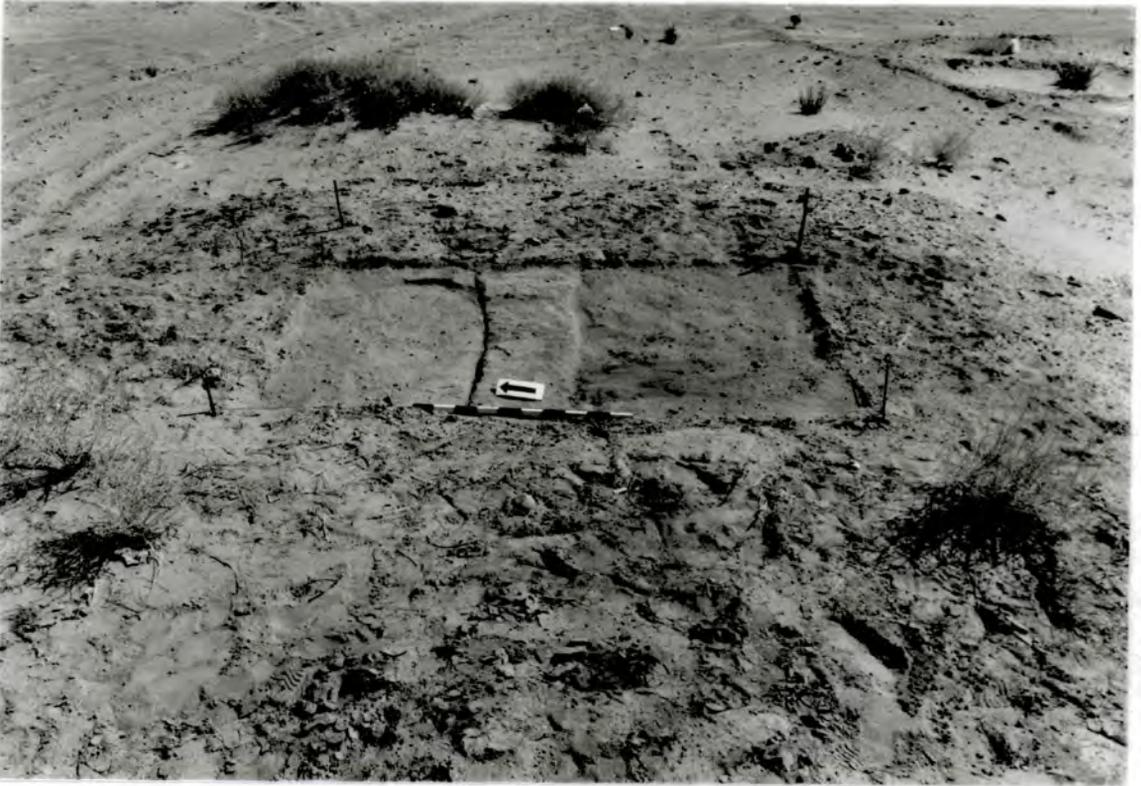


A. A restored bowl discovered at trench no. 1,  
al-Ṭuwayr site



B. General view of trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site,  
prior to excavation

PLATE VII



A. Trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site, following the excavation of the top 10 cm. and showing a mud brick wall dividing the trench



B. General view of trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site, after excavation

PLATE VIII



A. General view of trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site, after excavation, showing the two building phases

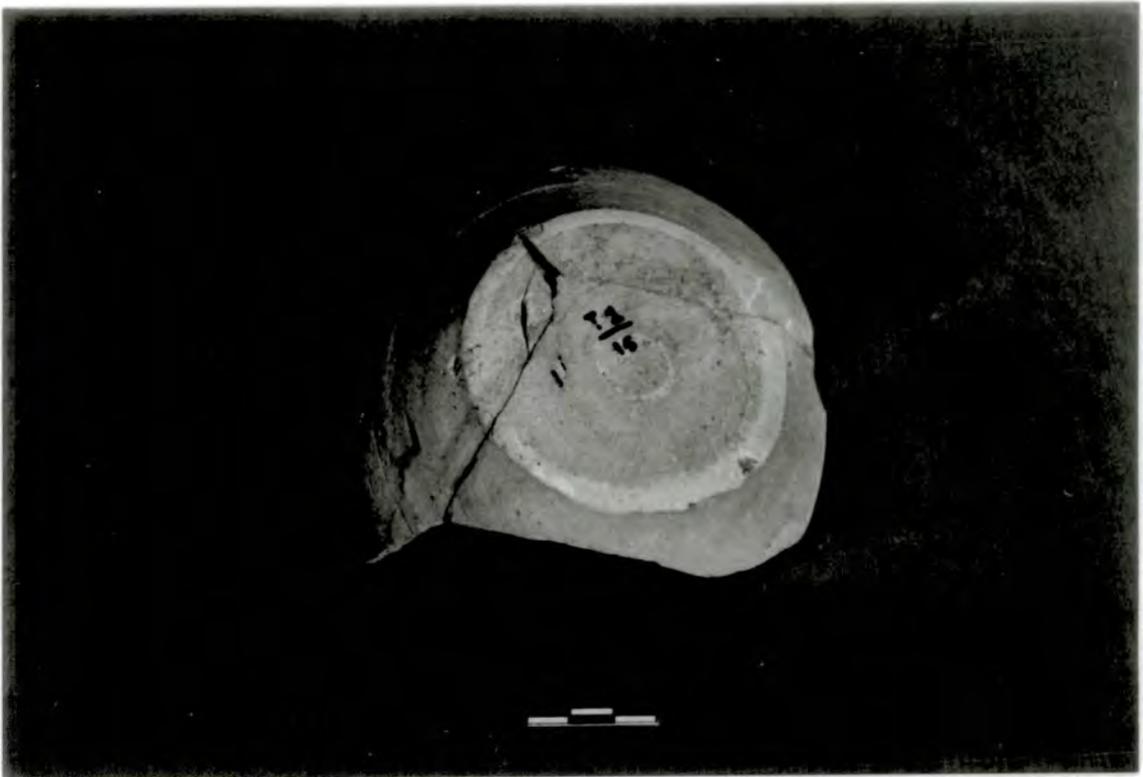


B. Fragments of a cooking pot in situ, discovered at trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site

PLATE IX



A. A fragment of plate in situ, discovered at trench no. 2, al-Tuwayr site



B. A restored bowl discovered at trench no. 2, al-Tuwayr site

PLATE X



A. A fragment of shallow bowl discovered at trench no. 2,  
al-Ṭuwayr site



B. A fragment of incense burner discovered at  
trench no. 2, al-Ṭuwayr site

PLATE XI



A. View of trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal, prior to excavation



B. Trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal, after excavating to the depth of 100cm., showing a water channel and associated floor

PLATE XII



A. A view of trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal



B. The N part of trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal, showing the water channel and the N mosaic floor

PLATE XIII



A. Trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the mosaic floor at the S part of the trench



B. Trench no. 1, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the mosaic floor at the N part of the trench

PLATE XIV

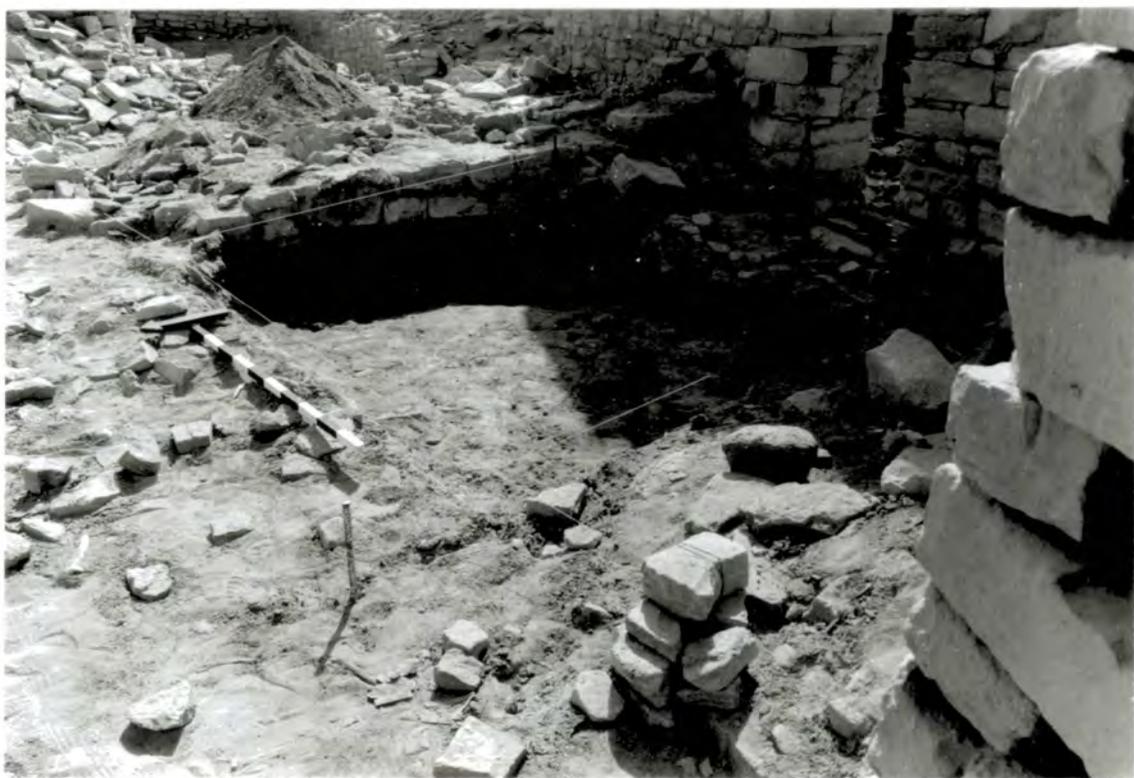


A. A circular object made of clay discovered at trench no. 1,  
Dūmat al-Jandal



B. General view of trench no. 2, Dūmat al-Jandal,  
before excavation

PLATE XV



A. Trench no. 2, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view showing a wall at the E section of the trench



B. Trench no. 2, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view after excavation showing the two building phases

PLATE XVI

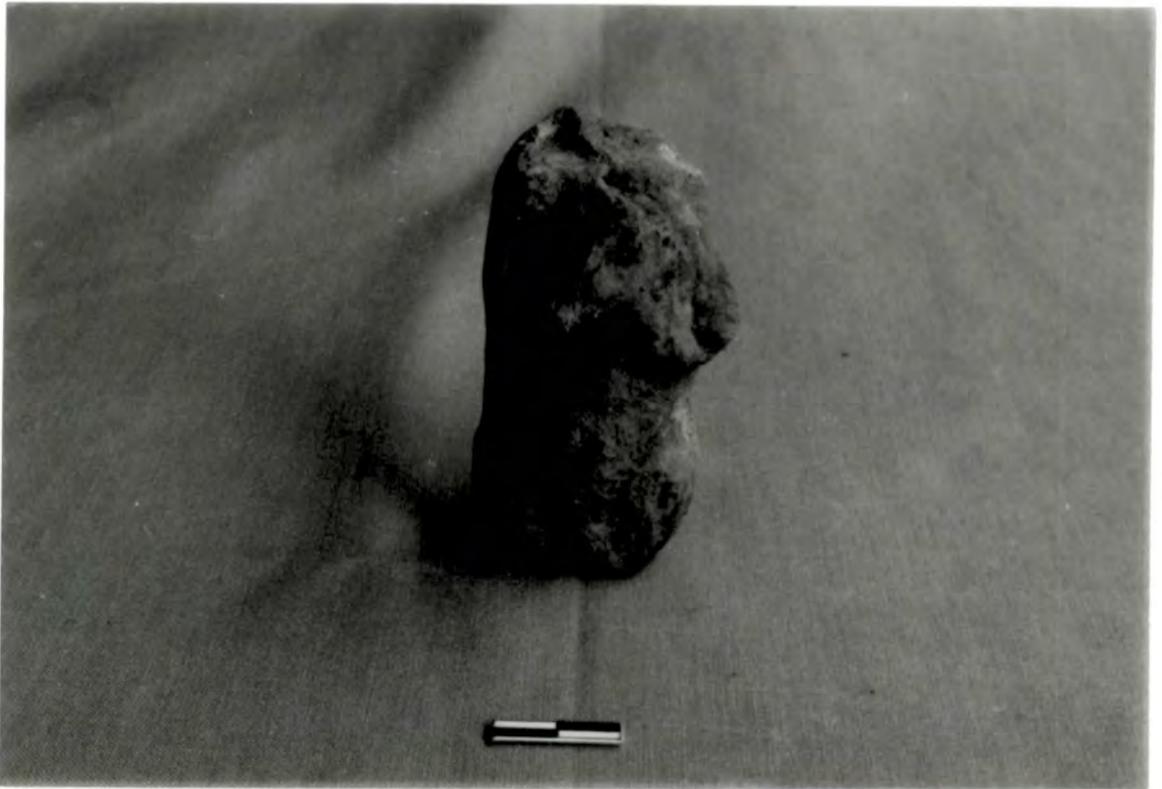


A. Trench no. 2, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the S part of the trench showing an entrance to a building unit which belongs to the second phase

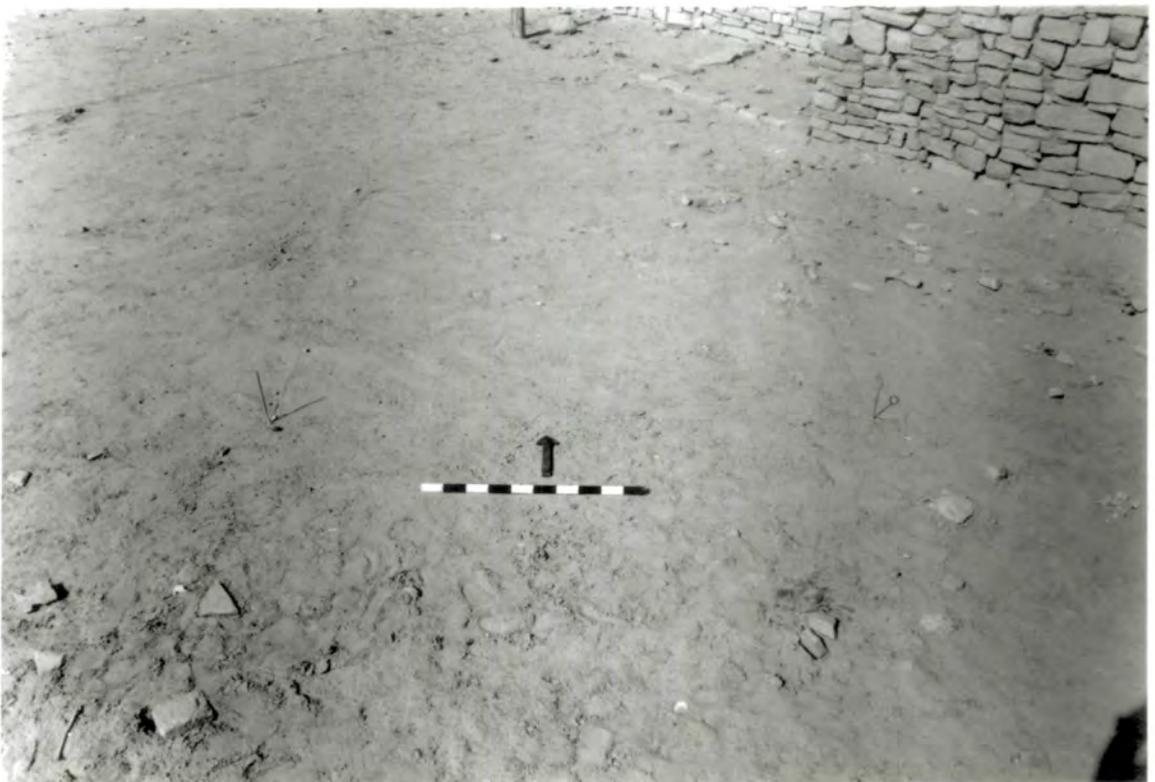


B. Trench no. 2, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view after the excavation

PLATE XVII



A. A nude female figurine discovered at trench no. 2,  
Dūmat al-Jandal



B. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, prior to excavation

PLATE XVIII

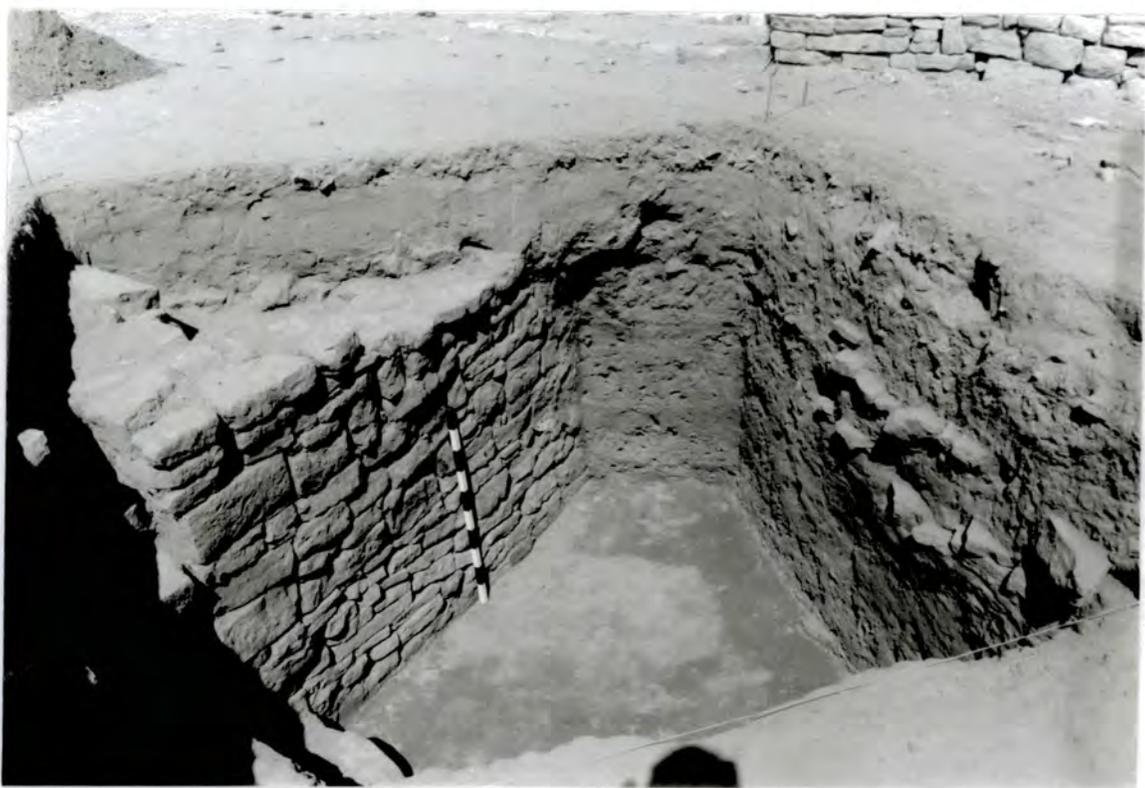


A. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view showing the first stone floor



B. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view showing a mud floor and a wall at the N corner of the trench

PLATE XIX



A. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, the stone wall and associated mud floor



B. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the wall showing some plaster coating, centre right

PLATE XX



Trench no. 3, Dumat al-Jandal,  
a view of the S section of the wall

PLATE XXI



A. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the S section and a water basin



B. Trench no. 3, a water basin showing a small water channel connected with it

PLATE XXII

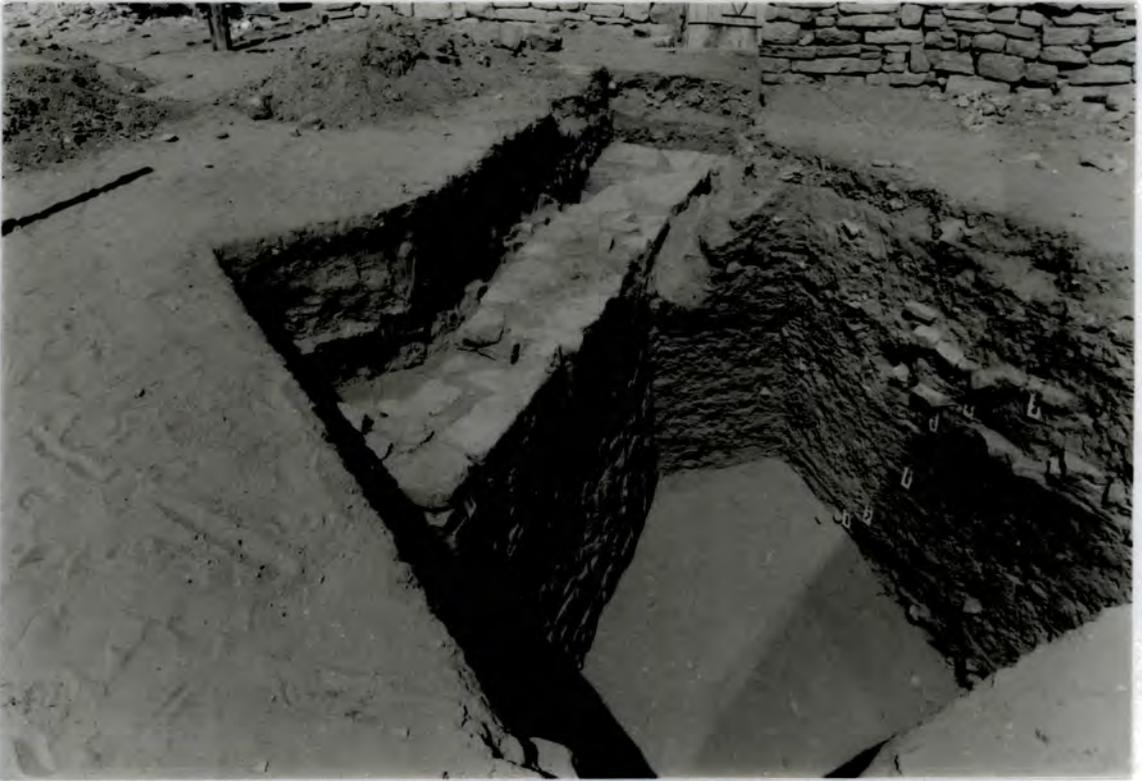


A. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, the E section



B. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, general view after excavation

PLATE XXIII



A. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, the wall which runs toward the 'Umar mosque minaret corner after excavation of the top surface



B. Trench no. 3, Dūmat al-Jandal, a view of the wall showing that it does not connect with the minaret

PLATE XXIV



A. A small pottery bottle discovered at trench no. 3,  
Dūmat al-Jandal

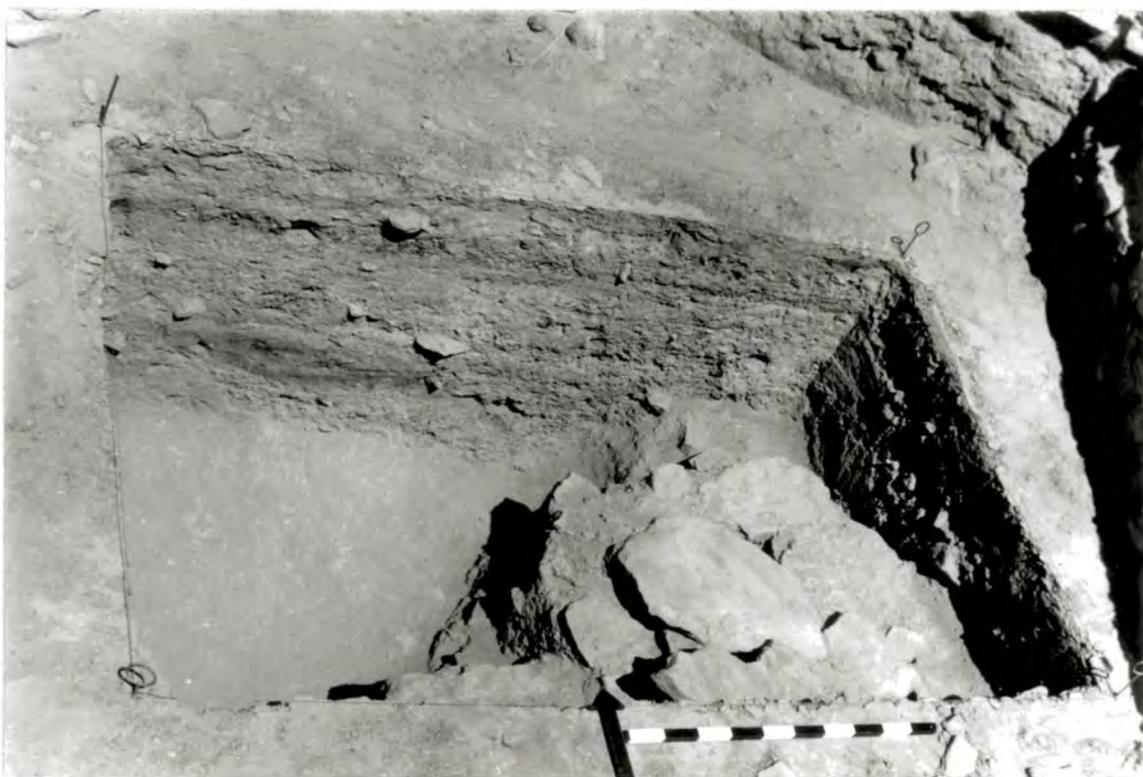


B. General view of trench no. 1, inside Muwaysin castle,  
before excavation

PLATE XXV



A. Trench no. 1, Muwaysin castle, a view showing a stone structure at the E part of the trench



B. Trench no. 1, Muwaysin castle, the trench after extending it 1m. to the E, showing a well covered by slabs of stones

PLATE XXVI

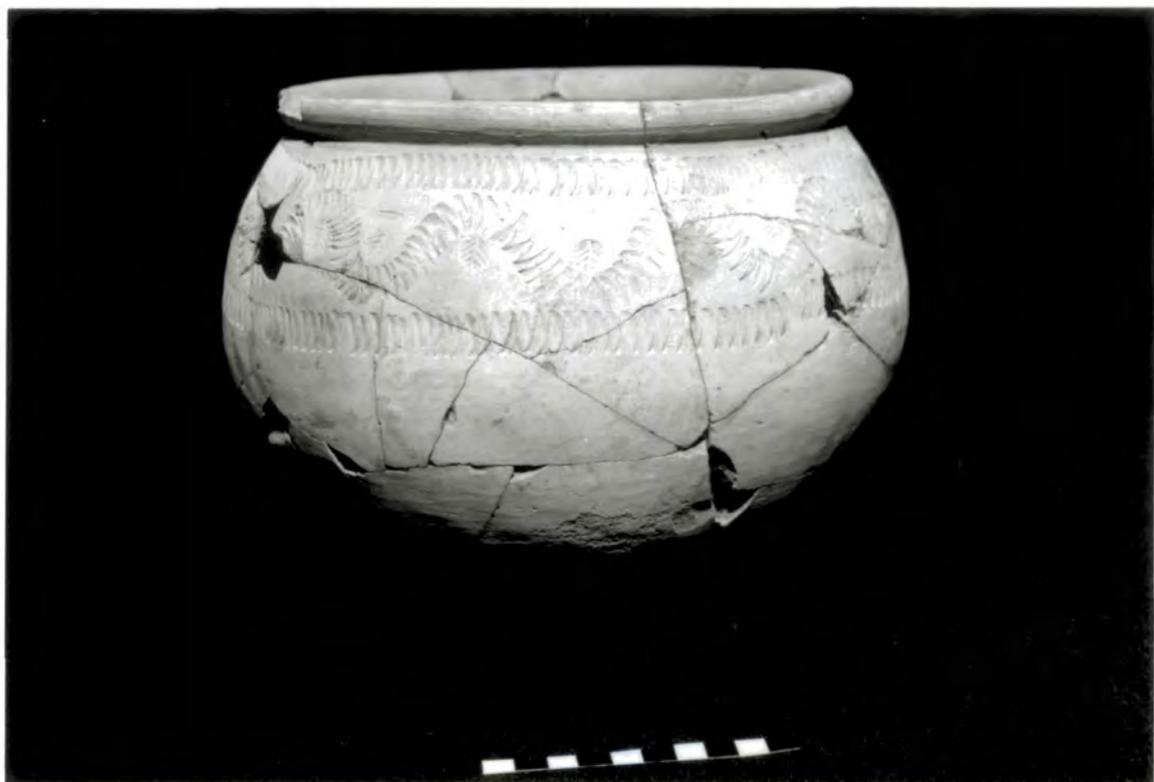


A. View of the trench no. 1, Muwaysin castle, after excavation showing the well

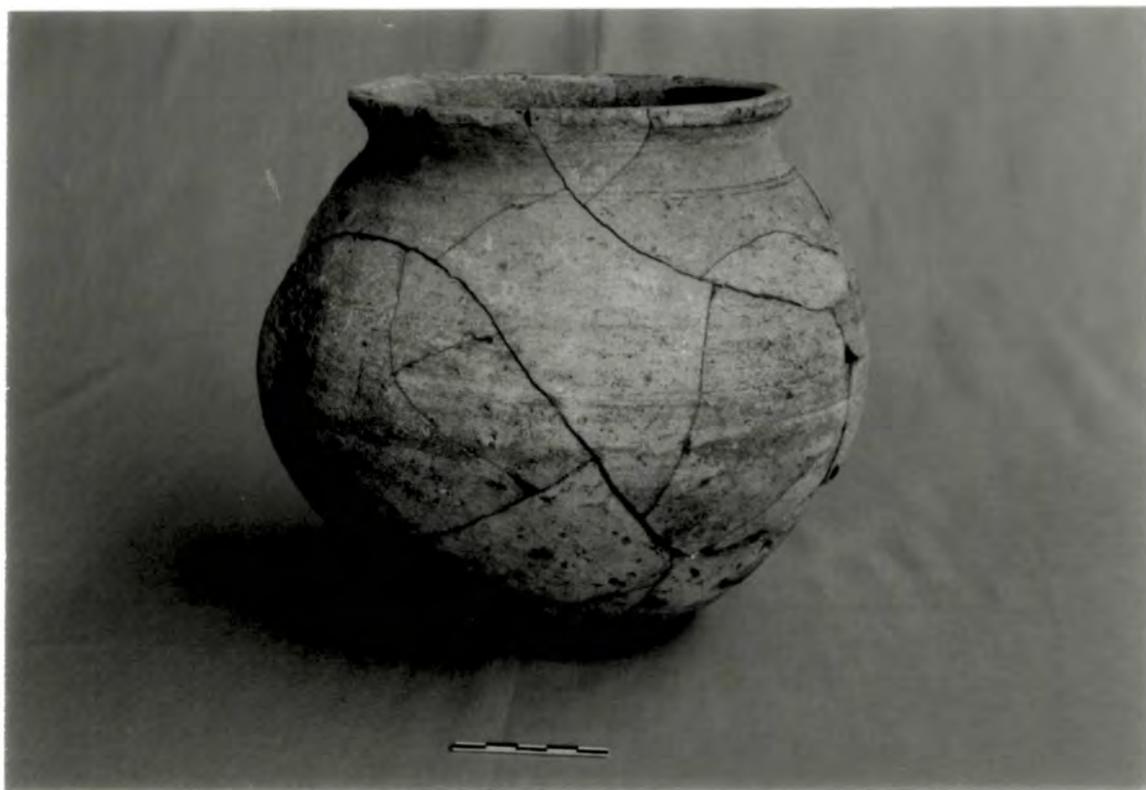


B. A view of the well, discovered at trench no. 1, Muwaysin castle

PLATE XXVII

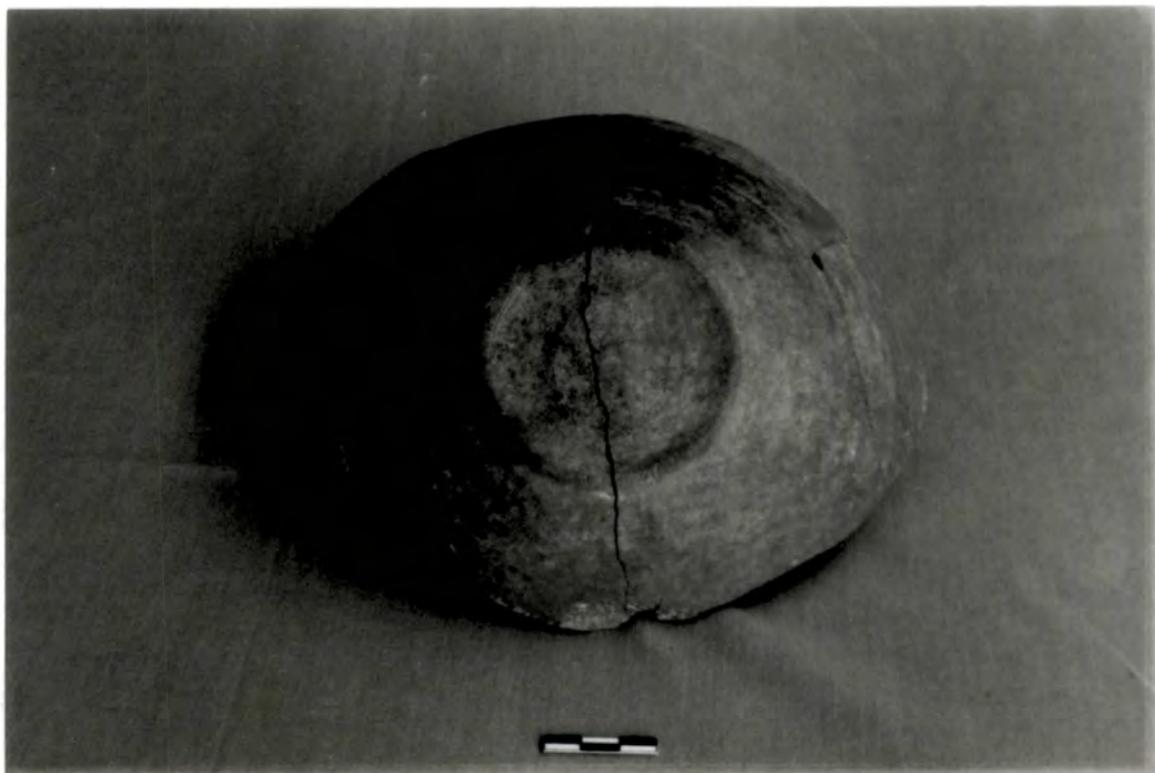


A. A restored cooking pot discovered at trench no. 2,  
al-Ṭuwayr site



B. A restored cooking pot discovered at the surface  
of al-Ṭuwayr site

PLATE XXVIII

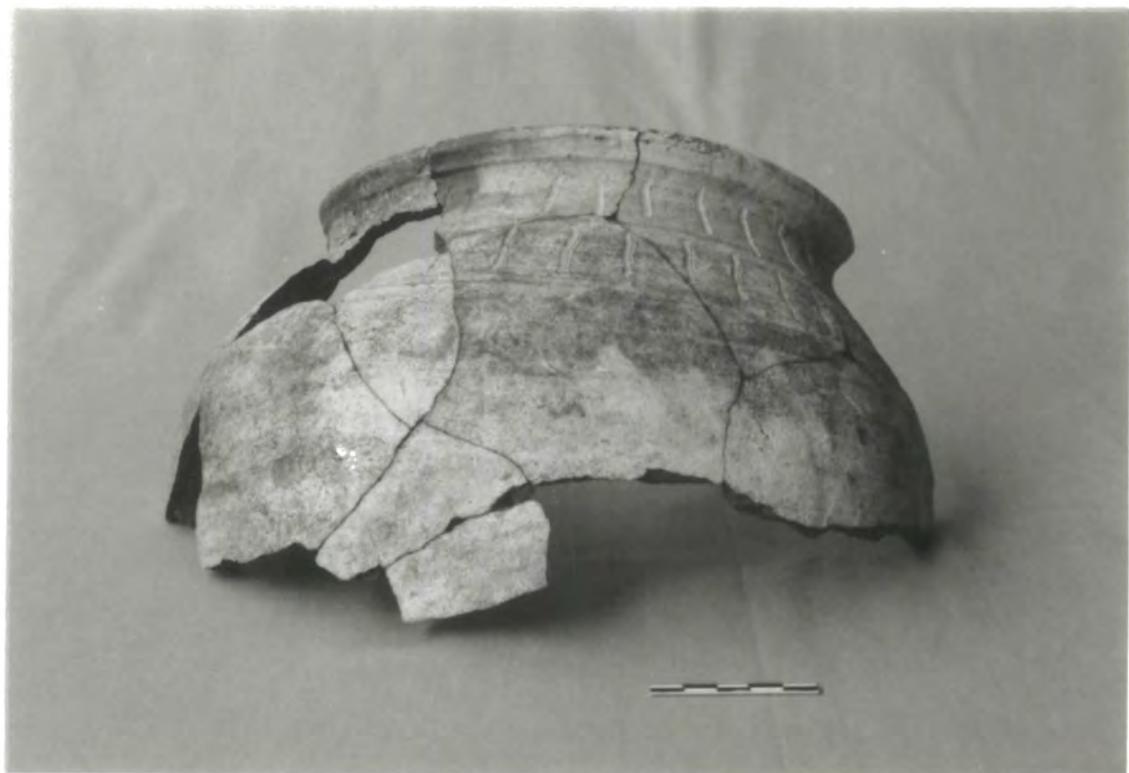


A. A restored bowl discovered at the surface of al-Ṭuwayr site

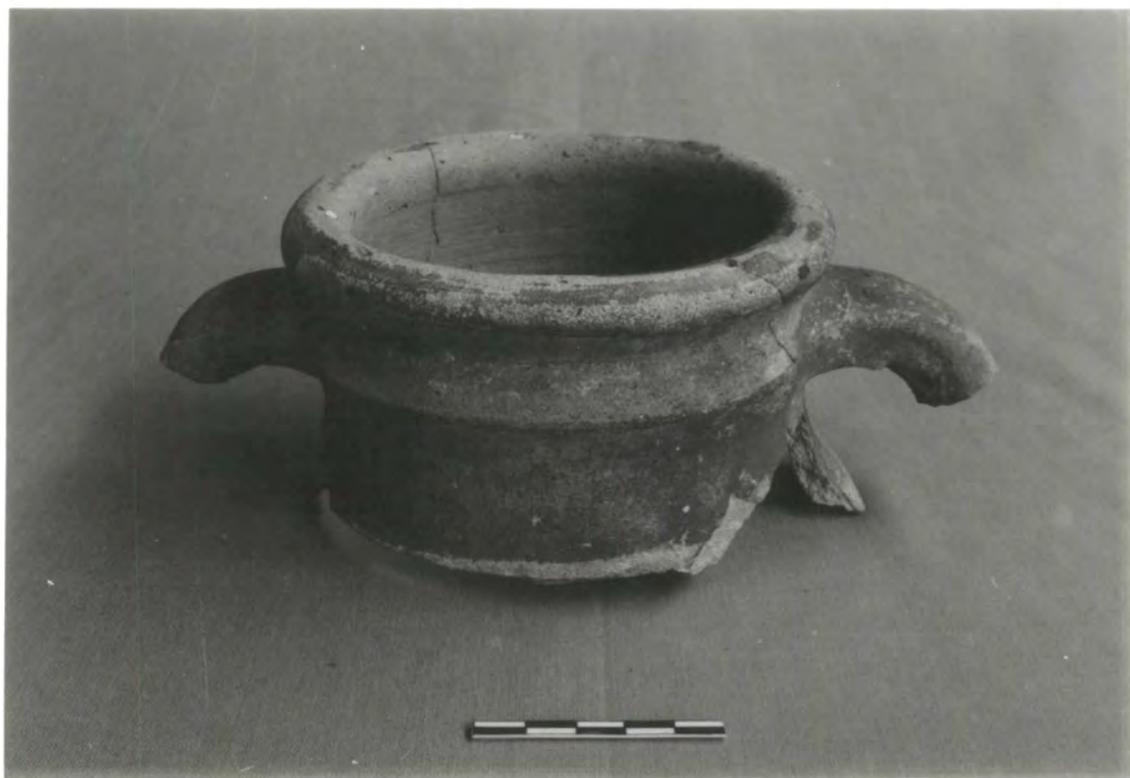


B. A restored upper part of a cooking pot,  
al-Ṭuwayr site surface

PLATE XXIX



A. A fragment of large cooking pot, al-Ṭuwayr site surface



B. The upper part of a jar, al-Ṭuwayr site surface

PLATE XXX



1



2



3

A. Painted sherds from the Jawf region



1



2



3



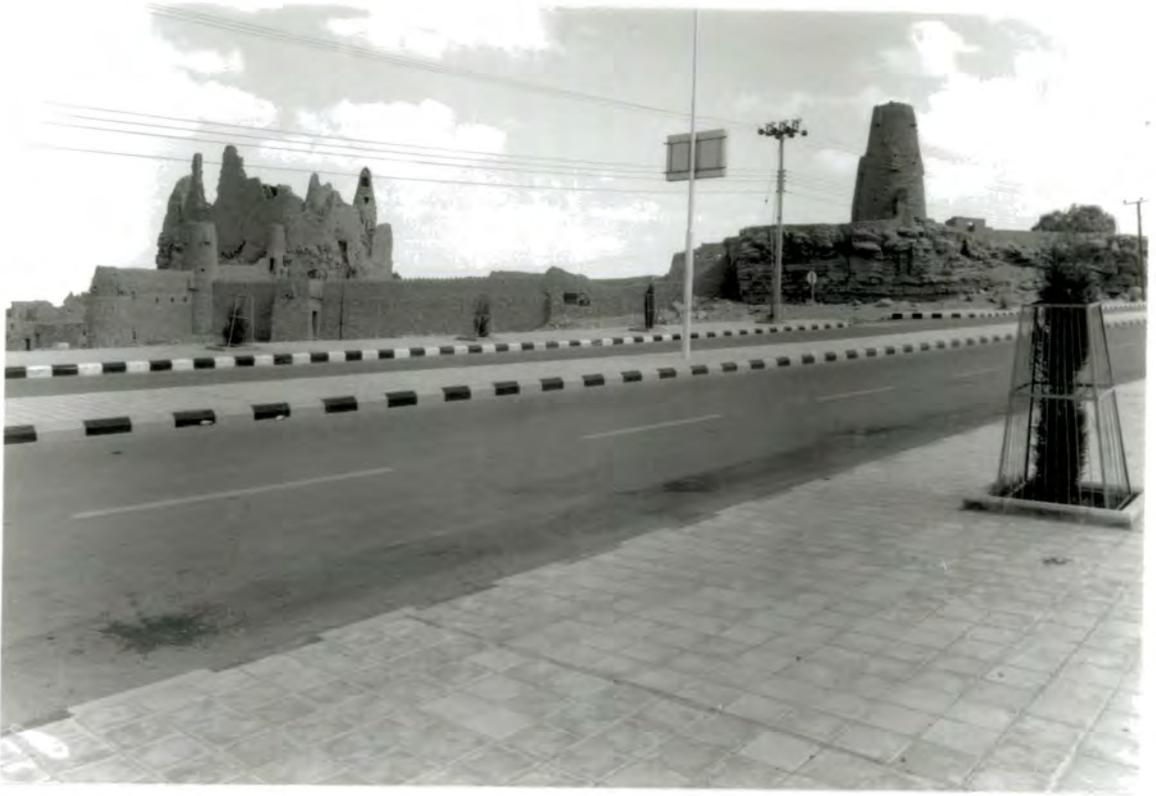
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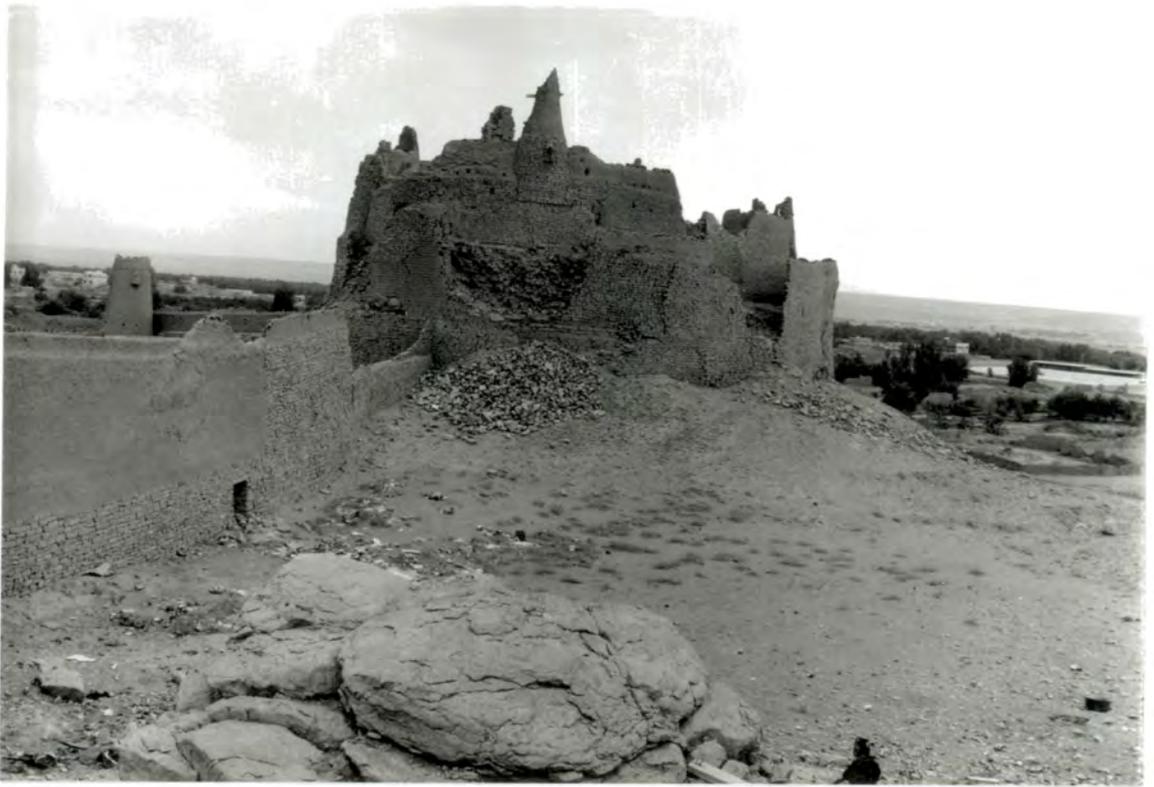
5

B. Painted sherds found on the surface at Dūmat al-Jandal

PLATE XXXI



A. Mārid castle and the annex below it looking west



B. Mārid castle from the southern side

PLATE XXXII



A. Mārid castle from the east showing the huge wall



B. Mārid castle from inside the annex

PLATE XXXIII



A. The entrance of the castle and the oldest part below



B. The courtyard of Mārid castle and the main entrance

PLATE XXXIV



A. The NW wall of Mārid castle



B. Inside view of the NW wall and the N tower



A. The W wall and the two storey building in the SW corner of the castle



B. The main entrance and the fortification in the S part of Mārid castle

PLATE XXXVI



The S tower and the stair leading to the first floor

PLATE XXXVII



A. The S part of the interior of Mārid castle



B. The N part of the interior of Mārid castle

PLATE XXXVIII



A. The entrance and the N towers of the annex of  
Mārid castle



B. Mārid castle and the N towers of the annex

PLATE XXXIX



A. A view of the interior of the annex



B. The SW tower of the annex

PLATE XL



A. The interior of the annex showing the second entrance



B. The S part of the annex

PLATE XLI



A. Walling inside the annex of Mārid castle



B. The Minaret of the 'Umar mosque



The Minaret of the 'Umar mosque

PLATE XLIII



A. The Şahn and riwāq al-qiblah viewed from the E

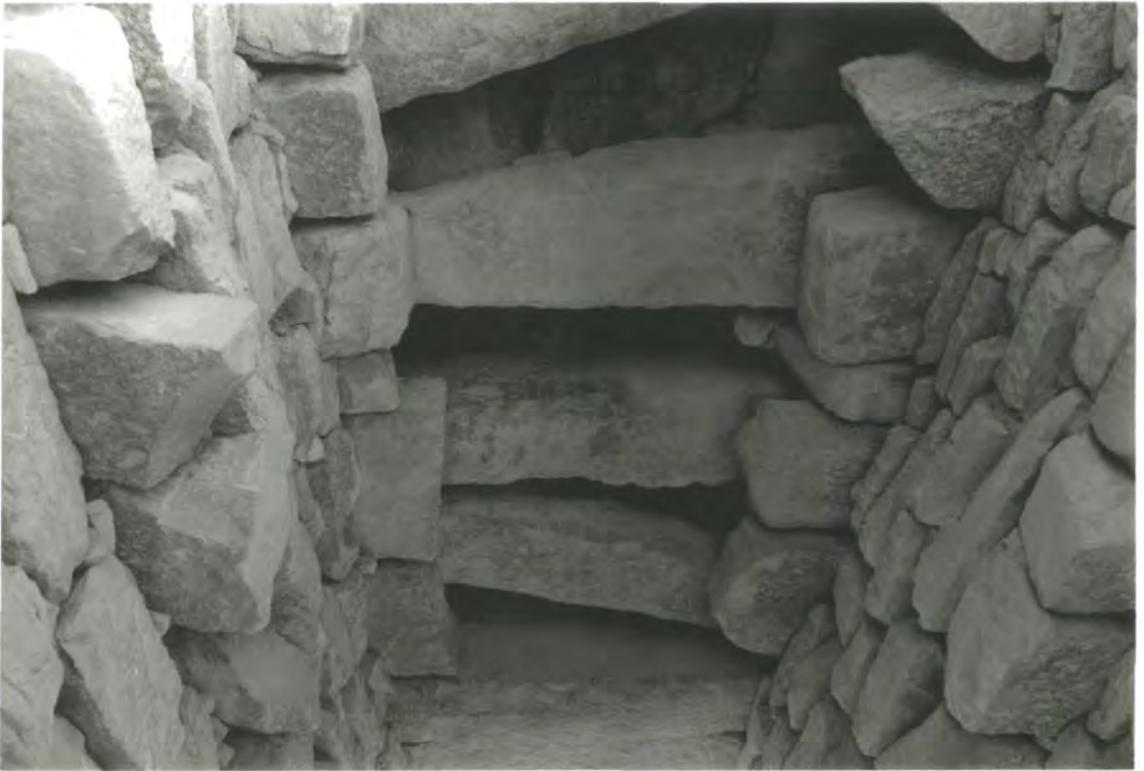


B. The Şahn of the mosque veiwed from the W

PLATE XLIV

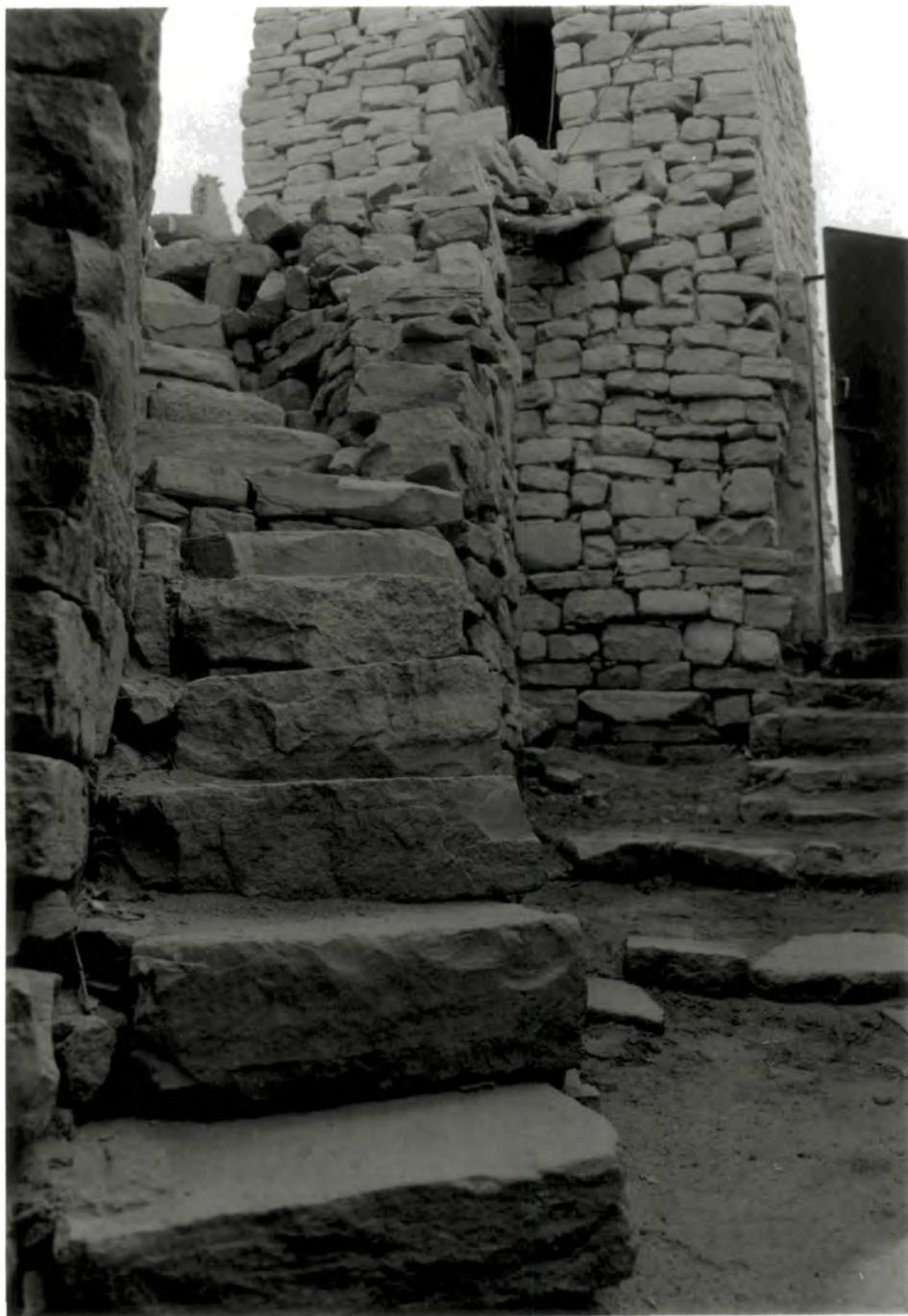


A. The Şahın and the small sanctuary viewed from the E



B. The stone cornelling above the passage which pass through the body of the minaret

PLATE XLV

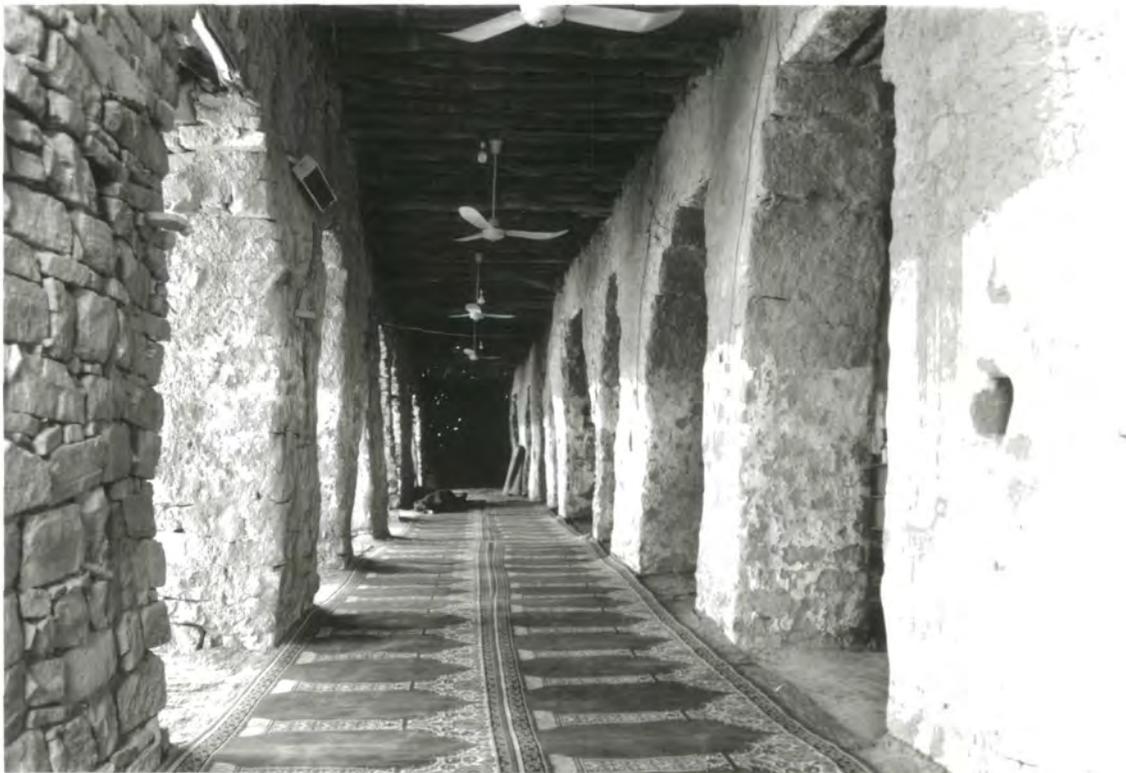


The staircase which leads to the minaret and  
the roof of the mosque

PLATE XLVI



A. The interior of the sanctuary, the second and the third arcades shown



B. The interior of the mosque showing the first and the second arcades



A. The corbelling system above the pillars



B. The Mihrāb of the 'Umar mosque



B. The main entrance to the ancient quarter



A. A very well built stone pillar inside the 'Umar mosque

PLATE XLIX

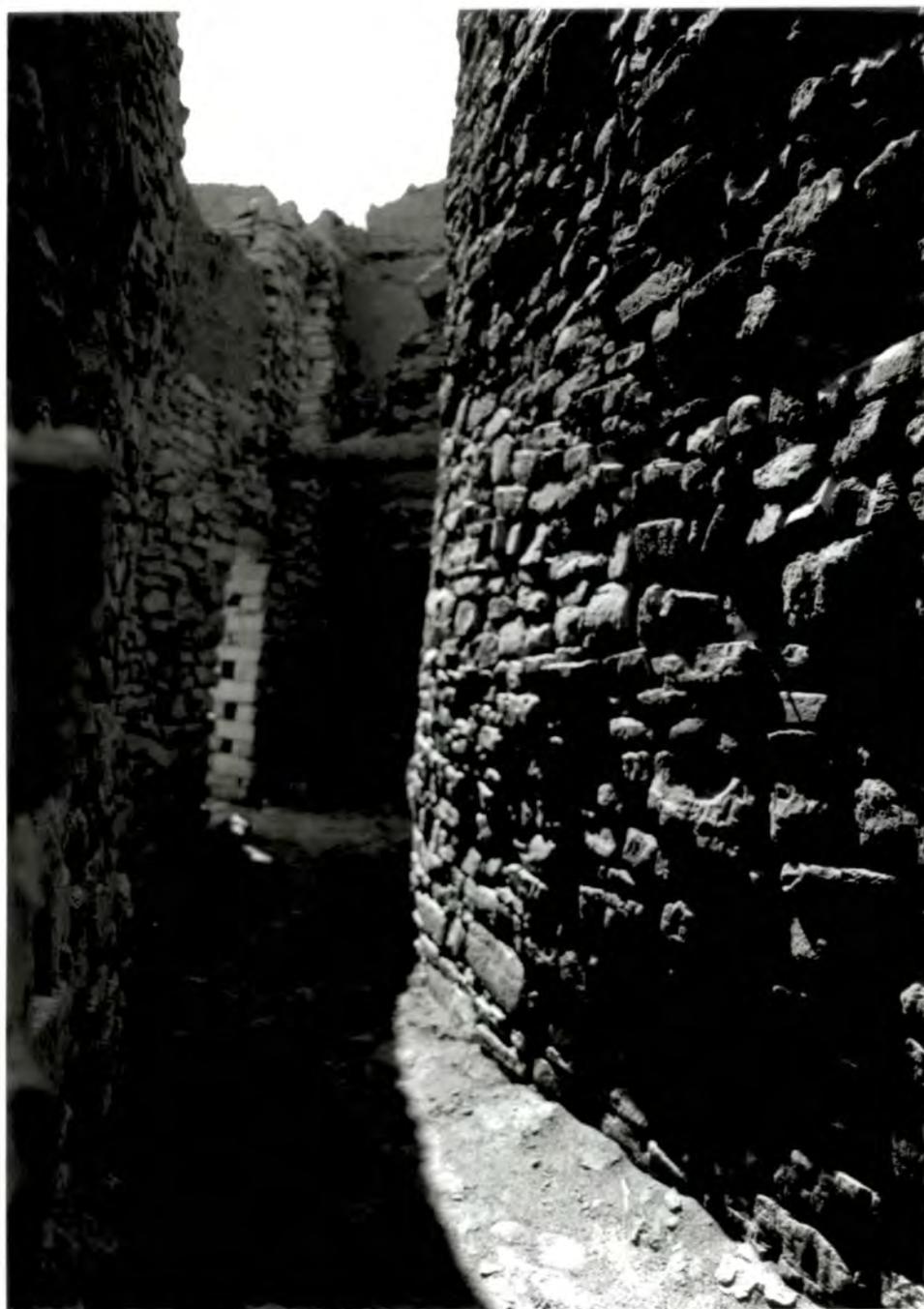


A. A view of the ancient quarter from the W



B. A view of the main narrow street from the S

PLATE L



Inside view of the narrow, twisting street

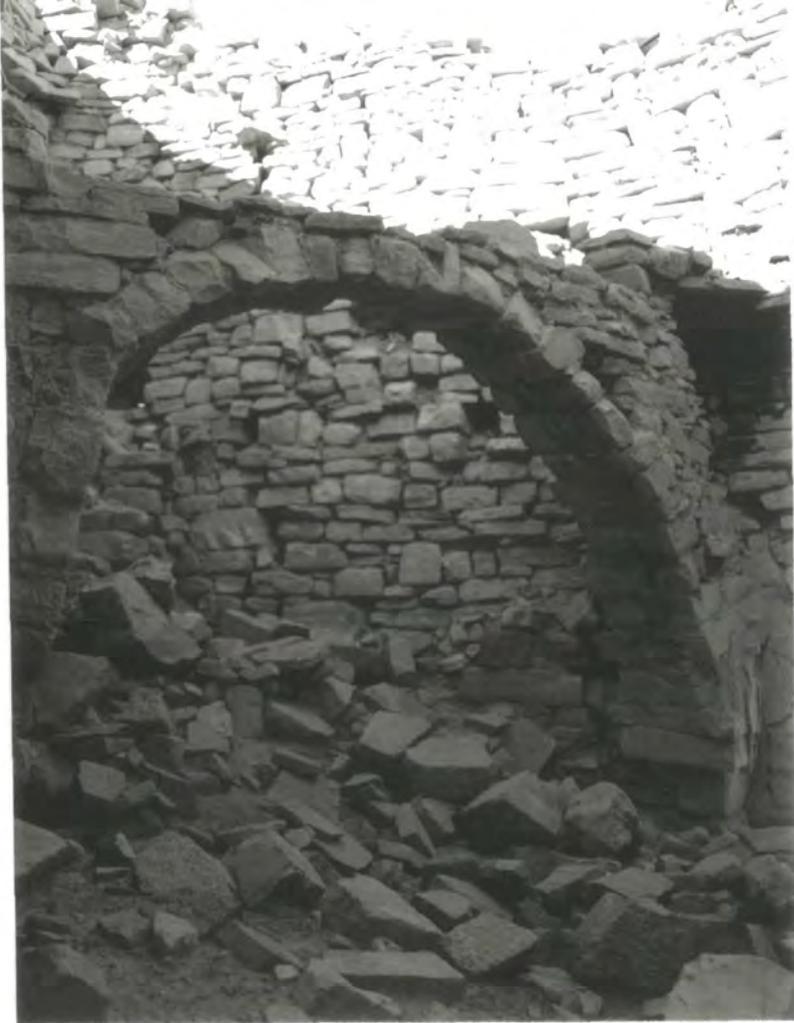
PLATE LI



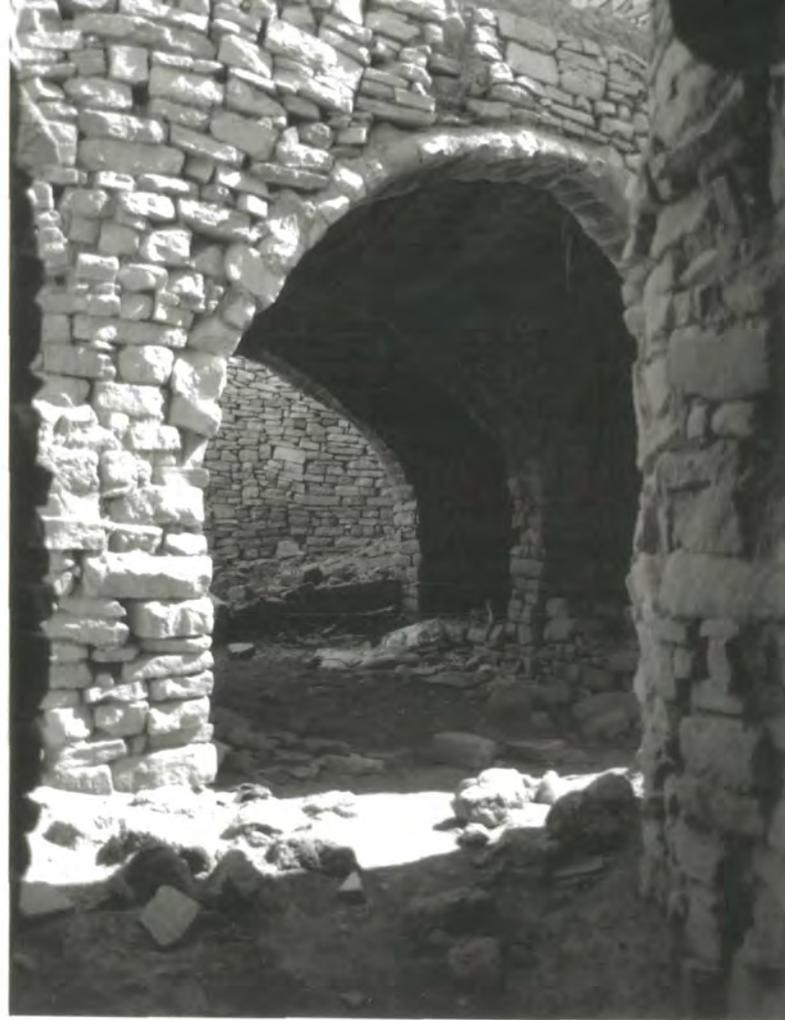
A. The main arched square inside the ancient quarter



B. The round arches of the main square



B. An example of the round arches inside the ancient quarter



A. View of the main square from the E

PLATE LIII



A. The pointed arches in the main square



B. View of the ancient quarter from the E

PLATE LIV



A. The use of stone lintels in doors and windows



B. The use of the corbelling system in the ancient quarter

PLATE LV



A. General view of the wall of Dumat al-Jandal  
from the W



B. View of the wall of Dumat al-Jandal from the W

PLATE LVI



A. A view of the SW section of Dūmat al-Jandal wall



B. A view of section of al-Suḥaym wall in Dumat al-Jandal

PLATE LVII



A View of al-Suḥaym wall in Dūmat al-Jandal

PLATE LVIII



A. General view of Za'bal castle in Sakākā



B. The Za'bal castle viewed from the S

PLATE LIX



A. Inside view of Za'bal castle



B. A round tower and the main entrance of  
Za'bal castle

PLATE LX



A. The western tower of Za'bal castle



B. Inside view of Za'bal castle overlooking  
the city of Sakākā

PLATE LXI



A. The interior of Za'bal castle



B. General view of Muwaysin castle from the N

PLATE LXII



A. Muwaysin castle looking S



B. View of Muwaysin castle from the E

PLATE LXIII



A. General view of al-Qudayr castle looking N



B. View of al-Qudayr castle from the S

PLATE LXIV



A. The Saysarā well at Sakākā



B. Inside view of the Saysarā well

PLATE LXV

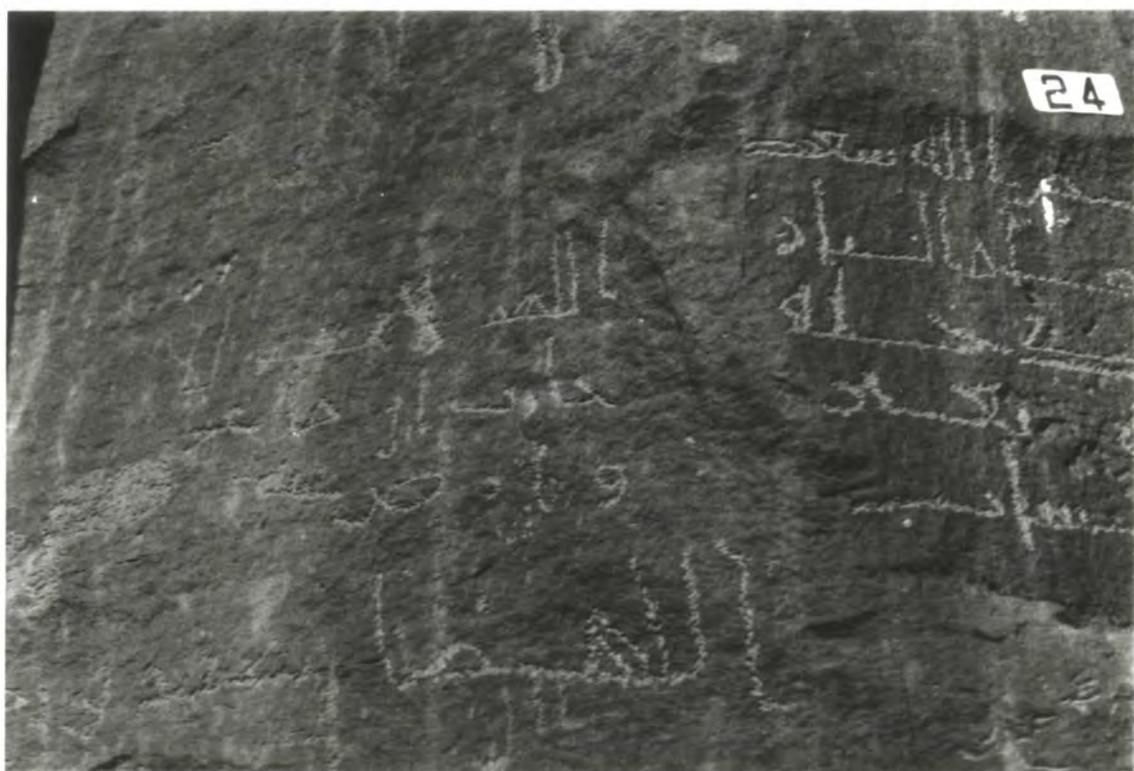


No. 1



No. 2

PLATE LXVI



No. 3

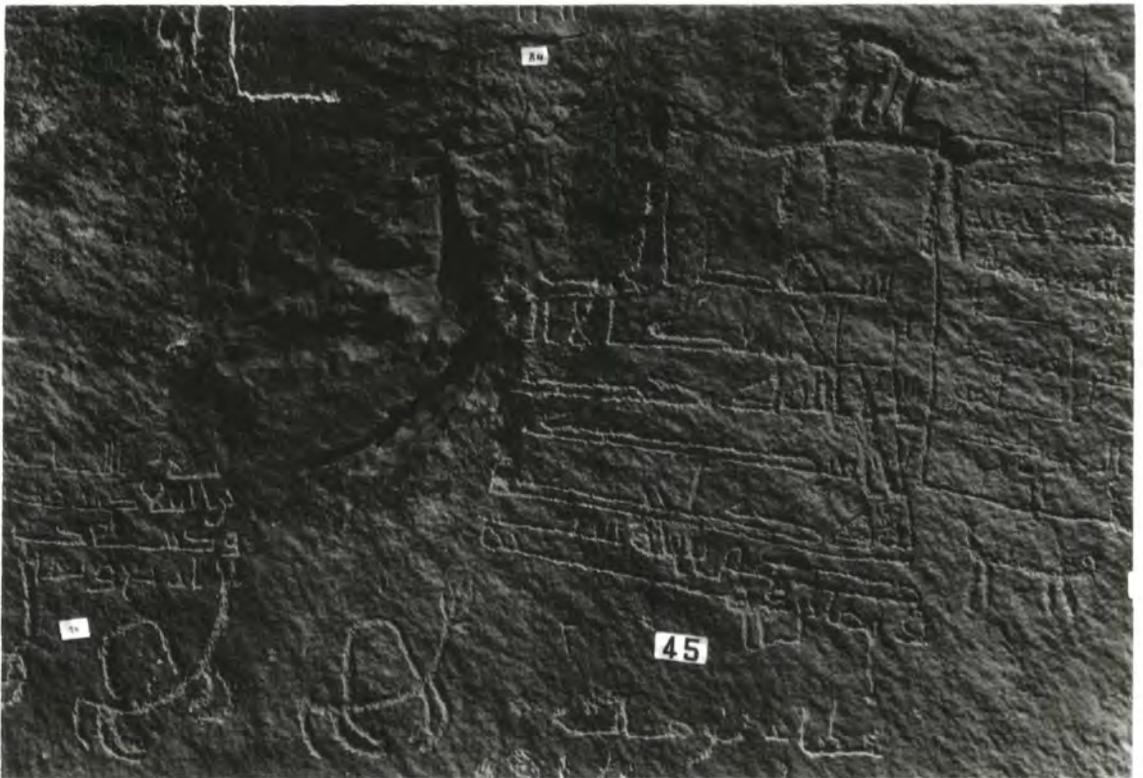


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PLATE LXVII

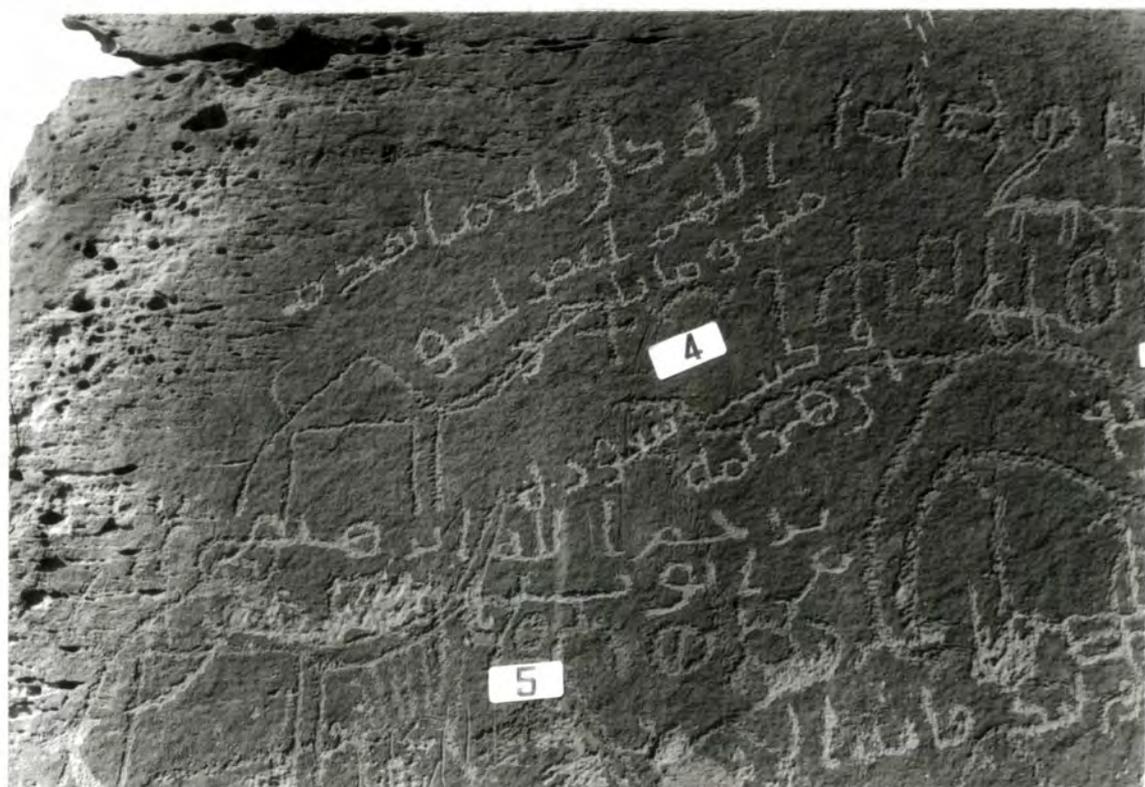


No. 5



No. 6

PLATE LXVIII



No. 7

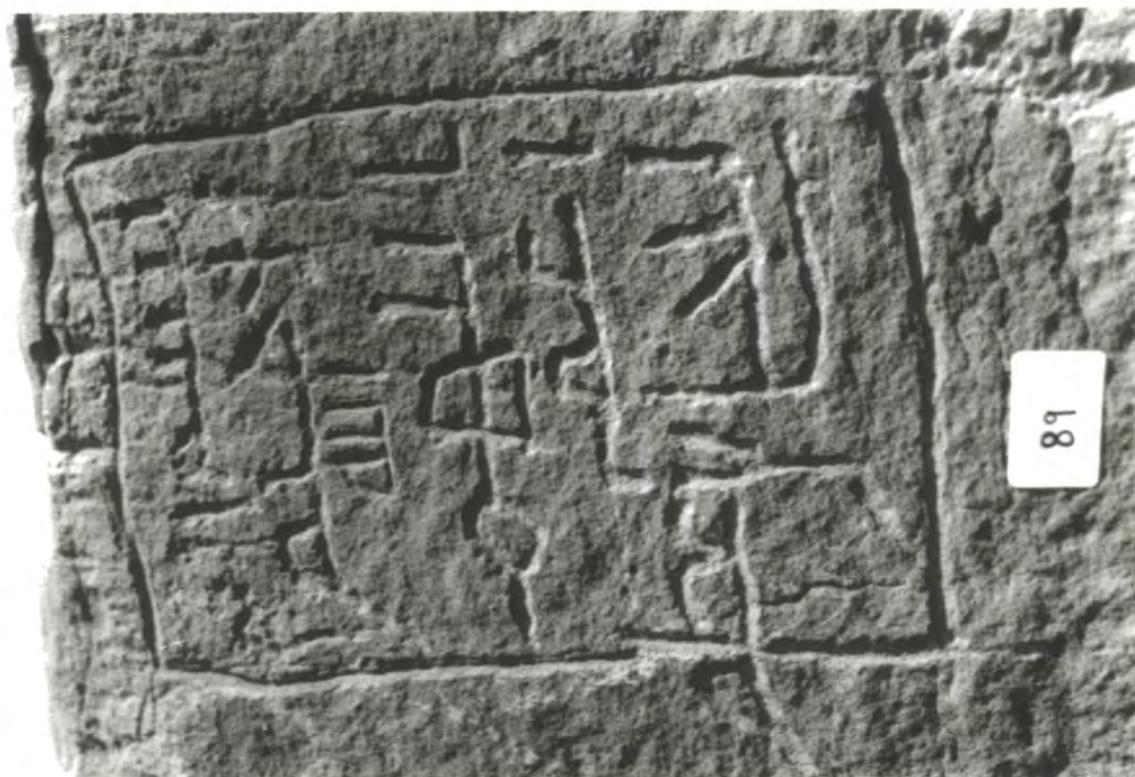


No. 8

PLATE LXIX



No. 9



No. 10

PLATE LXX



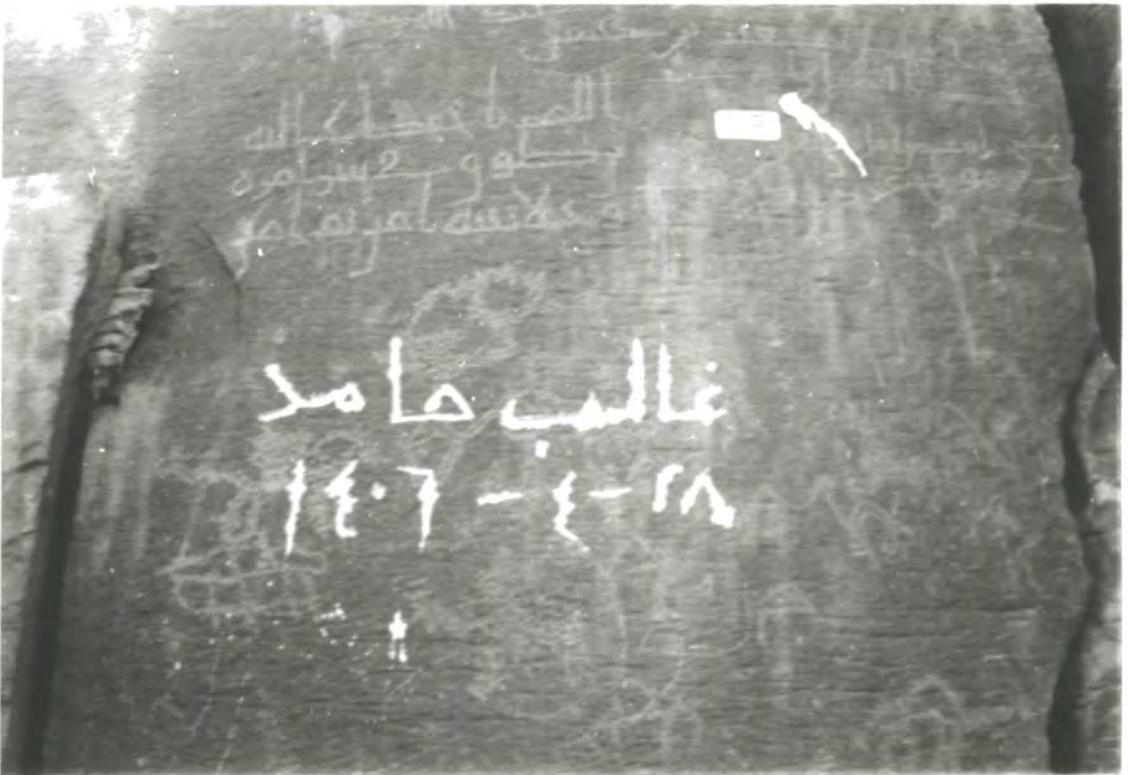
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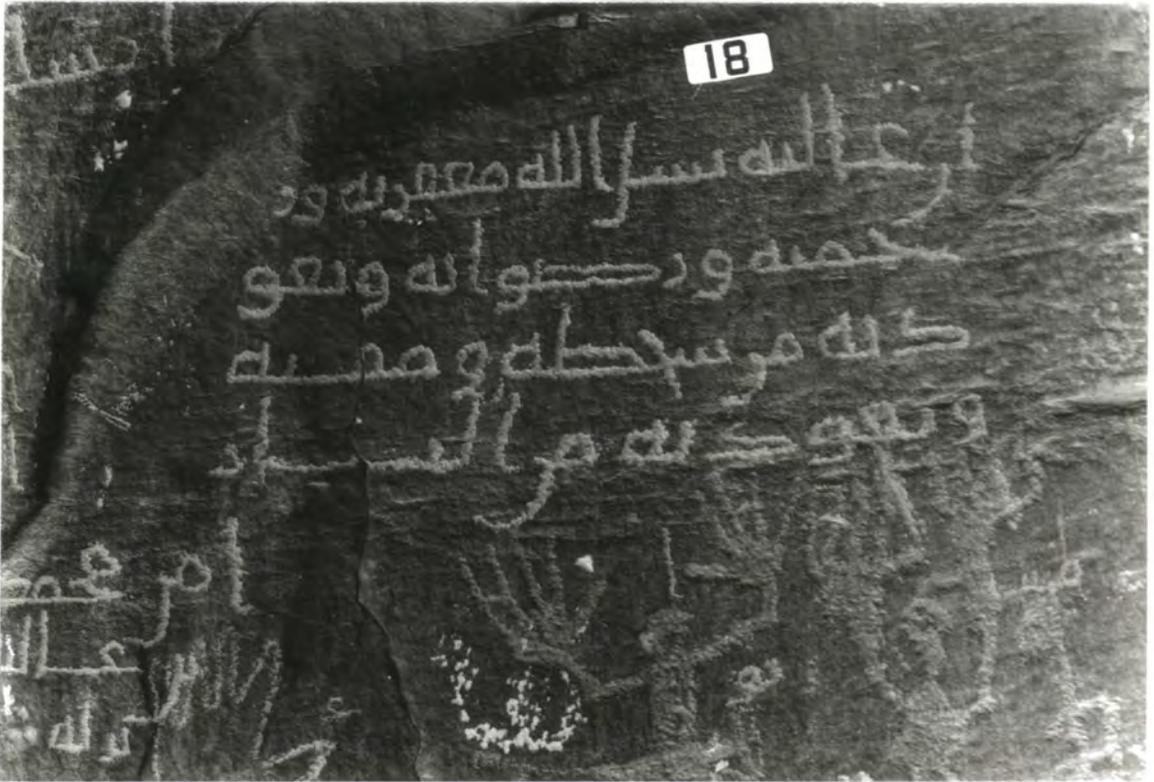
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No. 13



No. 14

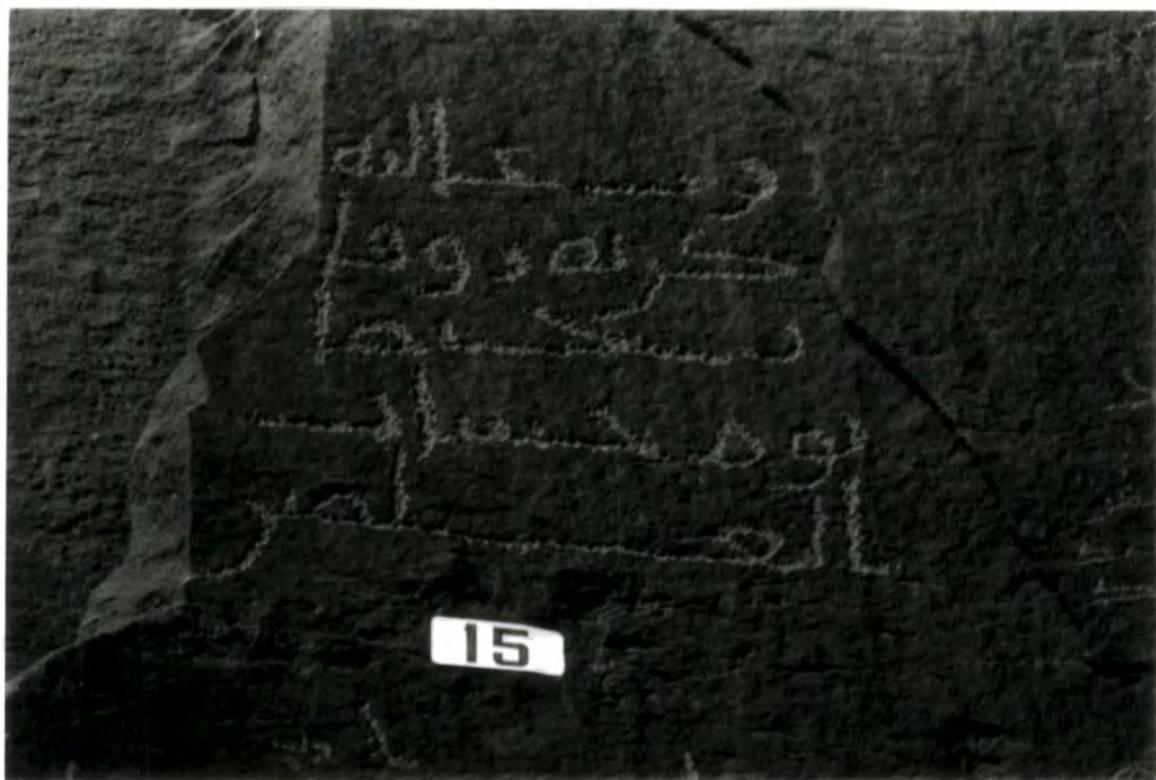


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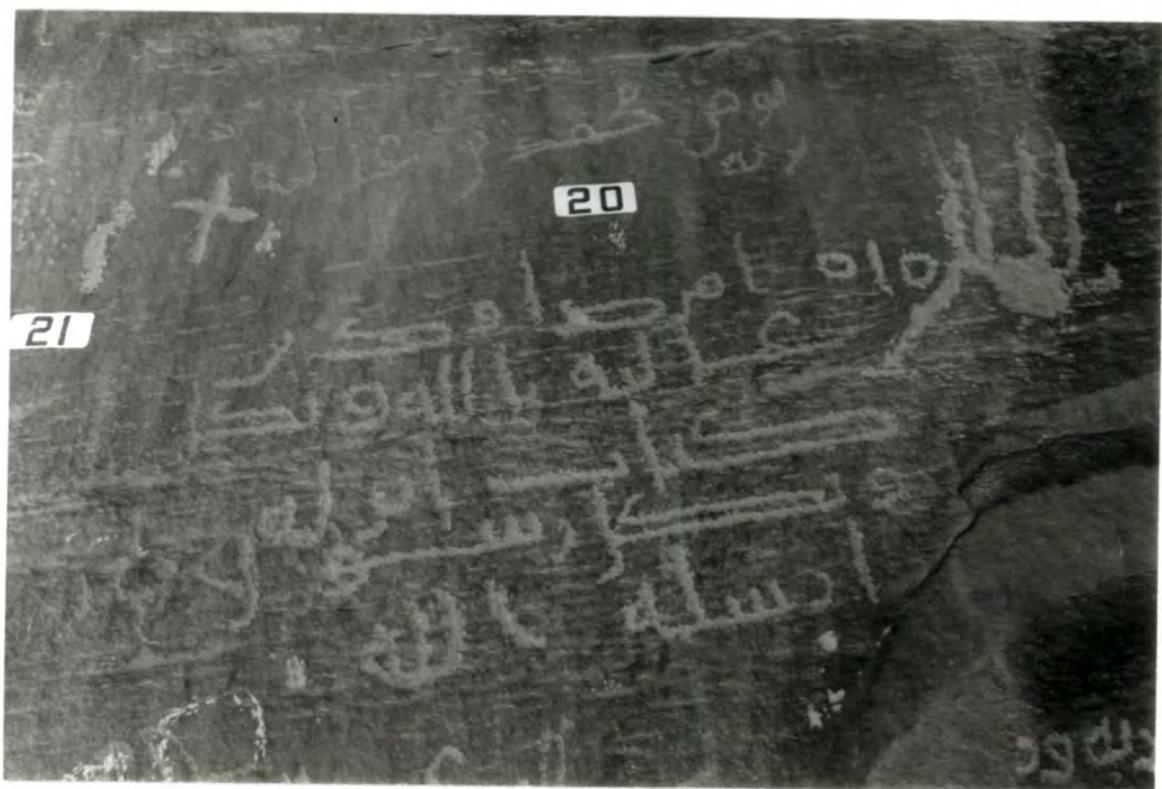


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PLATE LXXIII

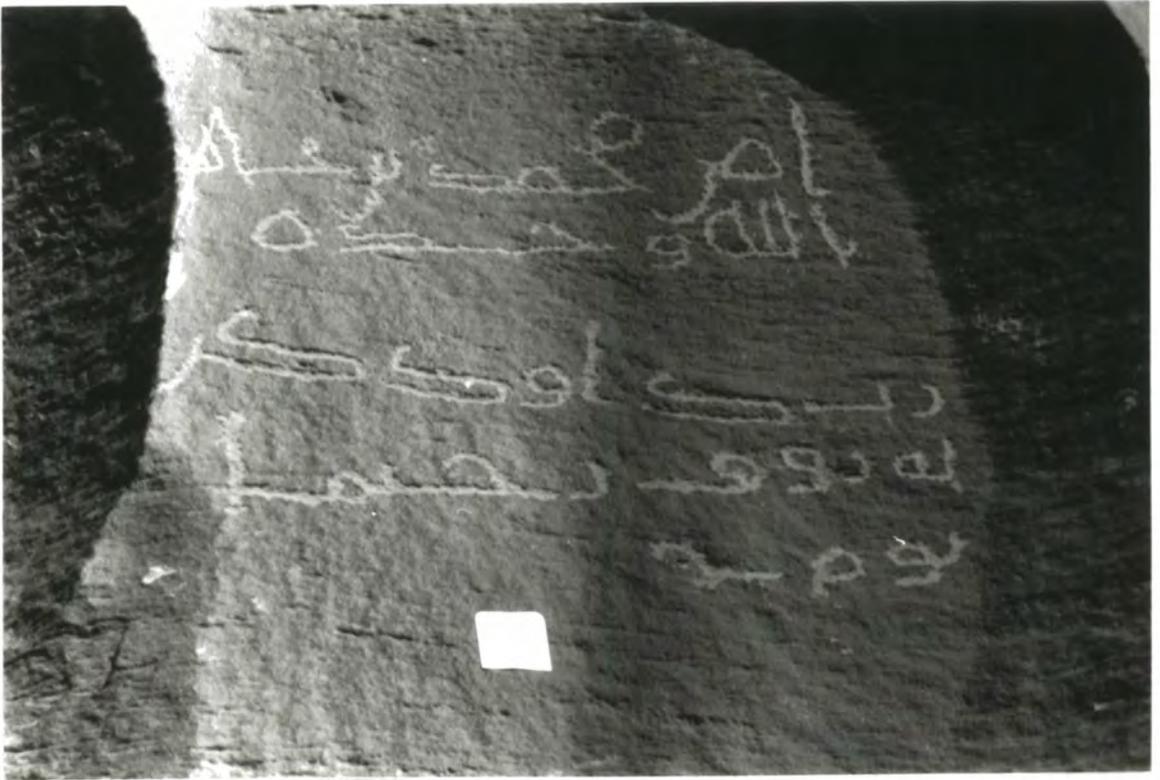


No. 17



Nos. 18 and 20

PLATE LXXIV



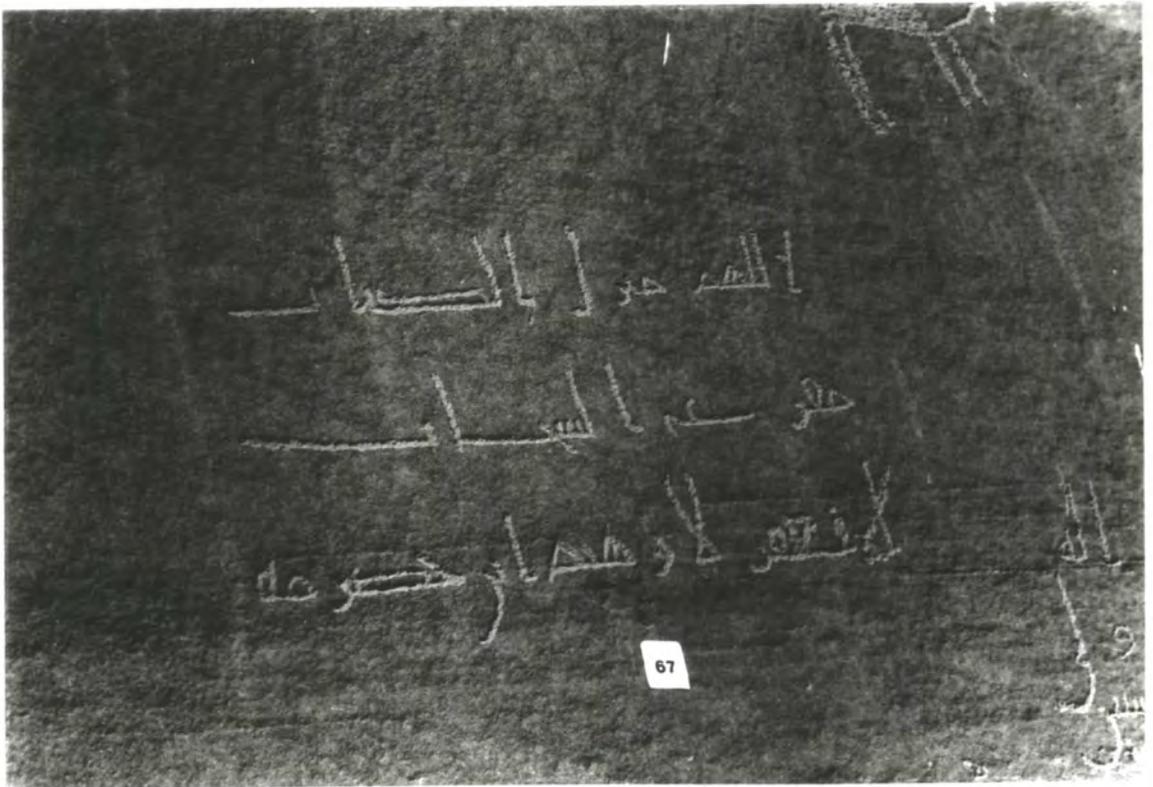
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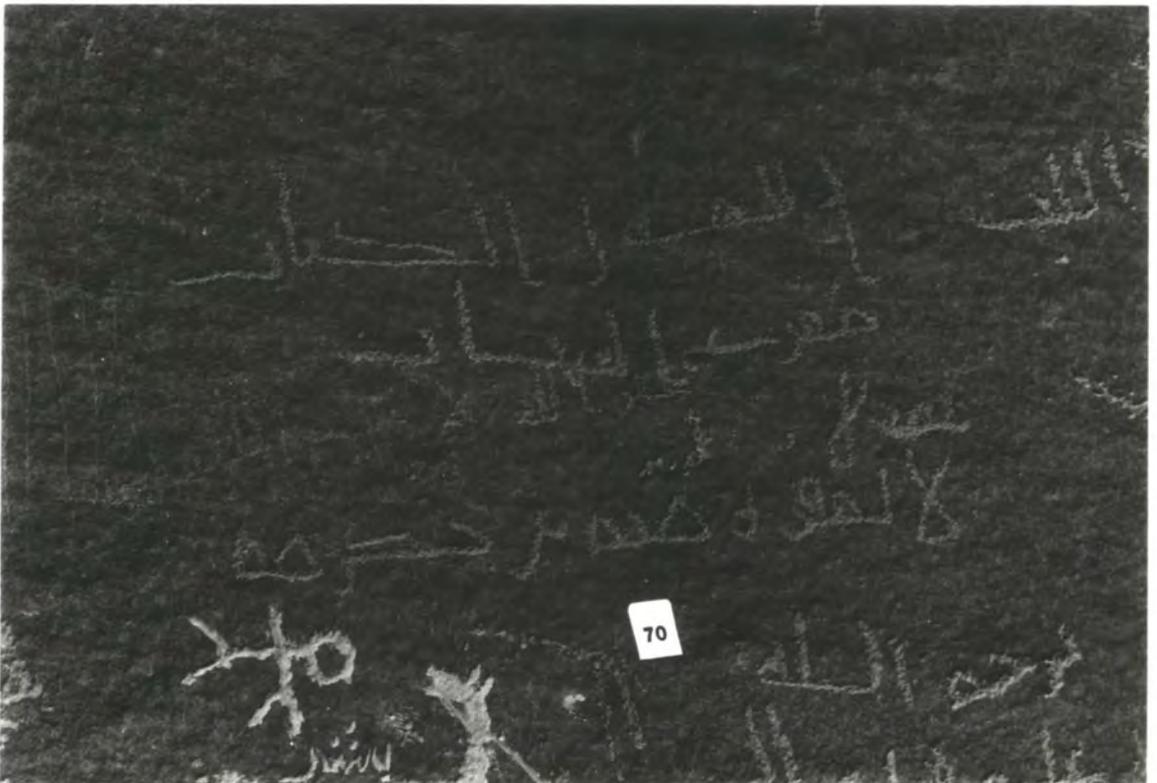
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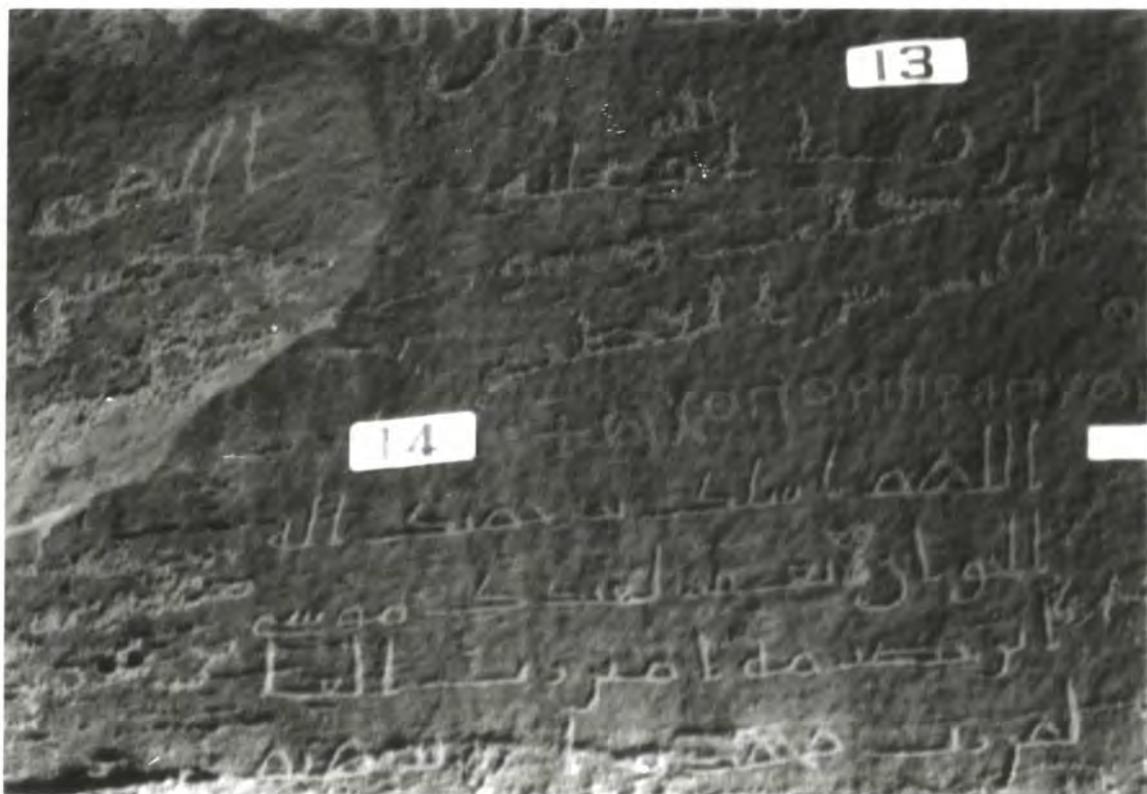
PLATE LXXVI



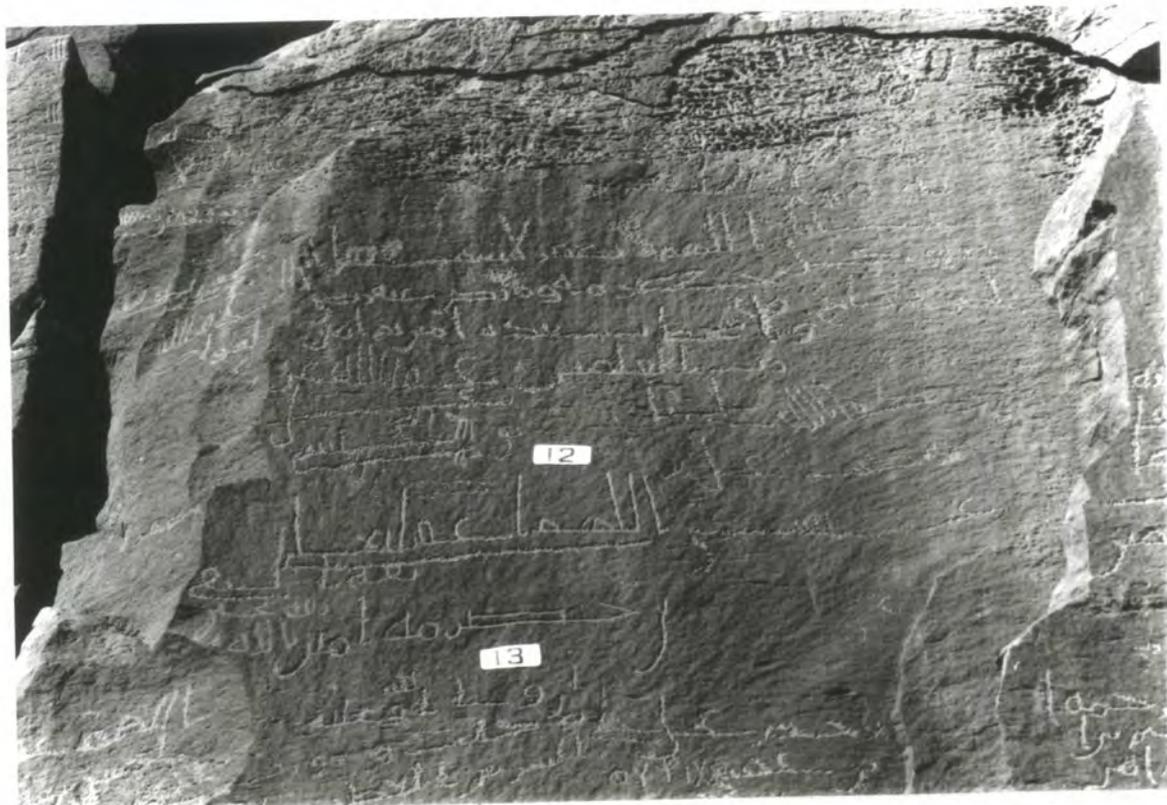
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No. 27



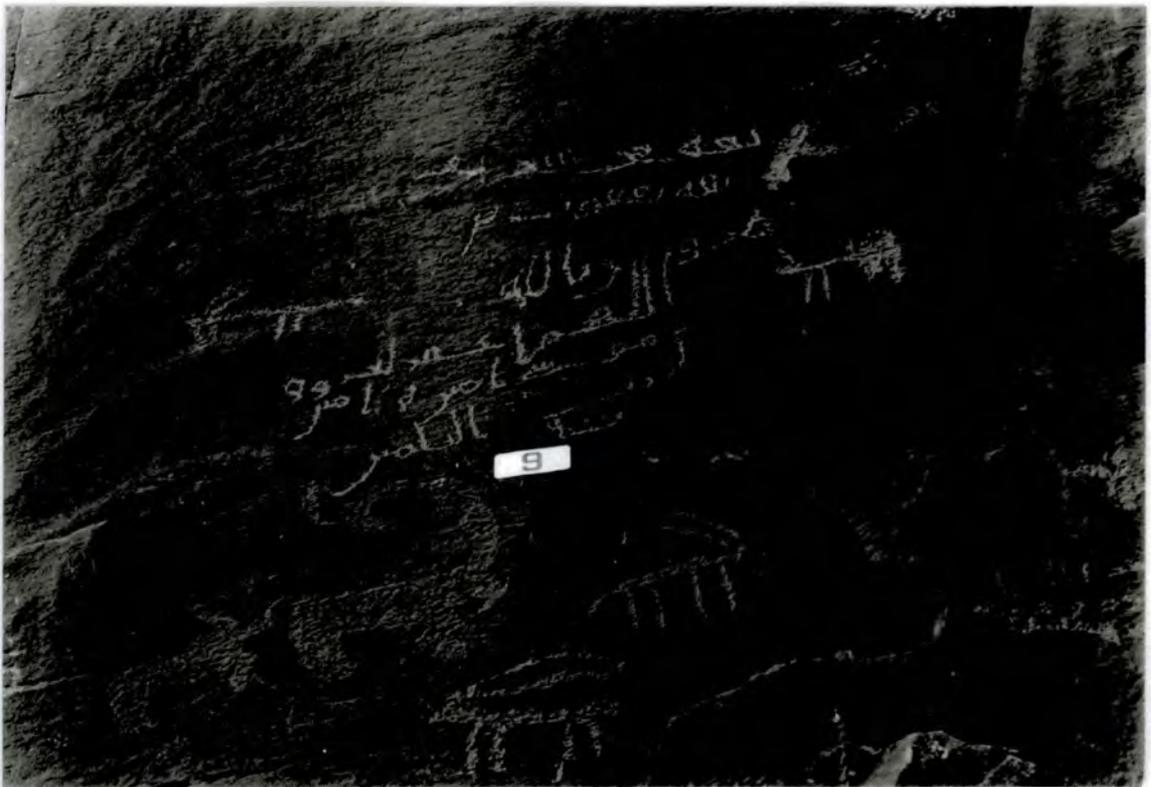
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Nos. 29 and 30



No. 31



No. 32

PLATE LXXIX



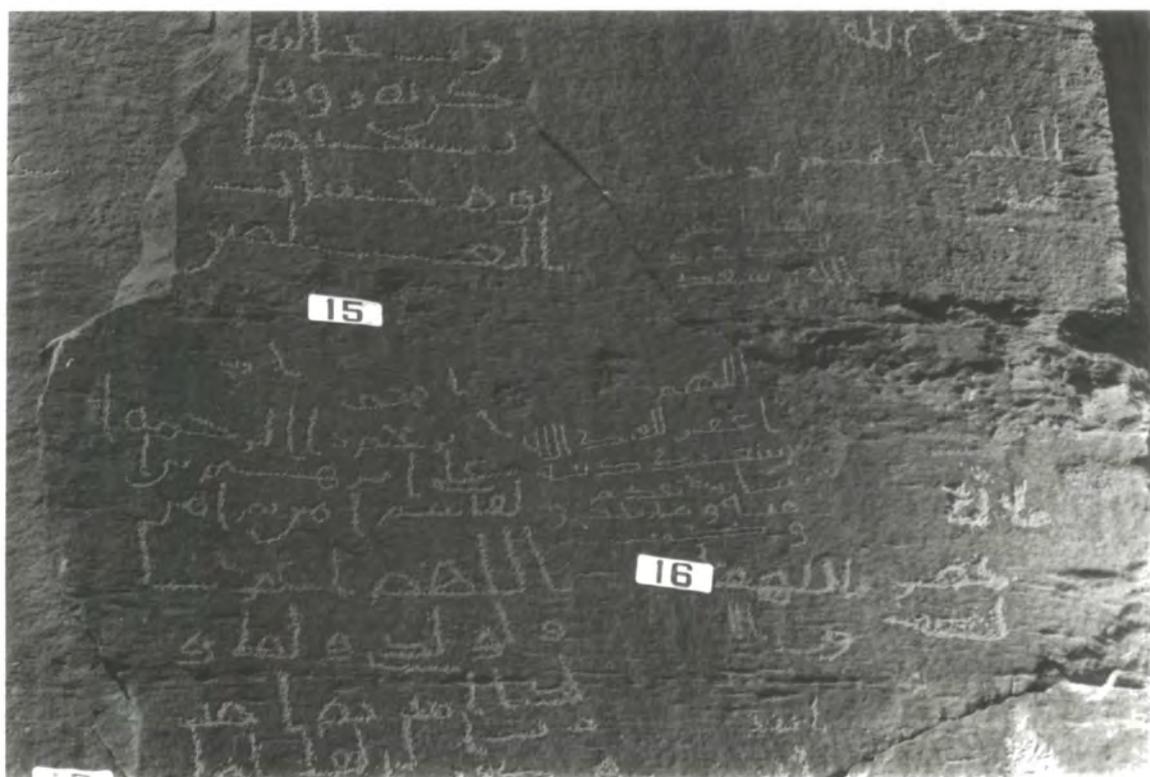
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No. 34



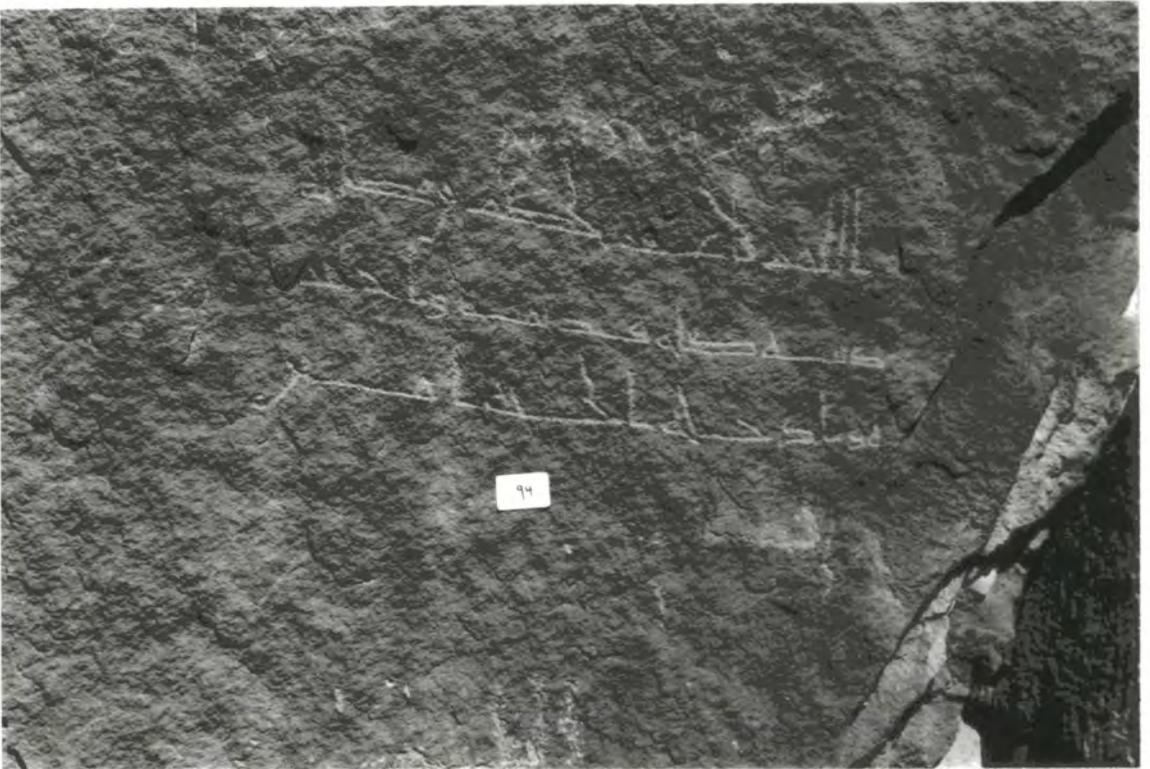
No. 35



Nos. 36 and 38



No. 37



No. 39

PLATE LXXXII



No. 40

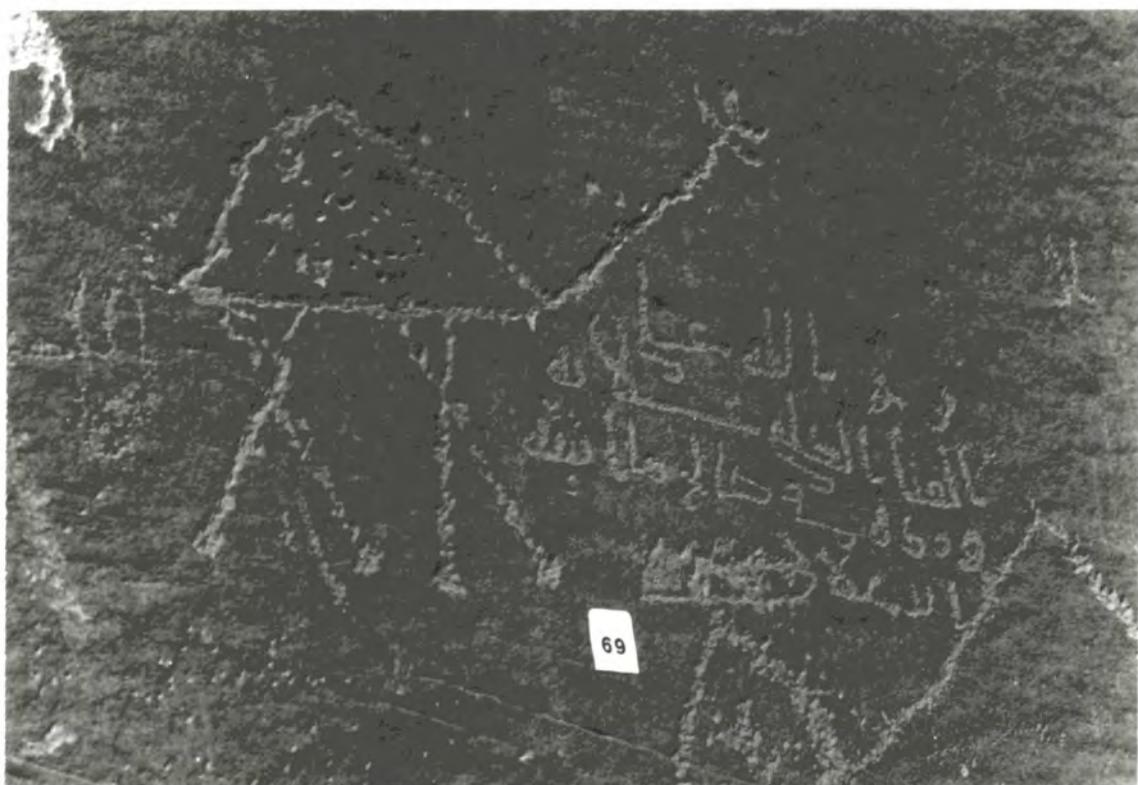


No. 41

PLATE LXXXIII



No. 42

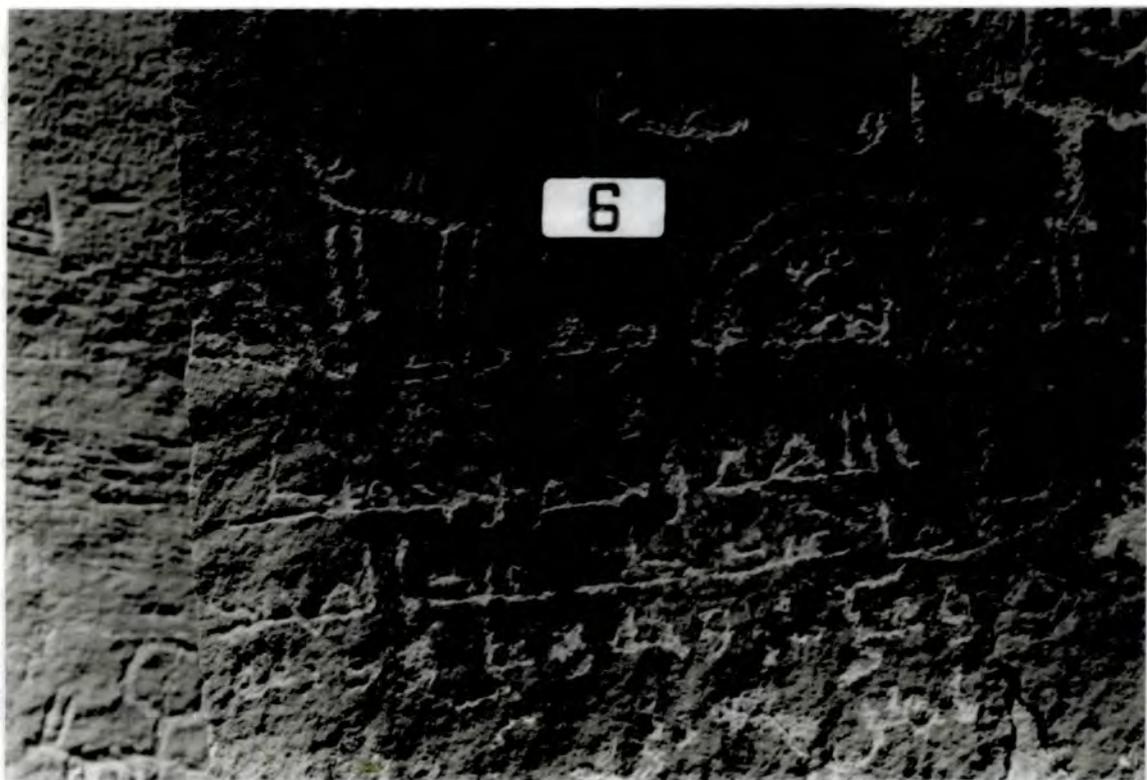


No. 43

PLATE LXXXIV



No. 44

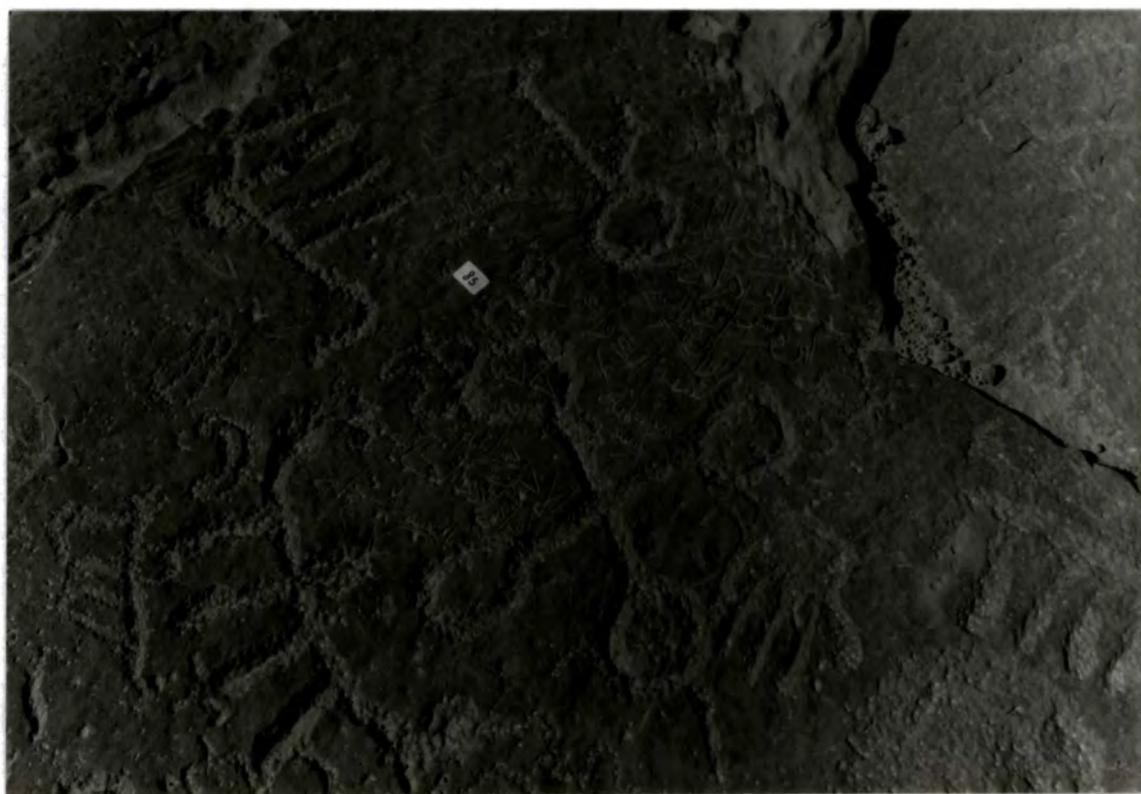


No. 45

PLATE LXXXV



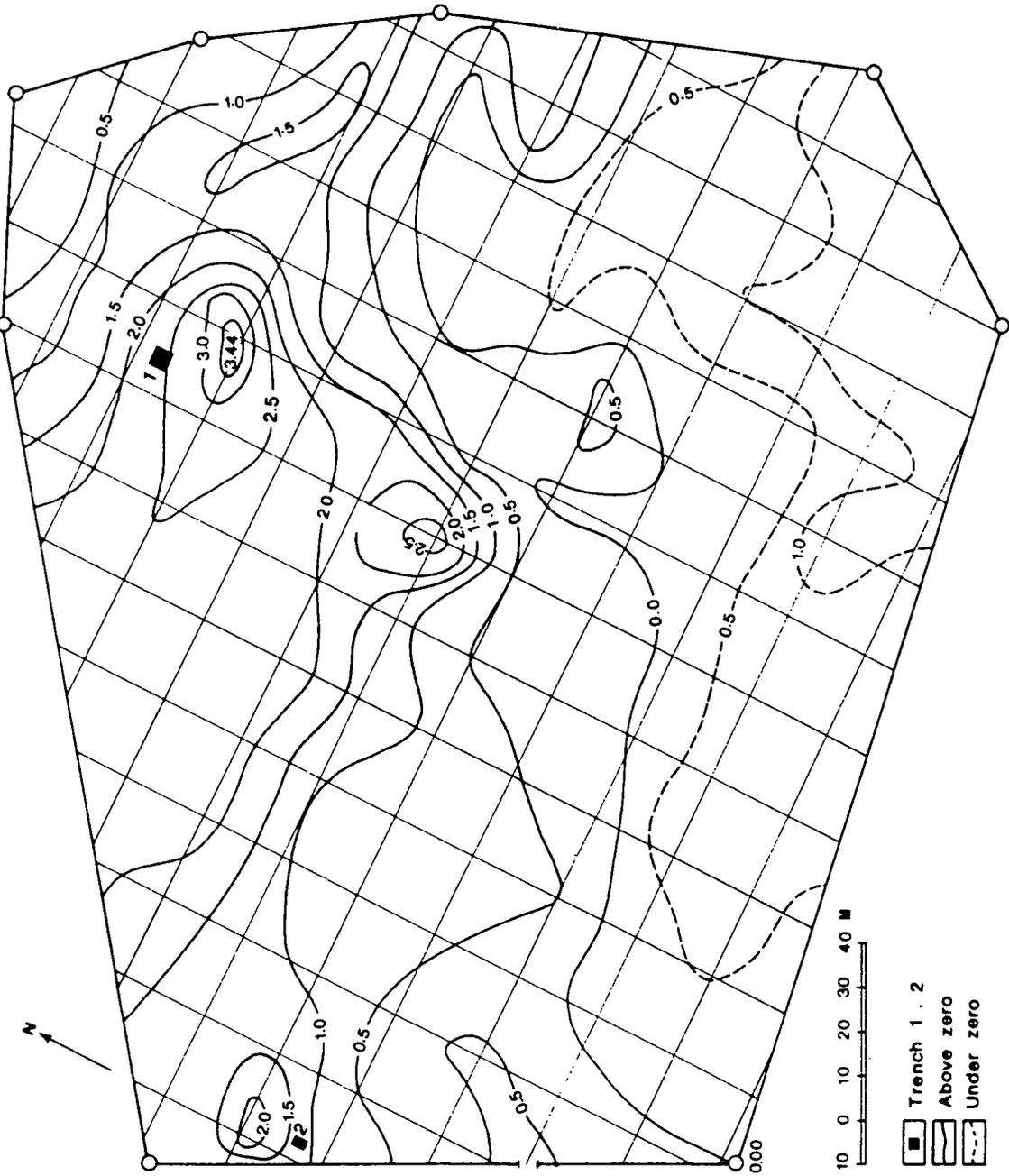
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No. 47

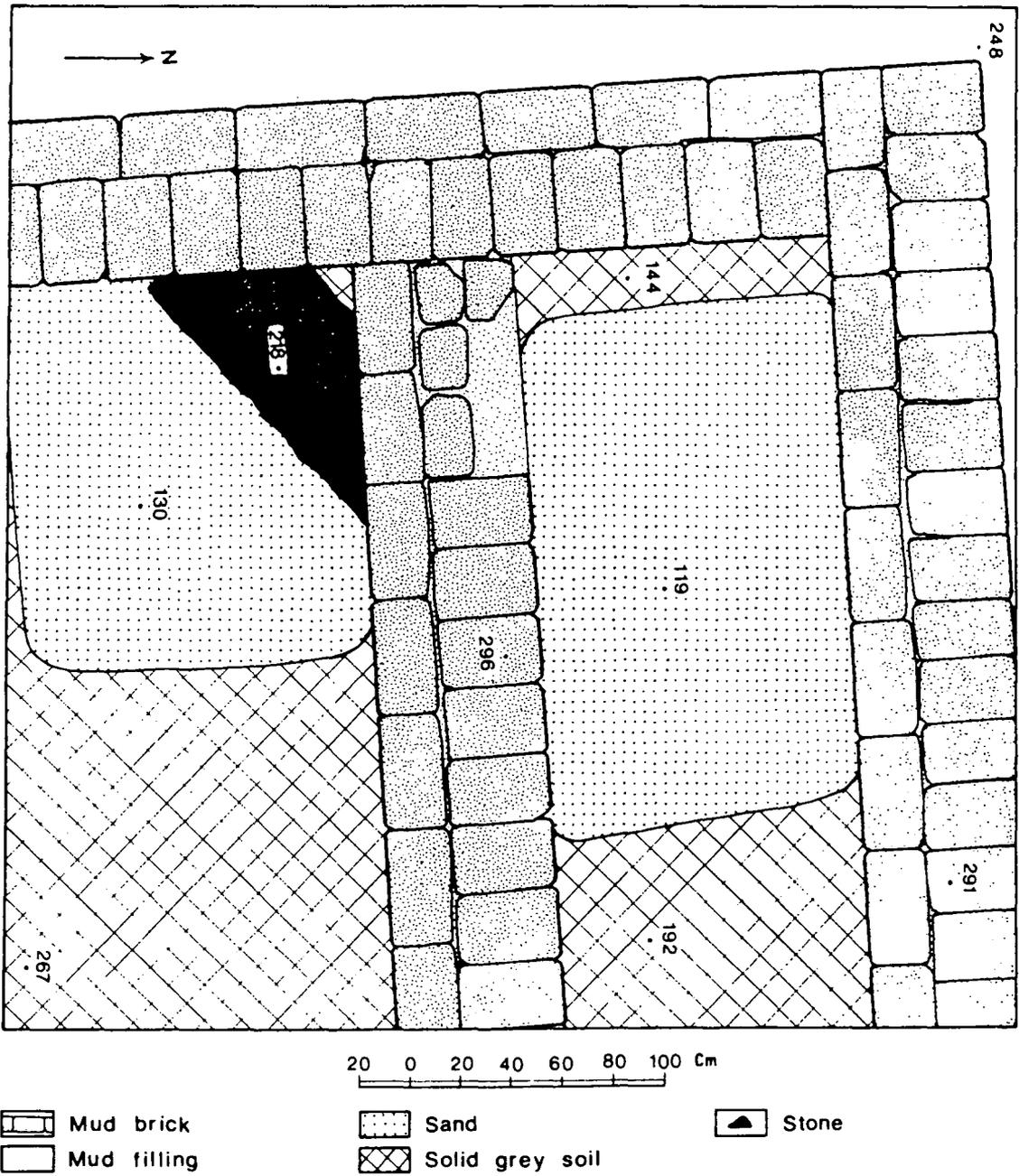


FIGURE 1



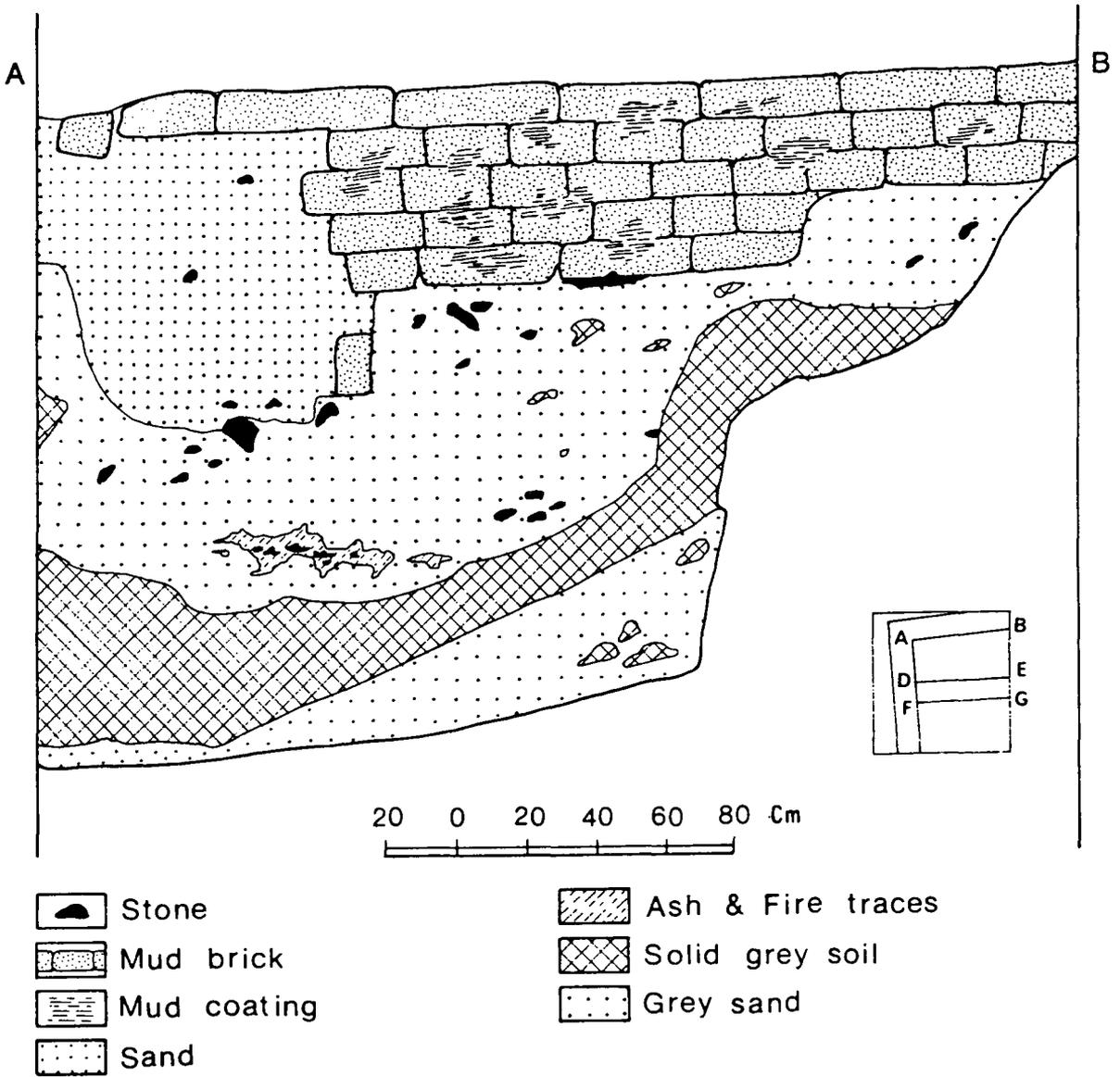
GRID AND CONTOUR MAP OF AL-TUWAYR SITE. IN SAKAKA

FIGURE 2



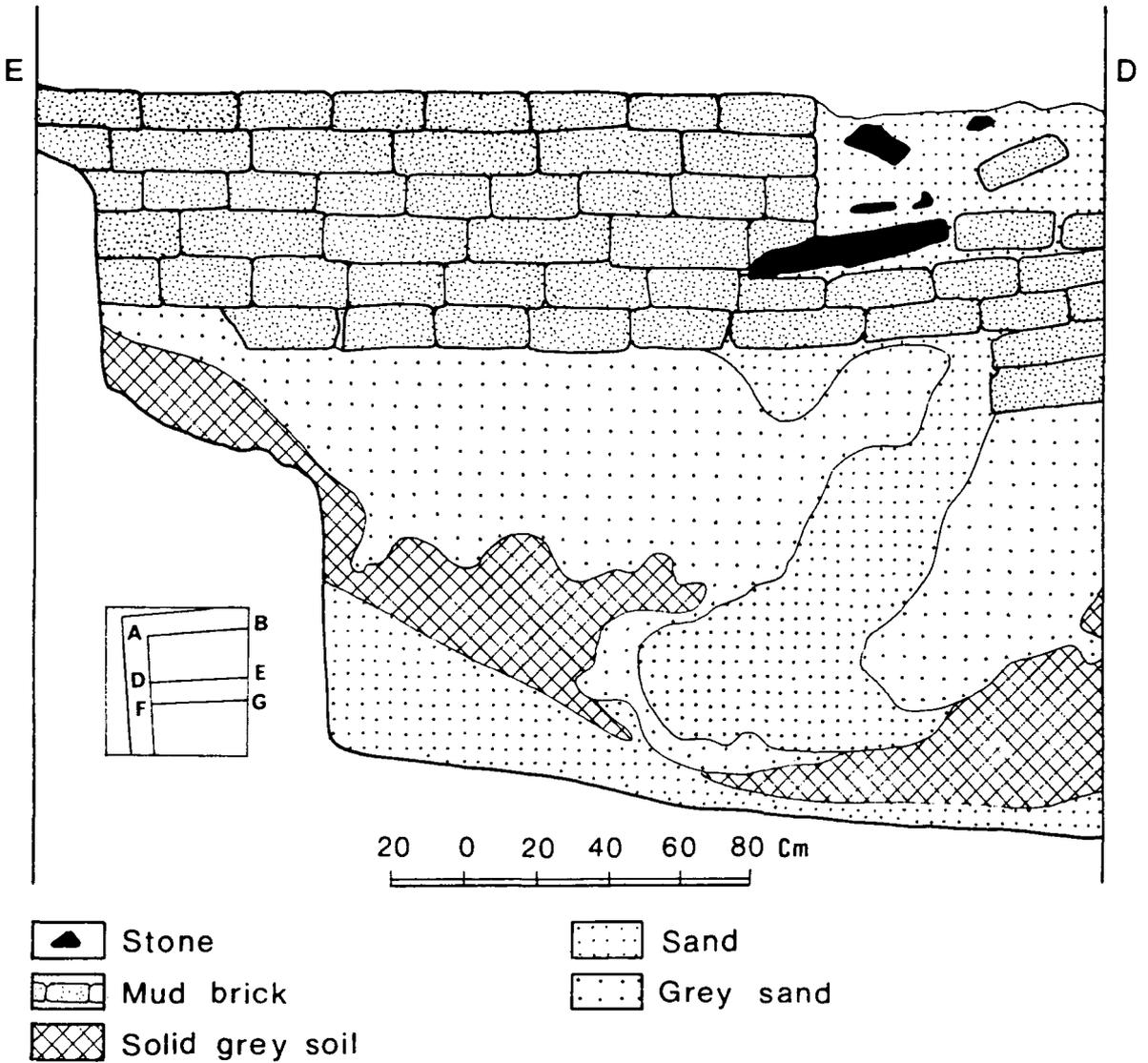
TRENCH No. 1 IN AL-ṬUWAYR SITE/SĀKĀKA

FIGURE 3



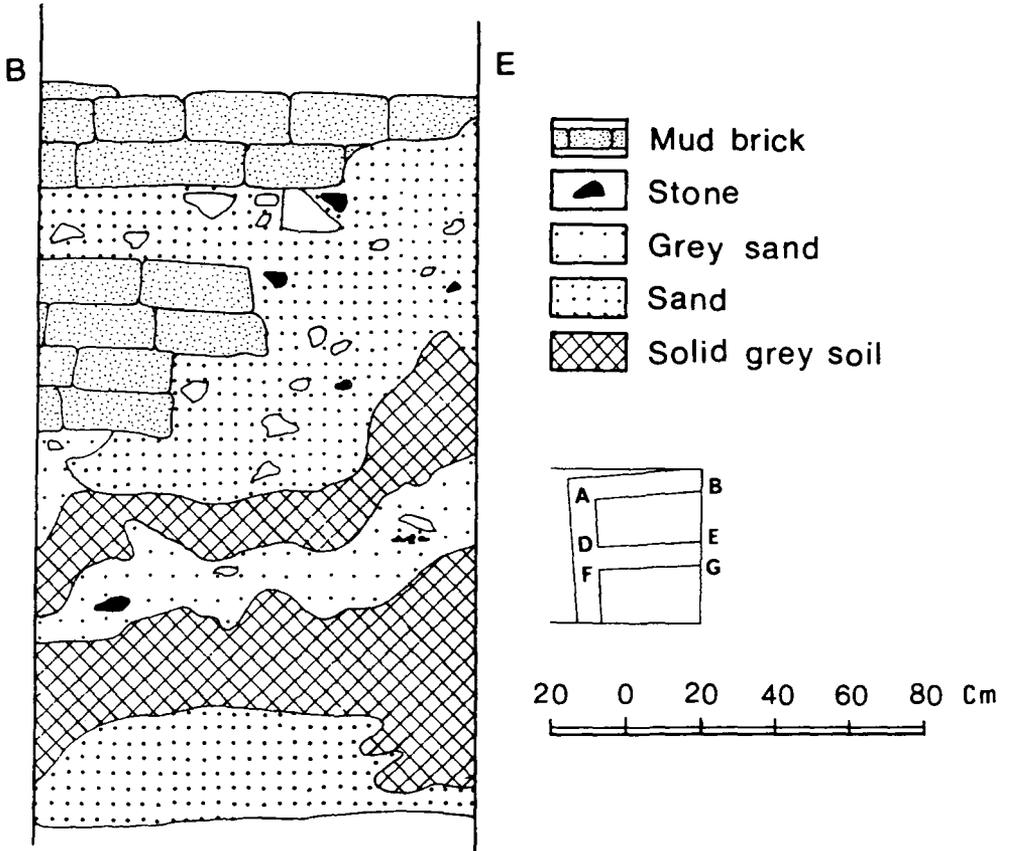
SECTION A,B TRENCH No. 1 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 4



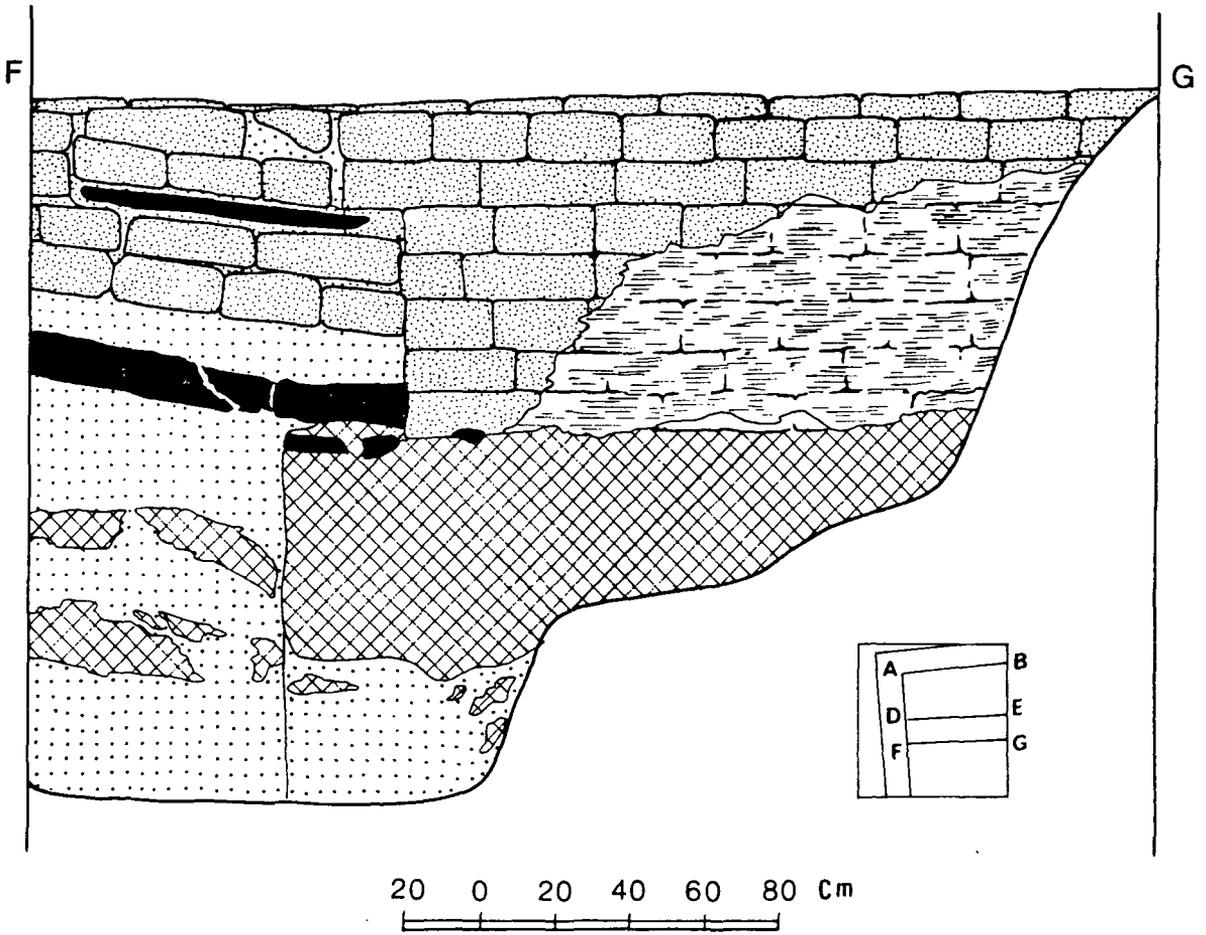
SECTION E.D TRENCH No. 1 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 5



SECTION B,E TRENCH No.1 IN SAKĀKĀ

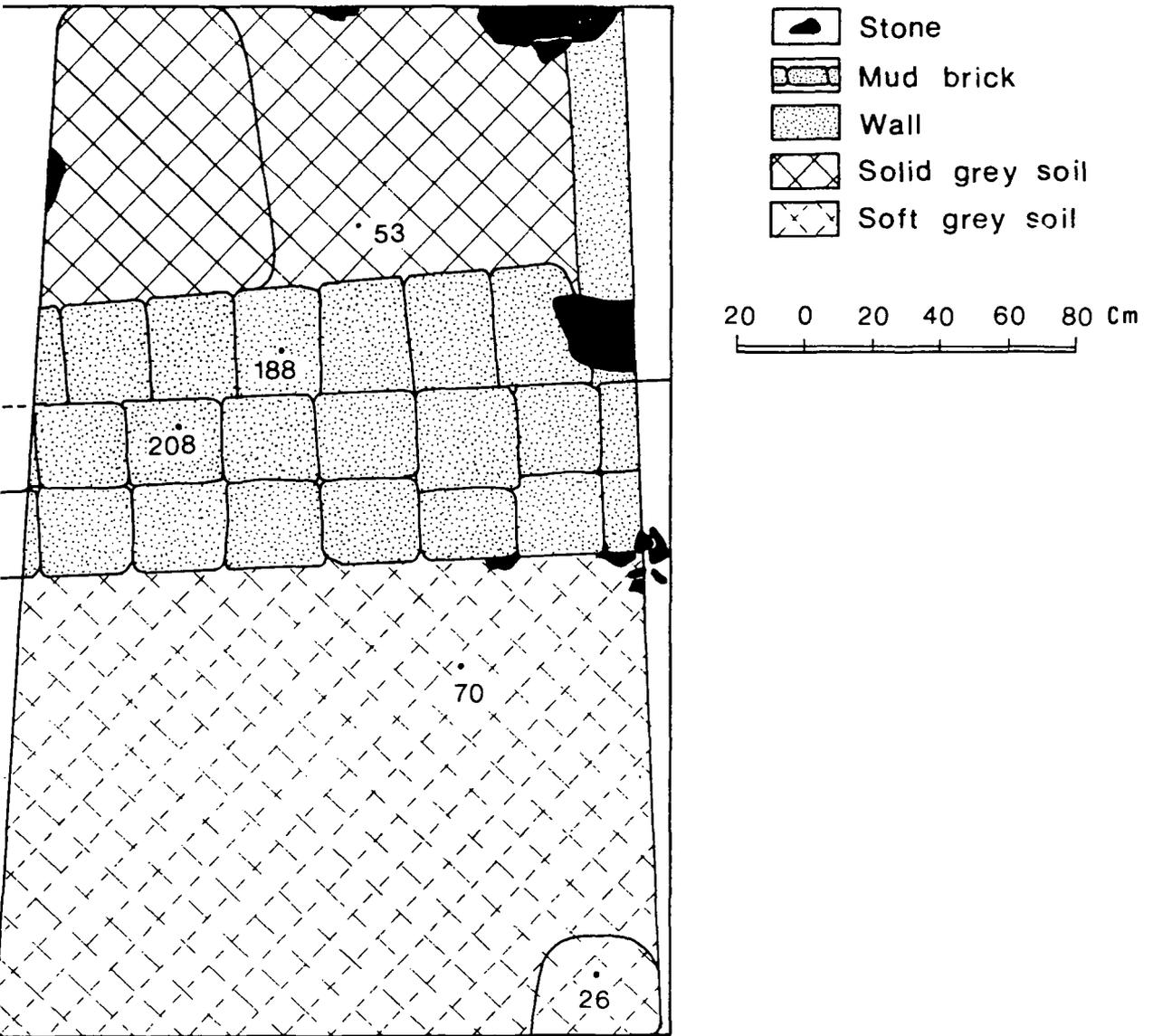
FIGURE 6



- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Stone       |  Sand            |
|  Mud brick   |  Solid grey soil |
|  Mud coating |   |

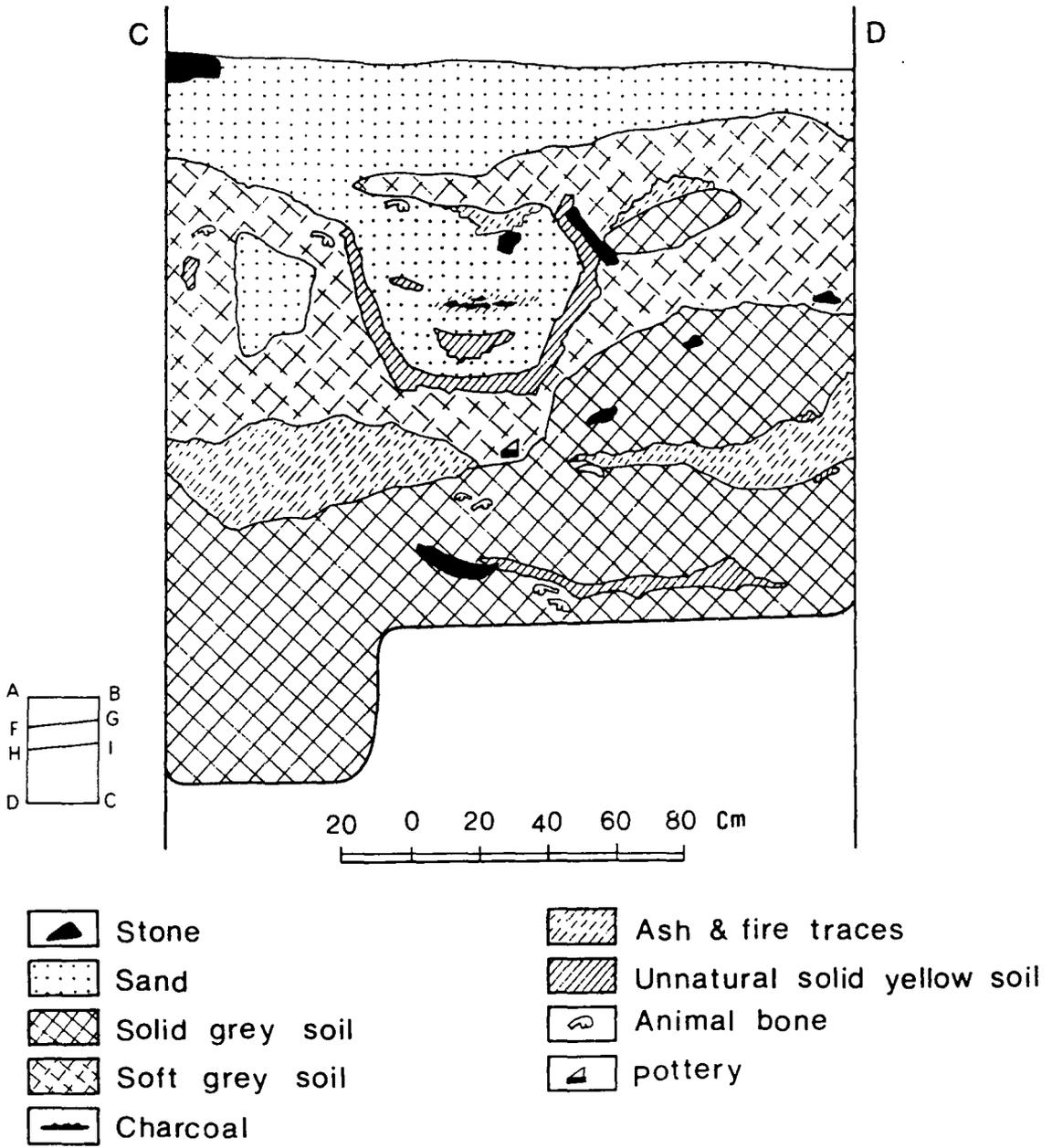
SECTION F,G TRENCH No. 1 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 7



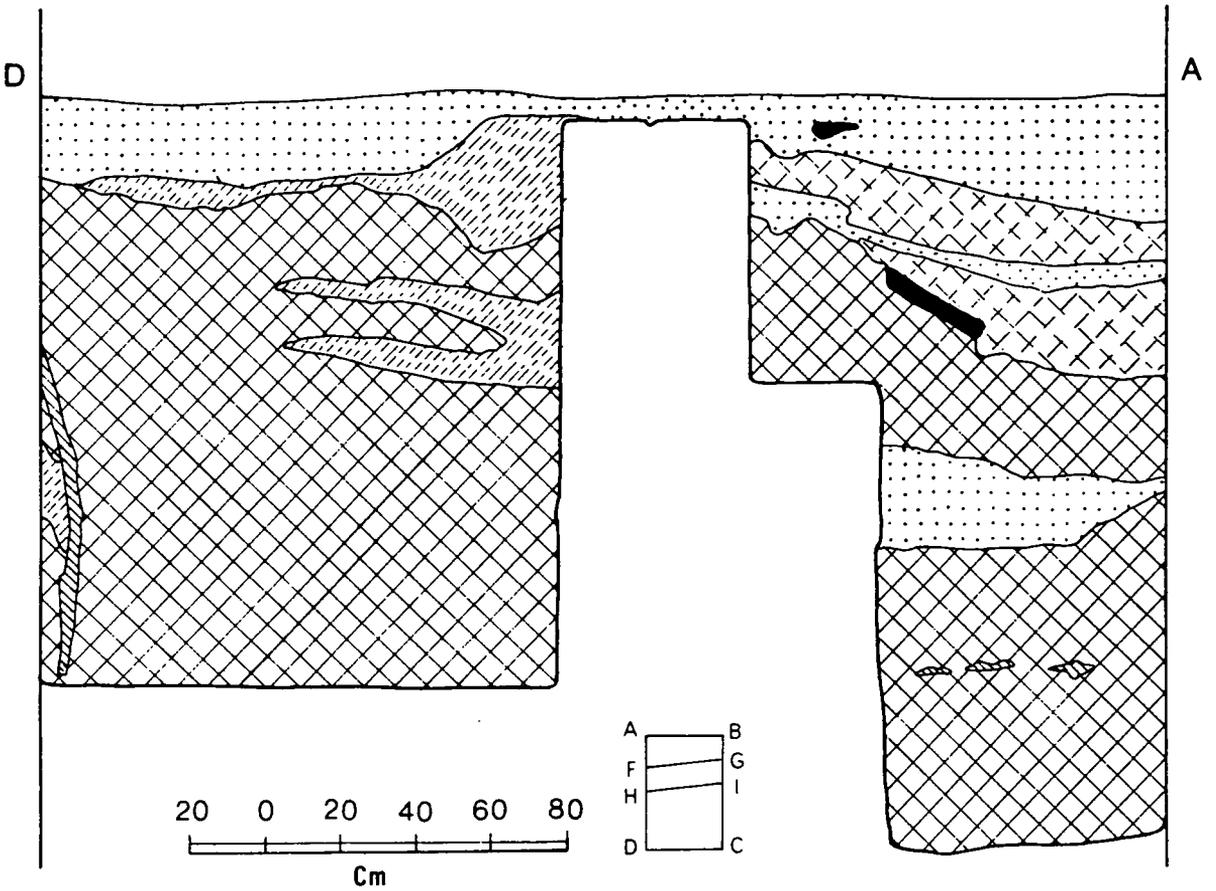
TRENCH No. 2 IN AL-ṬUWAYR SITE/SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 8



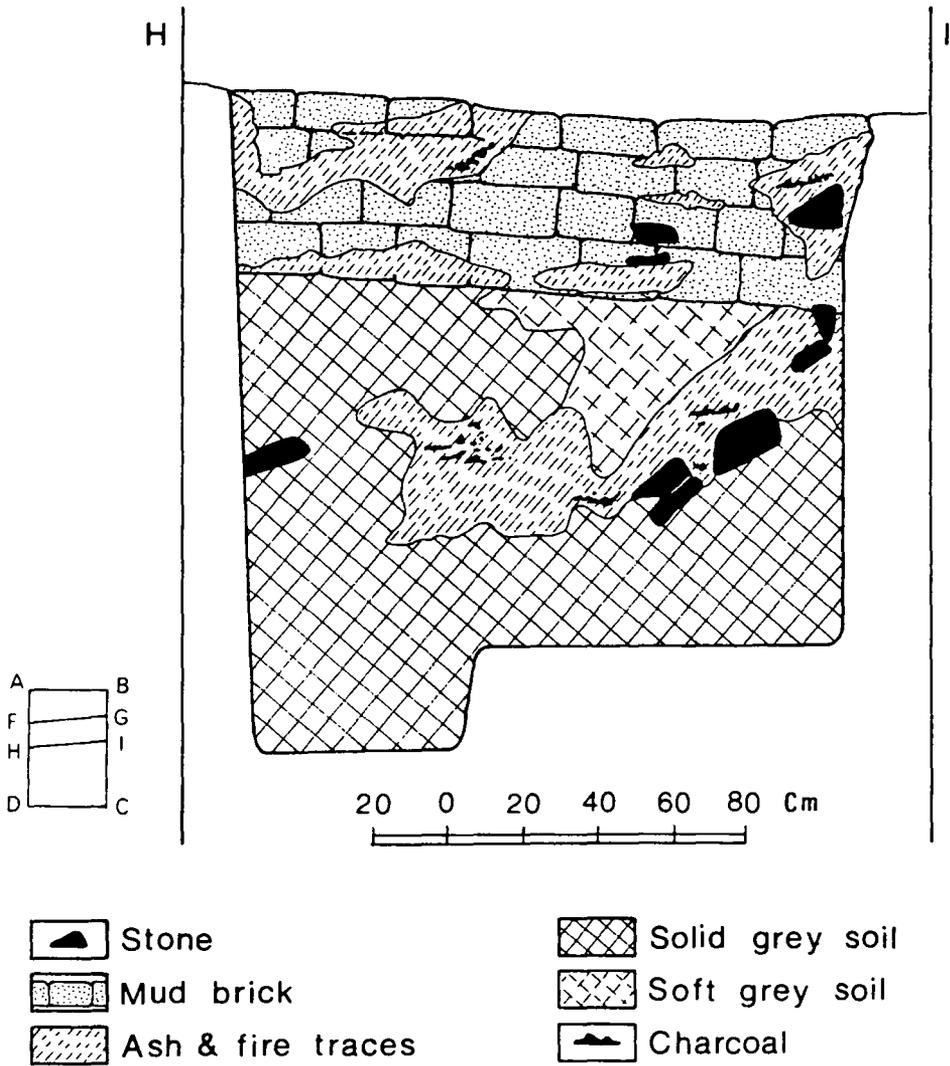
SECTION C,D TRENCH No. 2 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 9



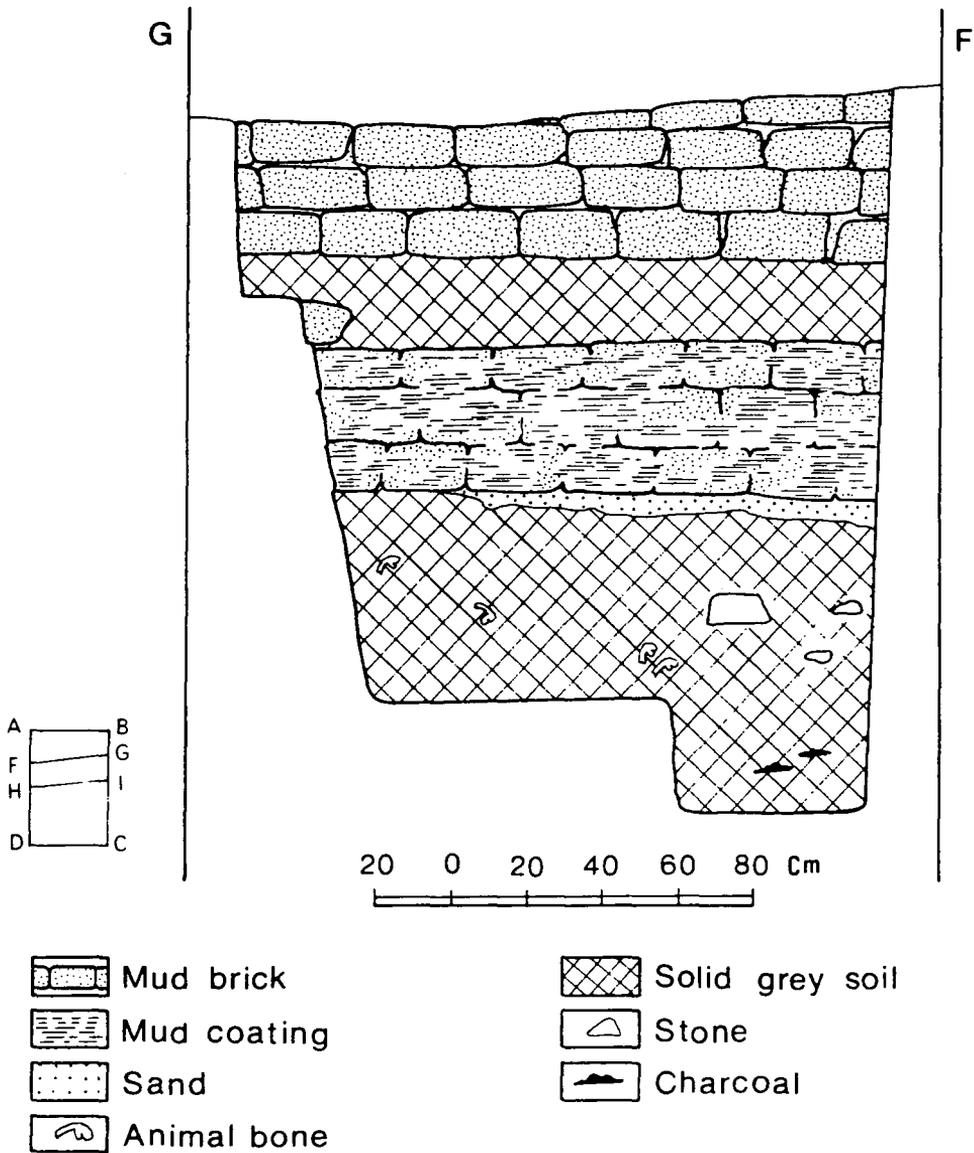
SECTION D, A TRENCH No. 2 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 10



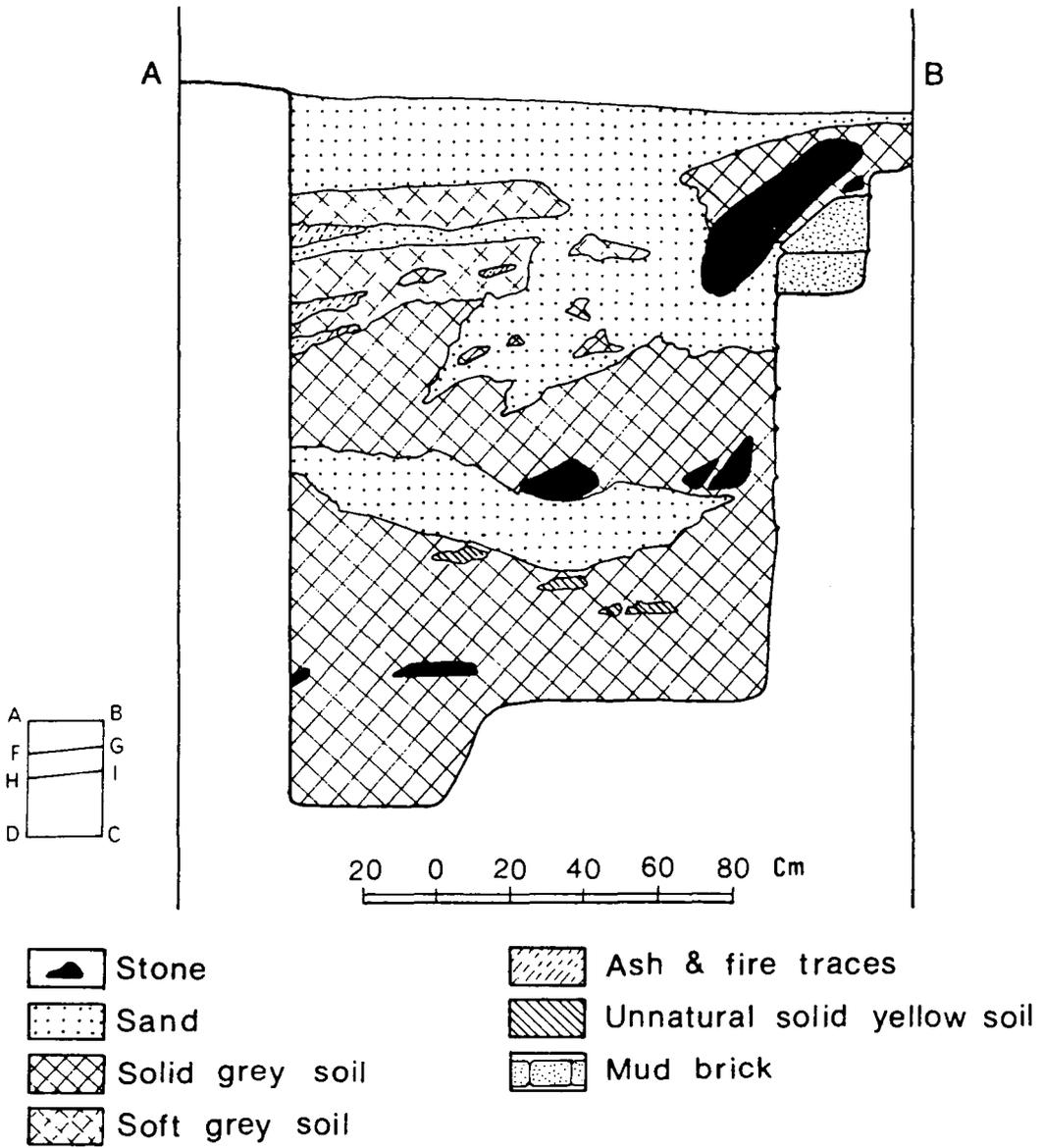
SECTION H,I TRENCH No. 2 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 11



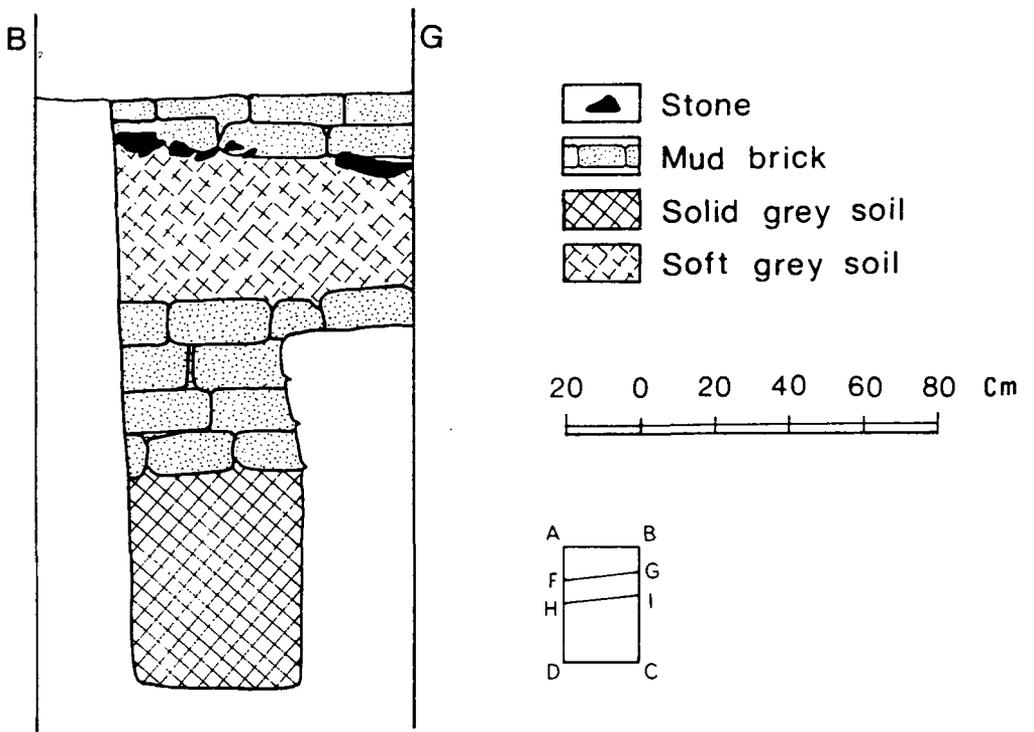
SECTION G.F TRENCH No.2 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 12

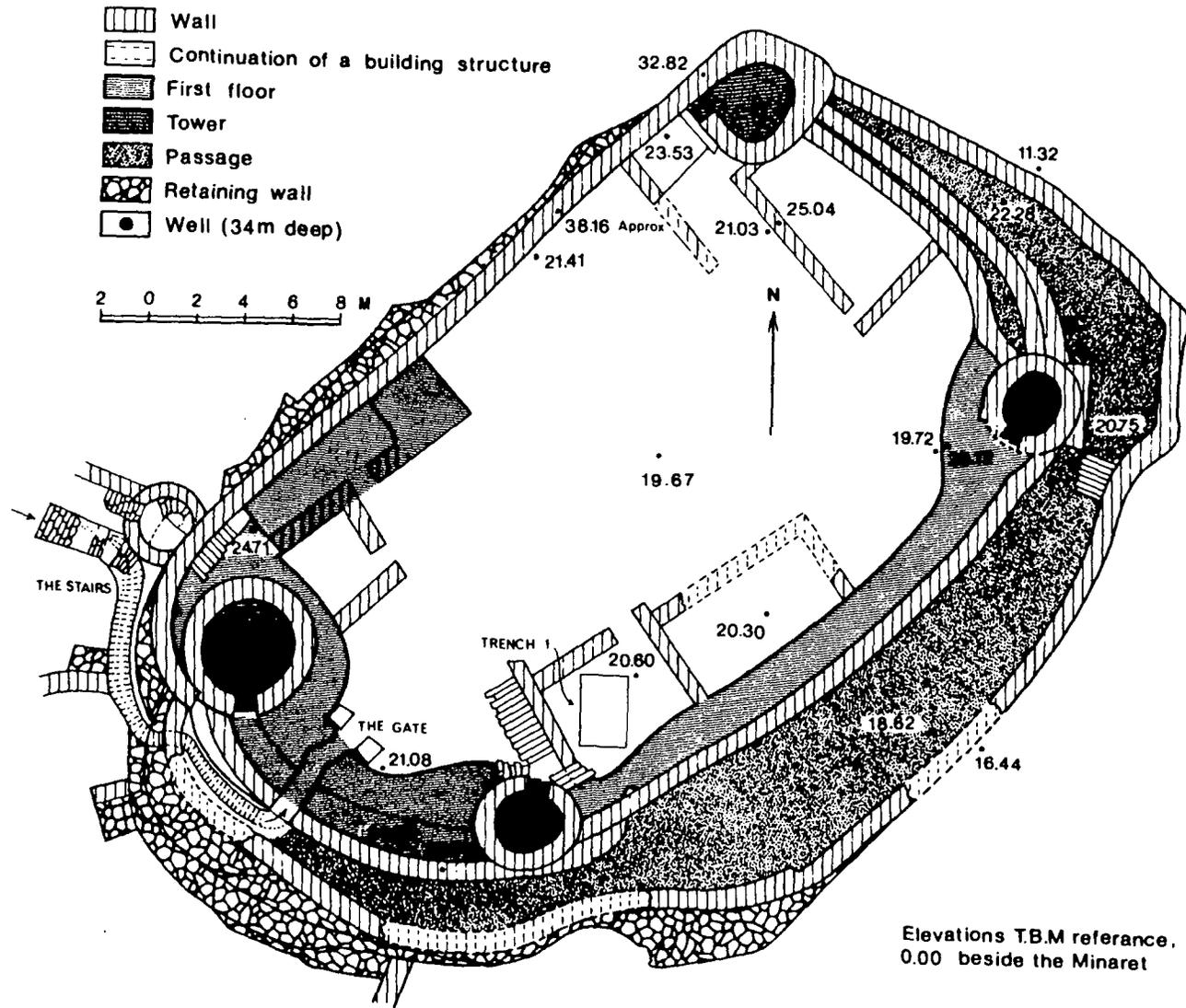


SECTION A,B TRENCH No. 2 IN SAKĀKĀ

FIGURE 13



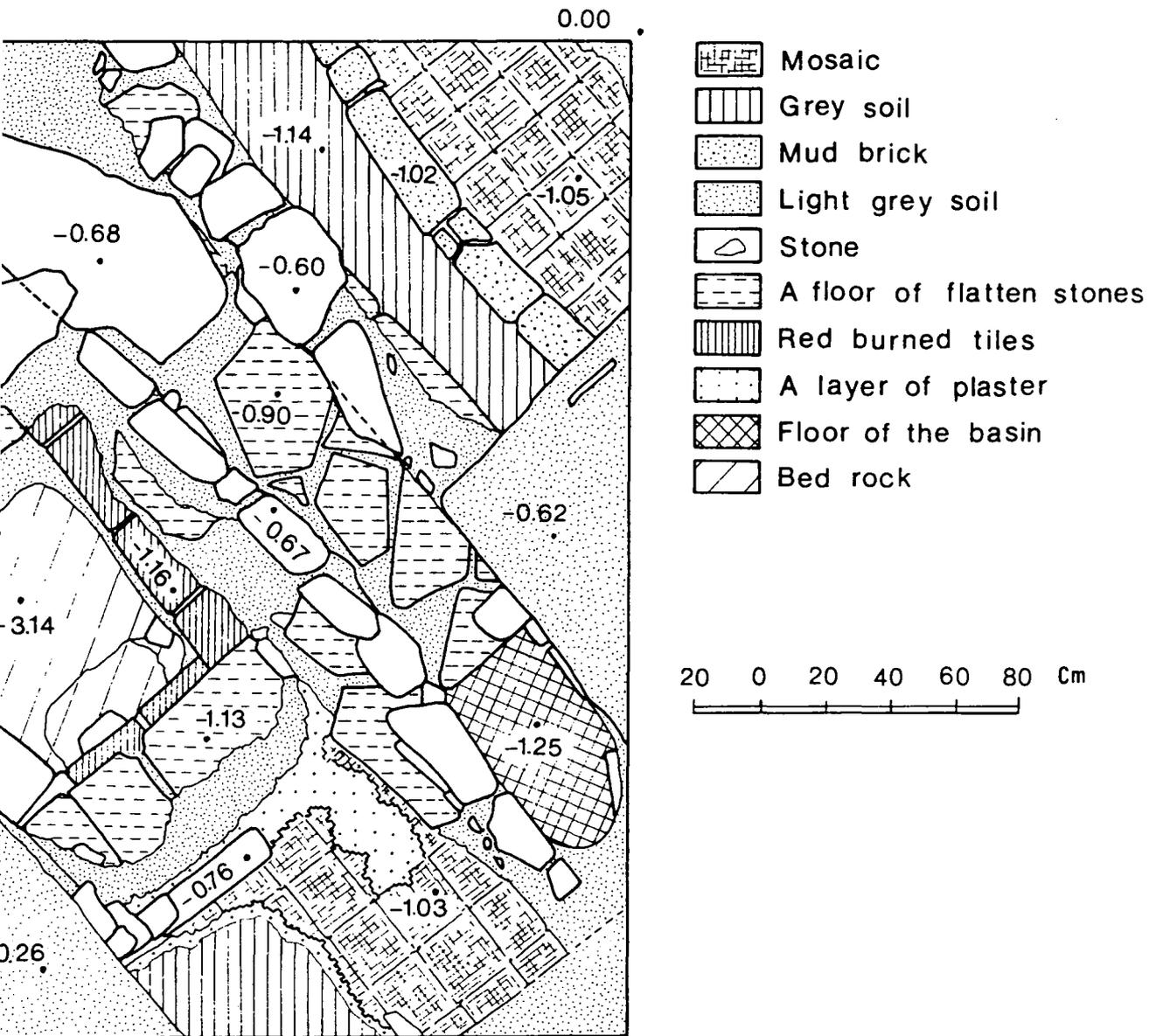
SECTION B,G TRENCH No. 2 IN SAKĀKĀ



PLAN OF MĀRID CASTLE IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

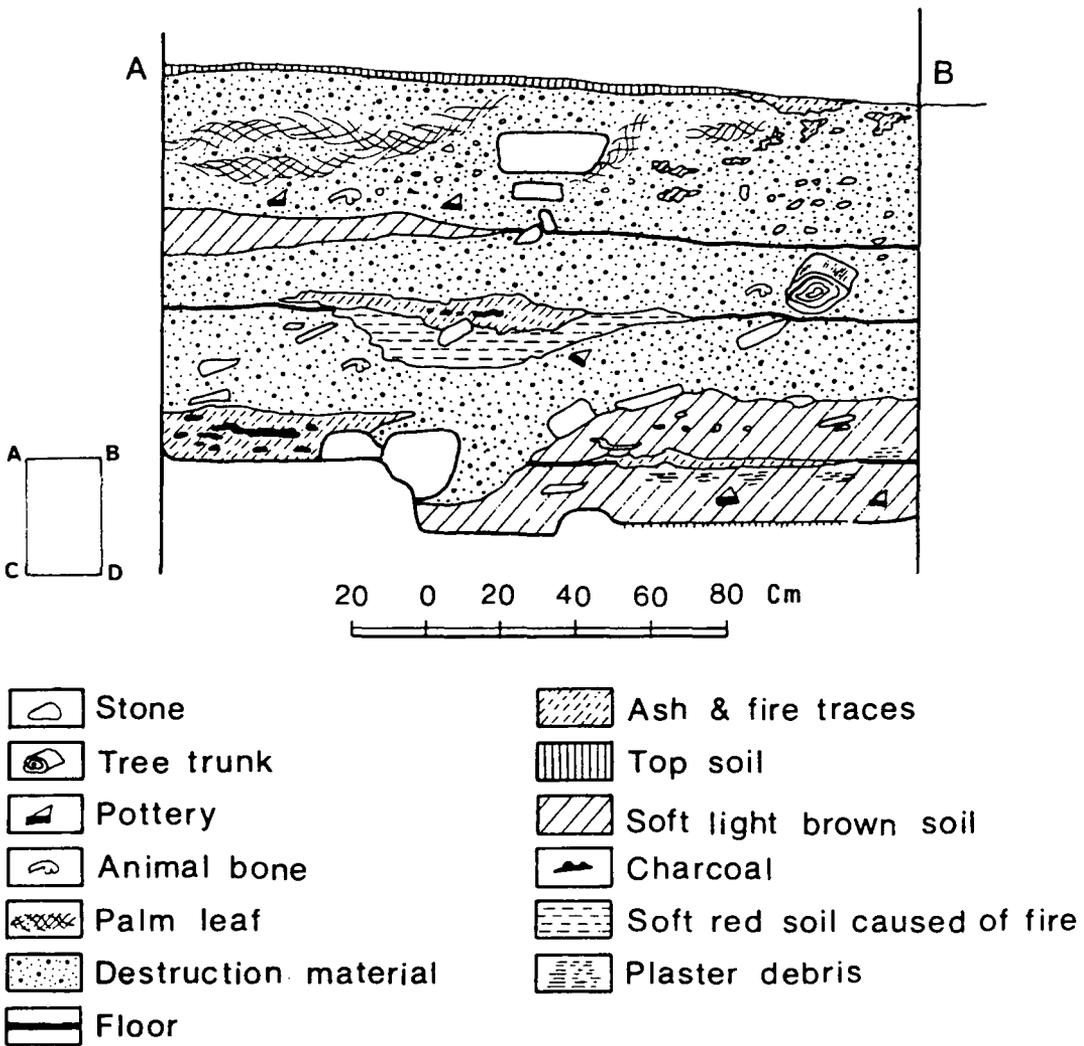
FIGURE 14

FIGURE 15



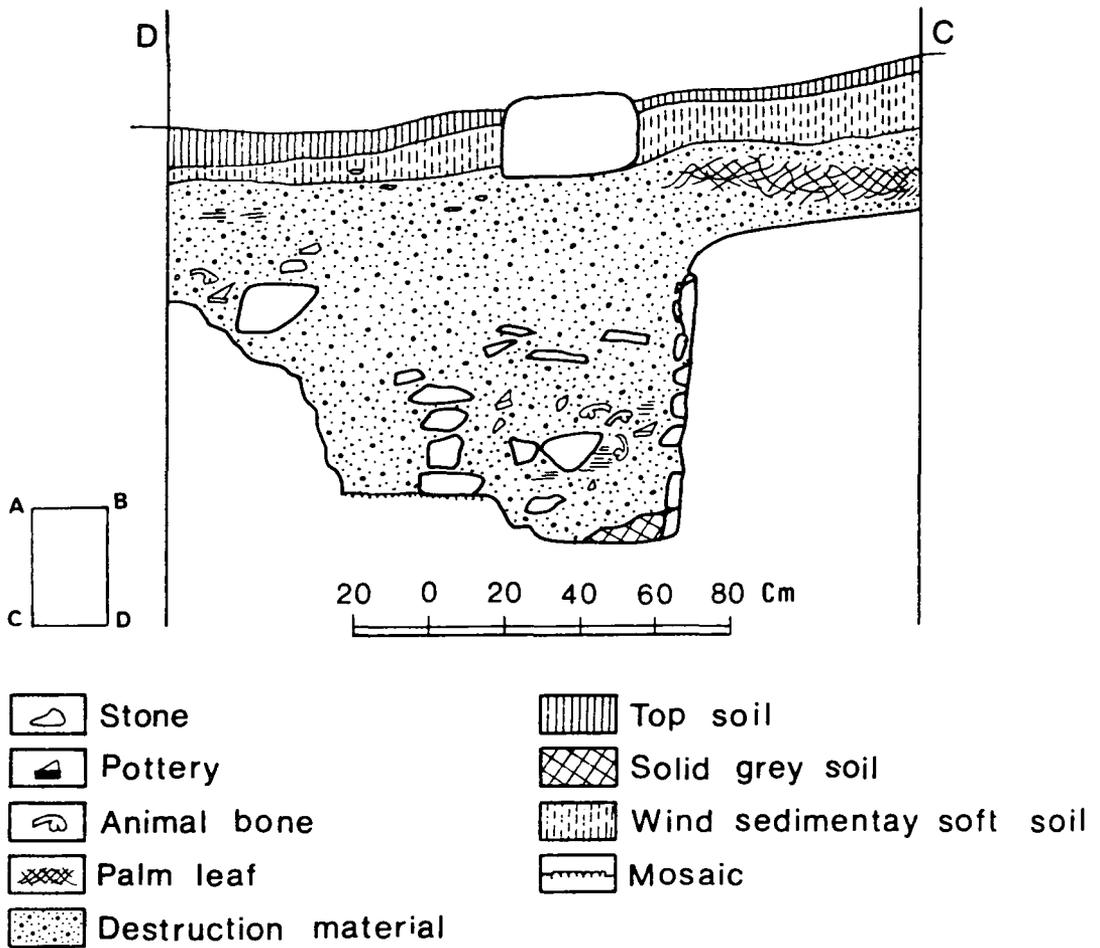
MOSAIC No. (1) IN MĀRID CASTLE / DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 16



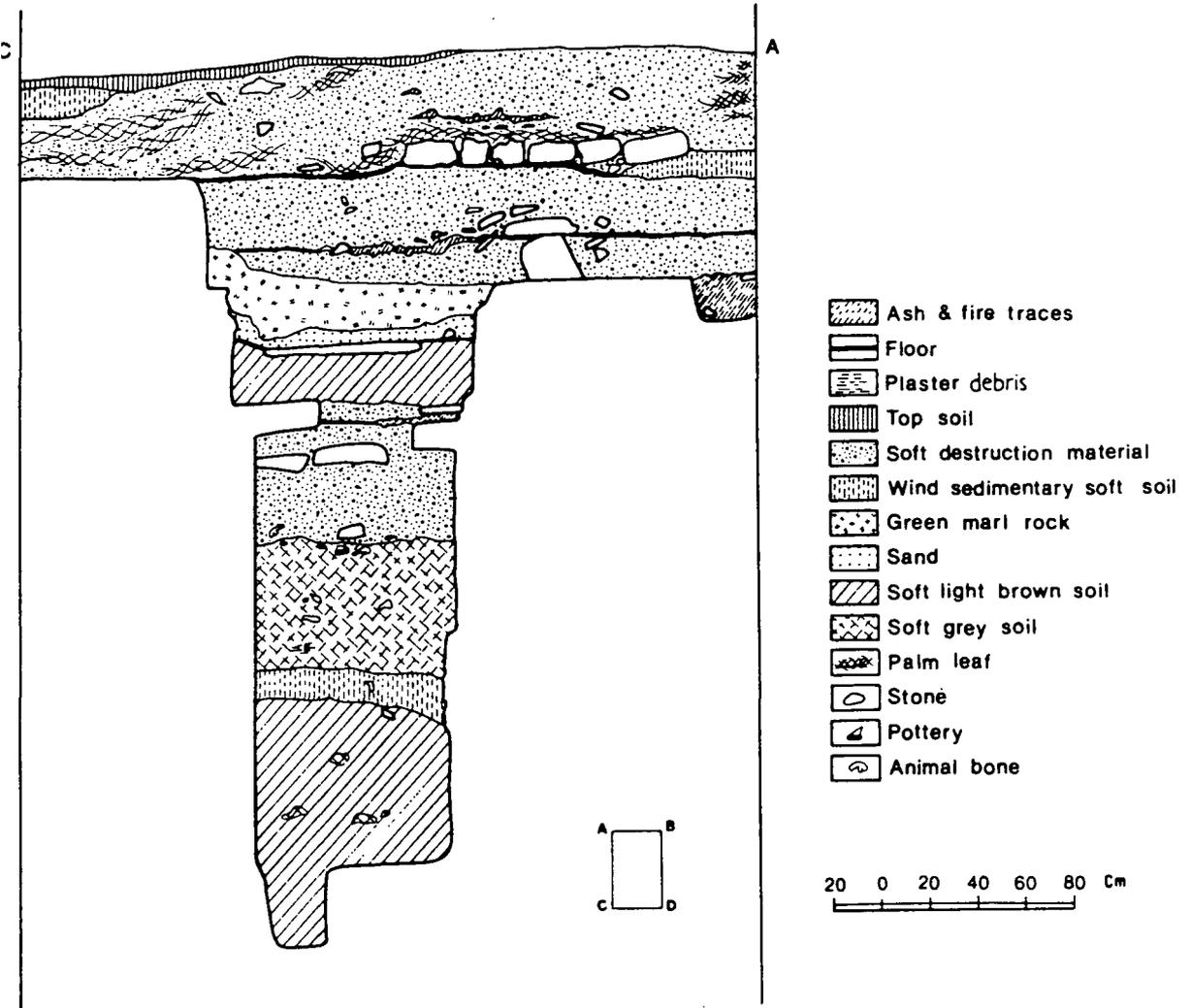
SECTION A.B TRENCH No. 1 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 17



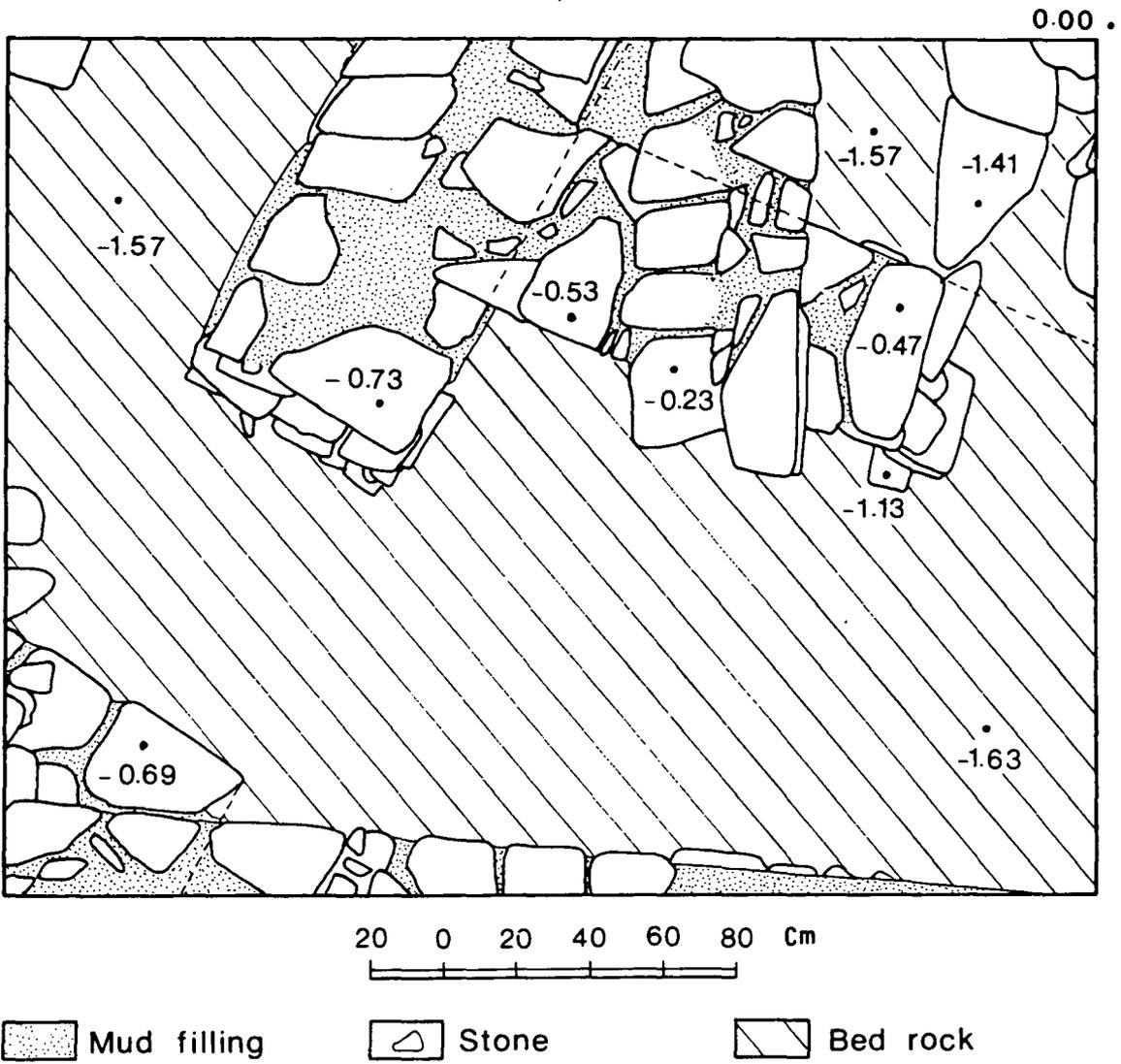
SECTION D,C TRENCH No. 1 IN DUMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 18



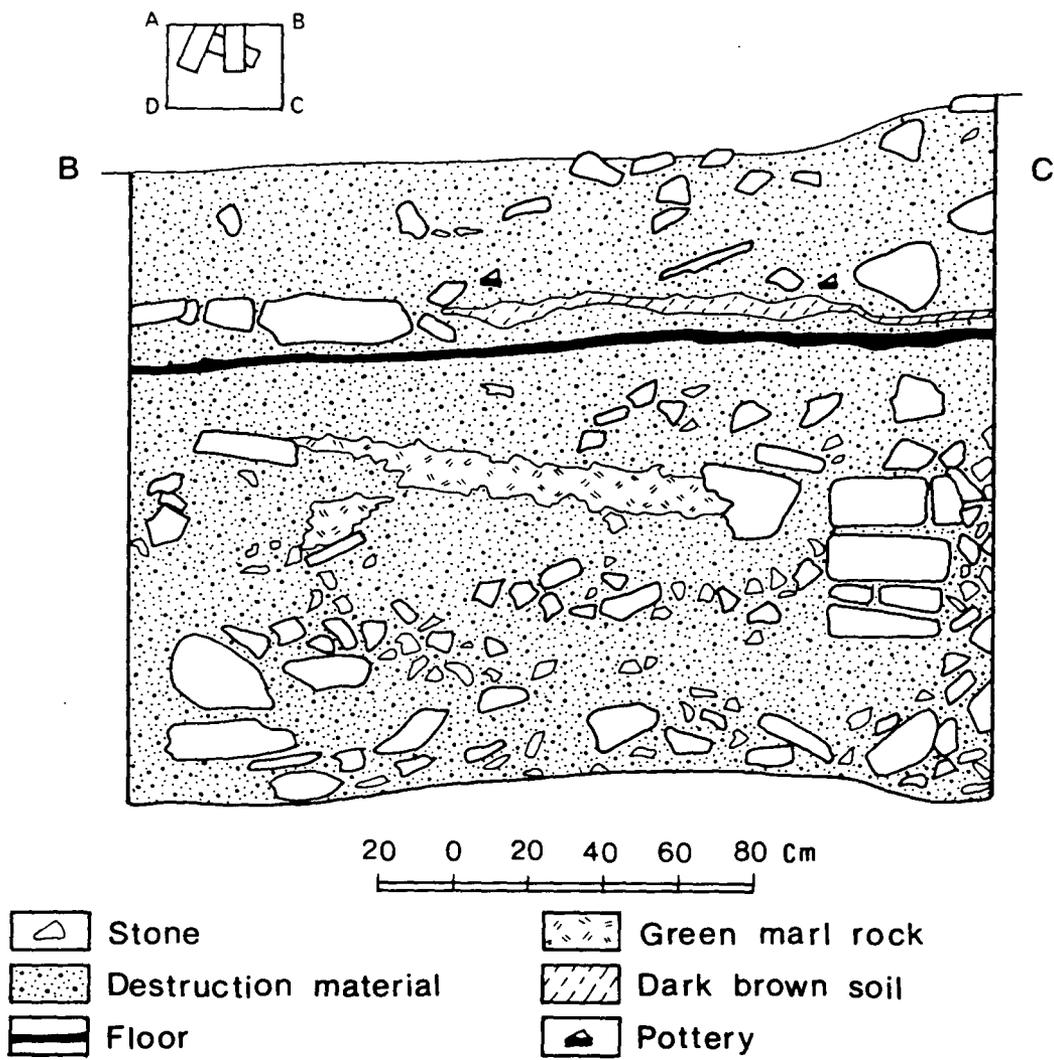
SECTION C.A TRENCH No. 1 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 19



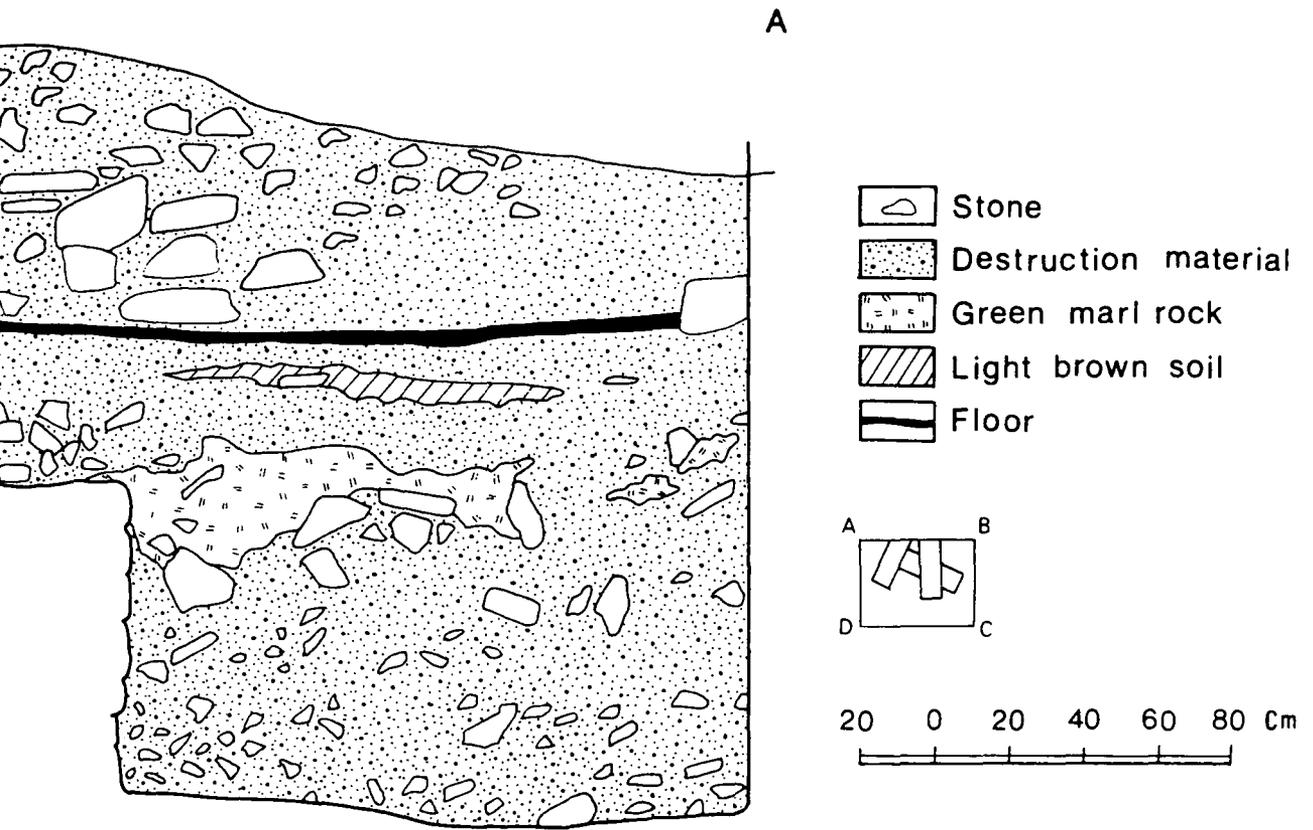
TRENCH No. (2) IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA / DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 20



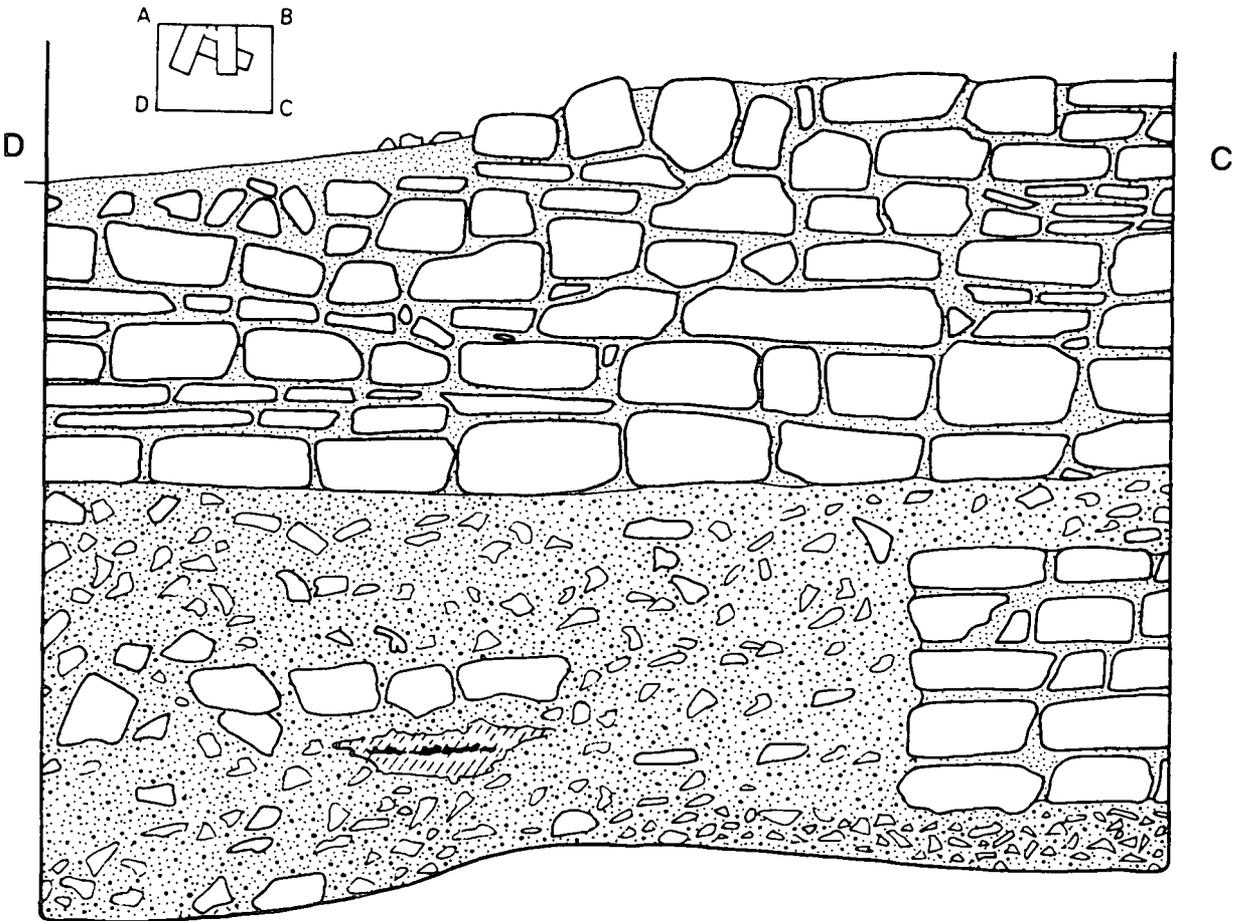
SECTION B.C TRENCH No. 2 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 21



SECTION D, A TRENCH No. 2 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 22

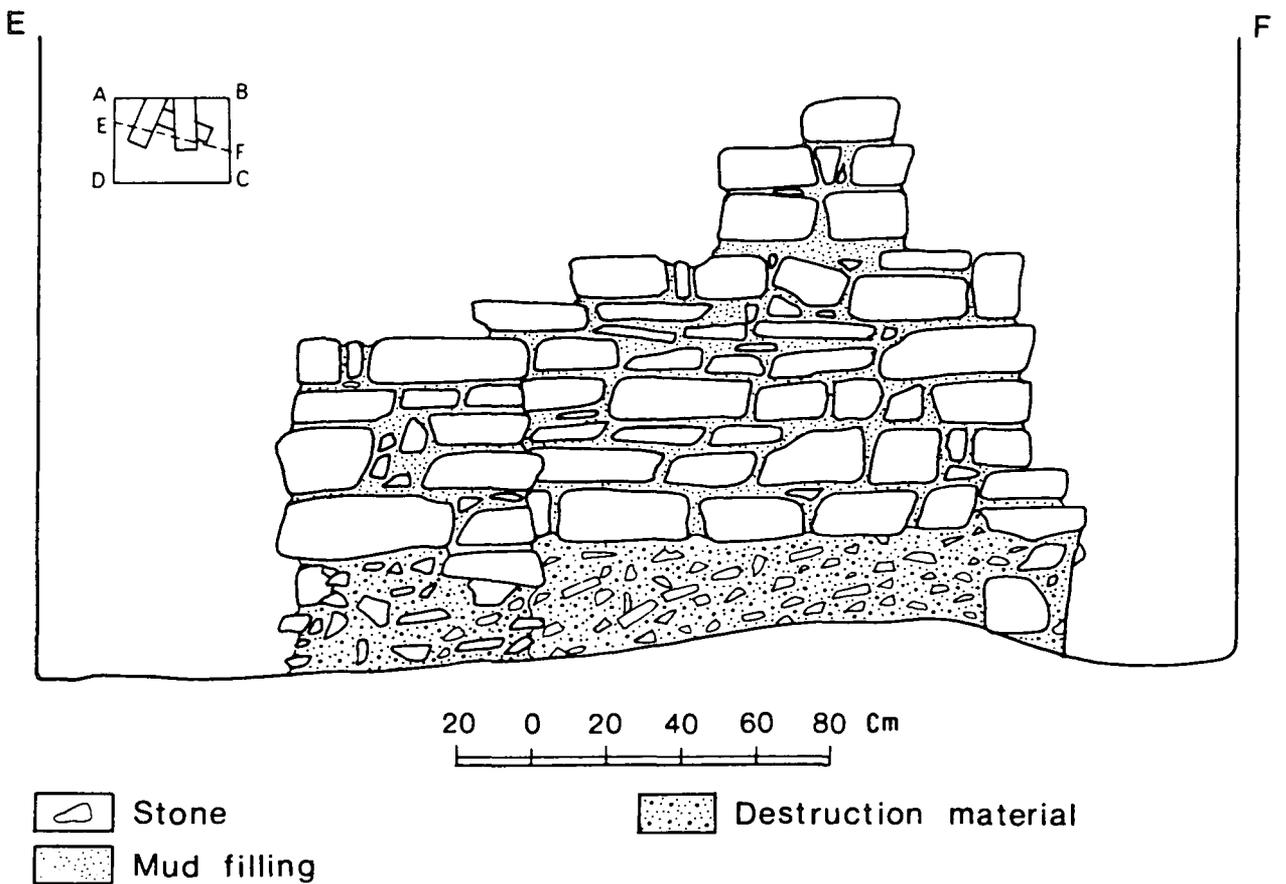


20 0 20 40 60 80 Cm

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Stone                |  Ash & fir traces |
|  Mud filling          |  Charcoal         |
|  Destruction material |  |

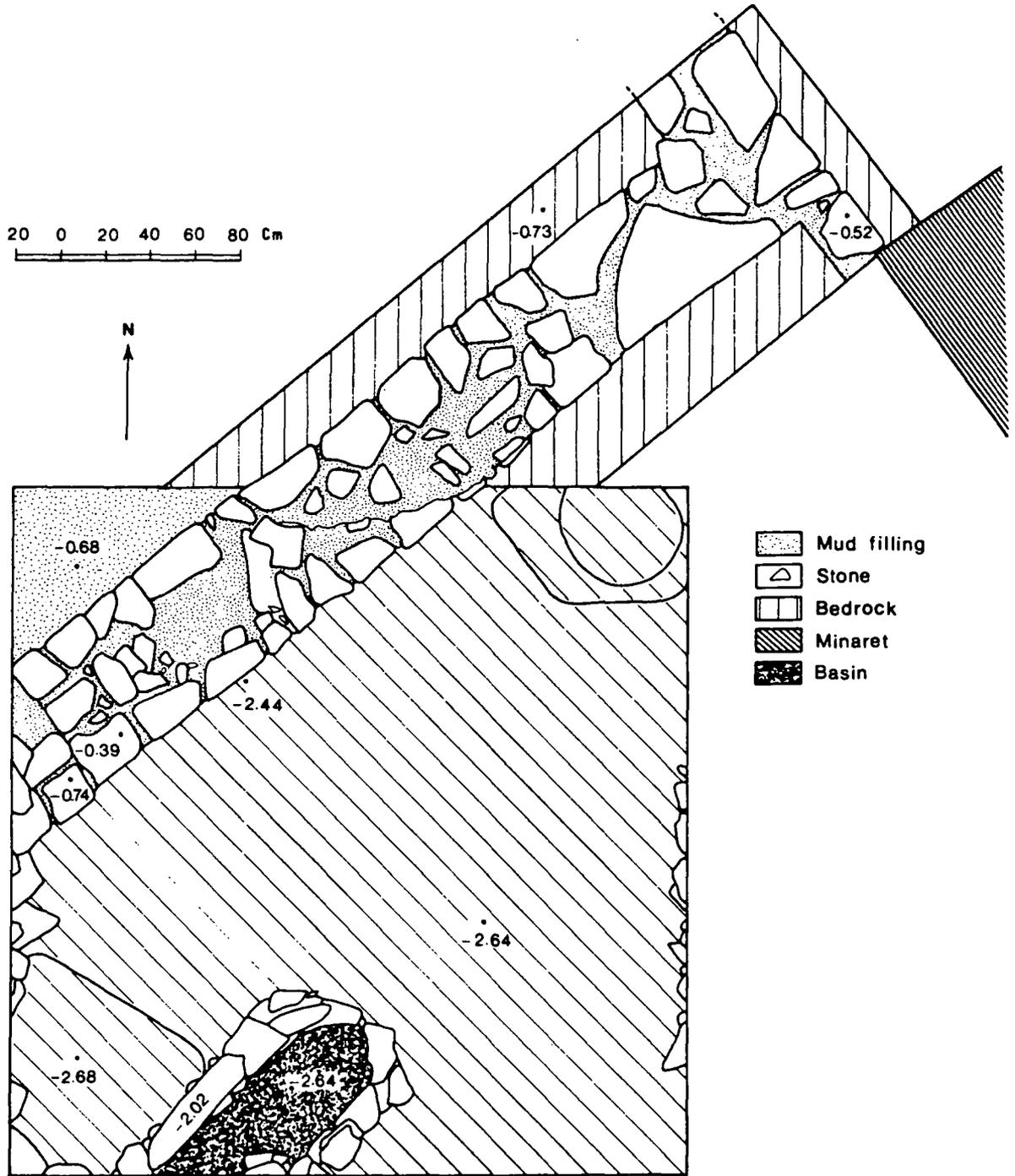
SECTION D,C TRENCH No. 2 , DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 23



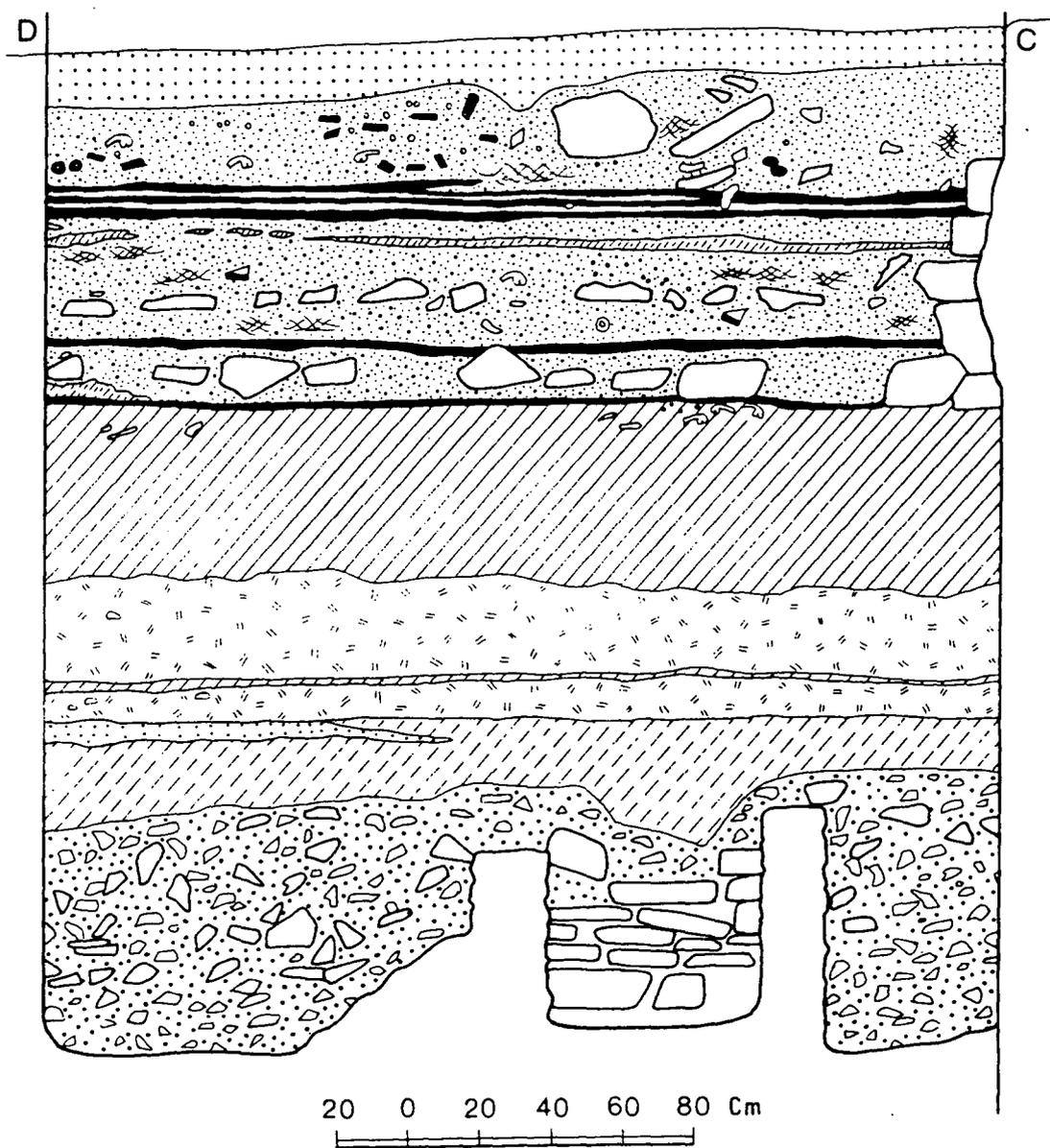
SECTION E, F TRENCH No. 2 DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 24

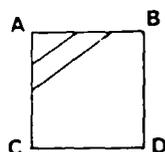


TRENCH No.(3) IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA /DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 25

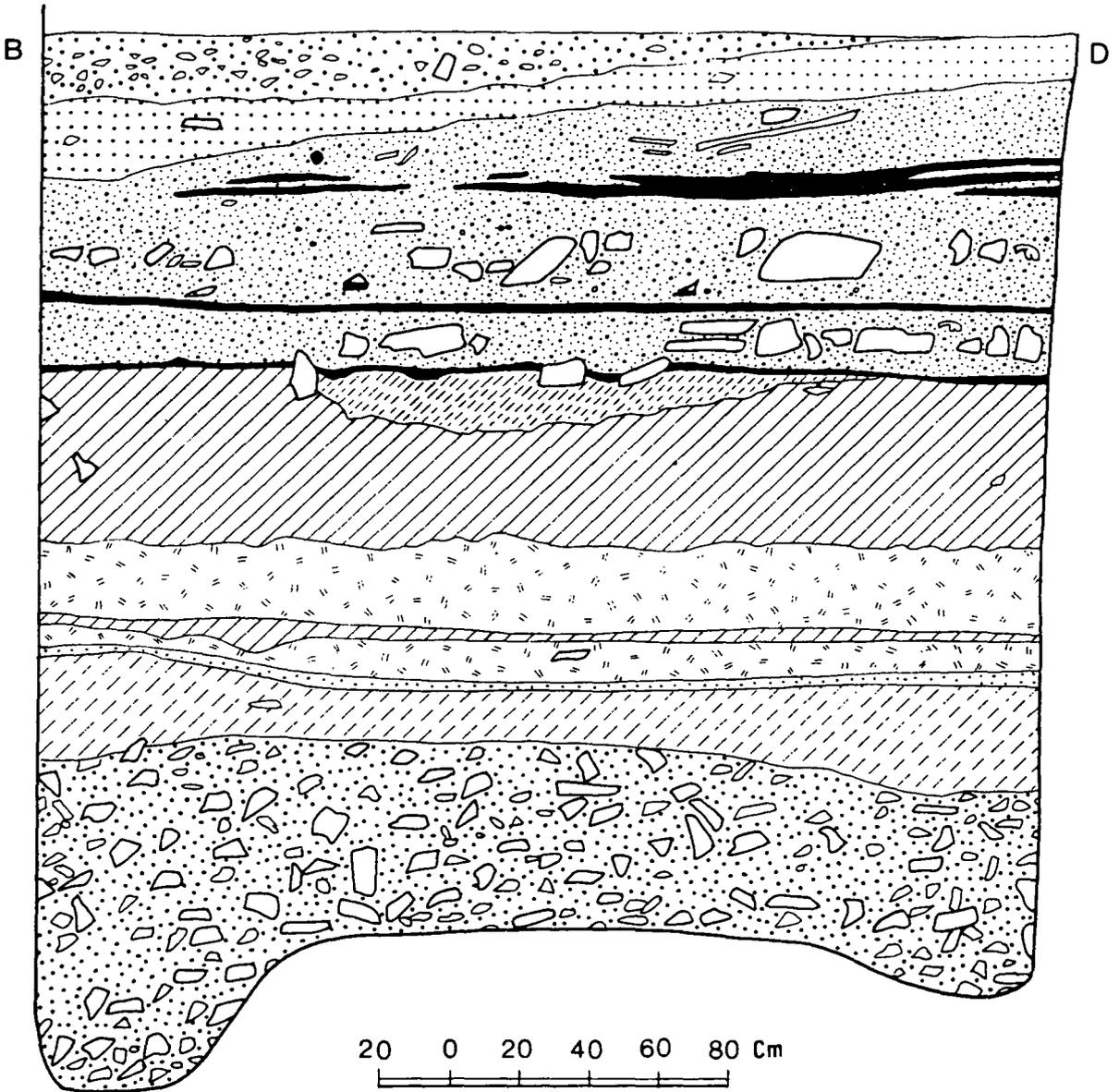


- |   |                           |   |                       |
|---|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|
|  | Sand                      |  | Soft light brown soil |
|  | Soft destruction material |  | Solid dark brown soil |
|  | Ash & fire traces         |  | Green marl rock       |
|  | Floor                     |  | Filling material      |
|  | Palm leaf                 |  | Bone                  |
|  | Stone                     |  | Wood                  |
|  | Pottery                   |  | Animal waste          |

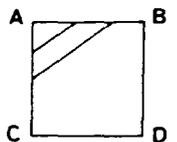


SECTION D.C TRENCH No. 3 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 26

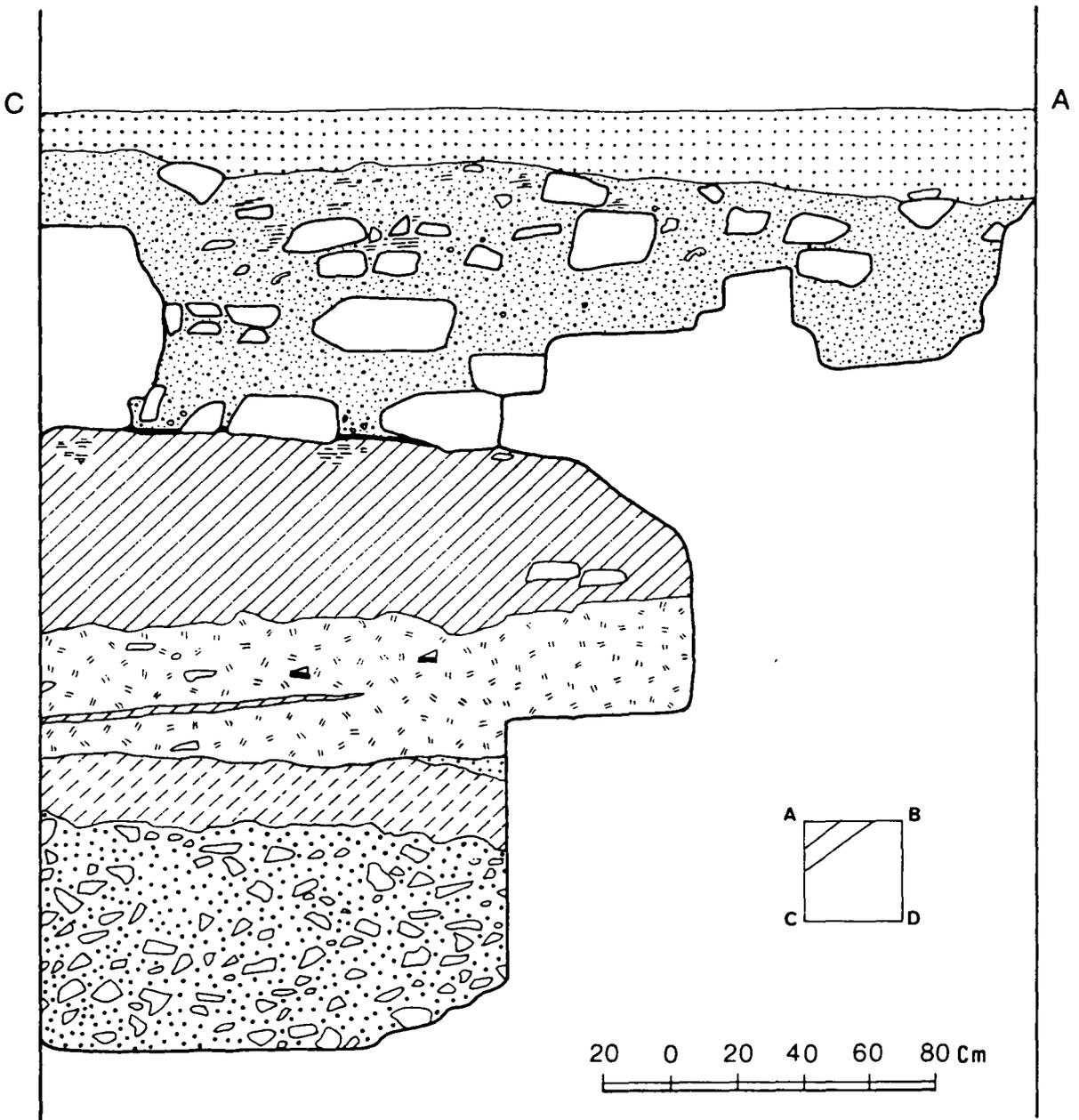


- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Sand                      |  Solid dark brown soil |
|  Soft destruction material |  Ash & fire traces     |
|  Filling material          |  Green marl rock       |
|  Floor                     |  Pottery               |
|  Soft light brown soil     |  Stone                 |
|  Animal bone               |  Animal waste          |
|  Wood                      |   |



SECTION B.D TRENCH No. 3 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

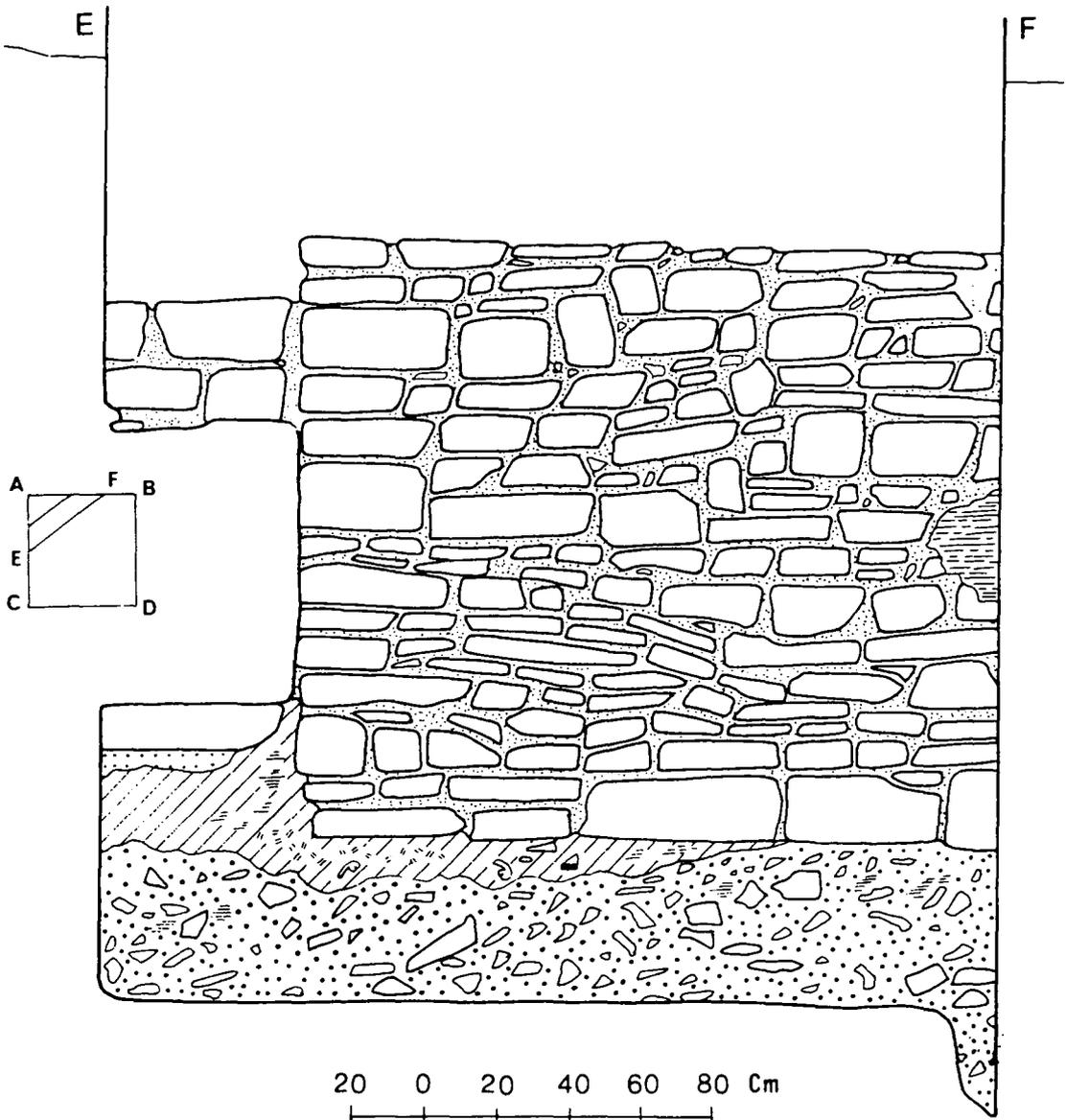
FIGURE 27



- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Sand                  |  Solid dark brown soil |
|  Filling material      |  Green marl rock       |
|  Floor                 |  Filling material      |
|  Soft light brown soil |  Plaster debris        |
|  Animal bone           |  Pottery               |
|  Ston                  |  Animal waste          |

SECTION C,A TRENCH No. 3 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

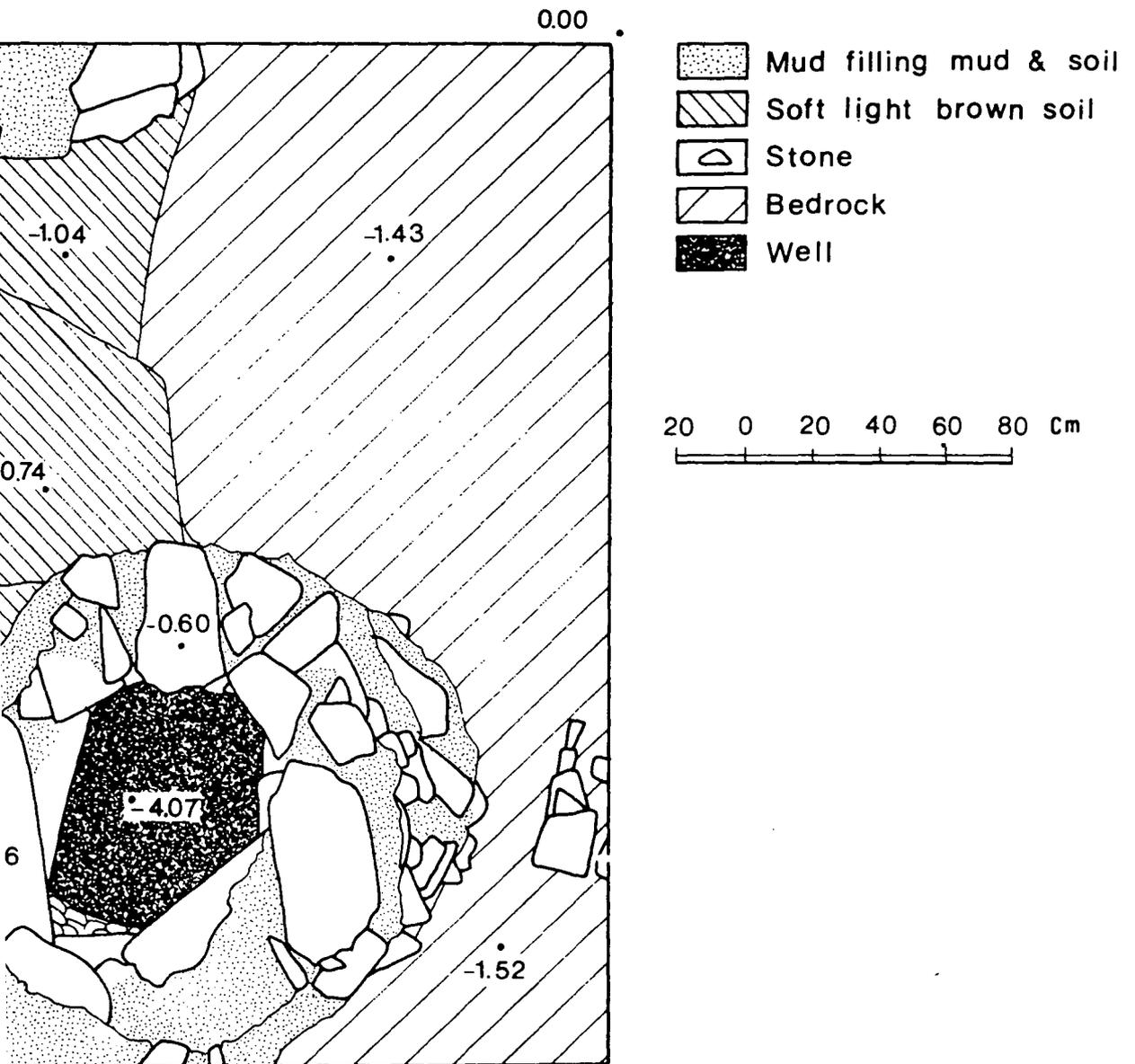
FIGURE 28



- |  |                       |   |                  |
|--|-----------------------|---|------------------|
|  | Stone                 |  | Green marl rock  |
|  | Mud coating           |  | Filling material |
|  | Sand                  |  | Animal bone      |
|  | Soft light brown soil |  | pottery          |
|  | Mud filling           |   |                  |

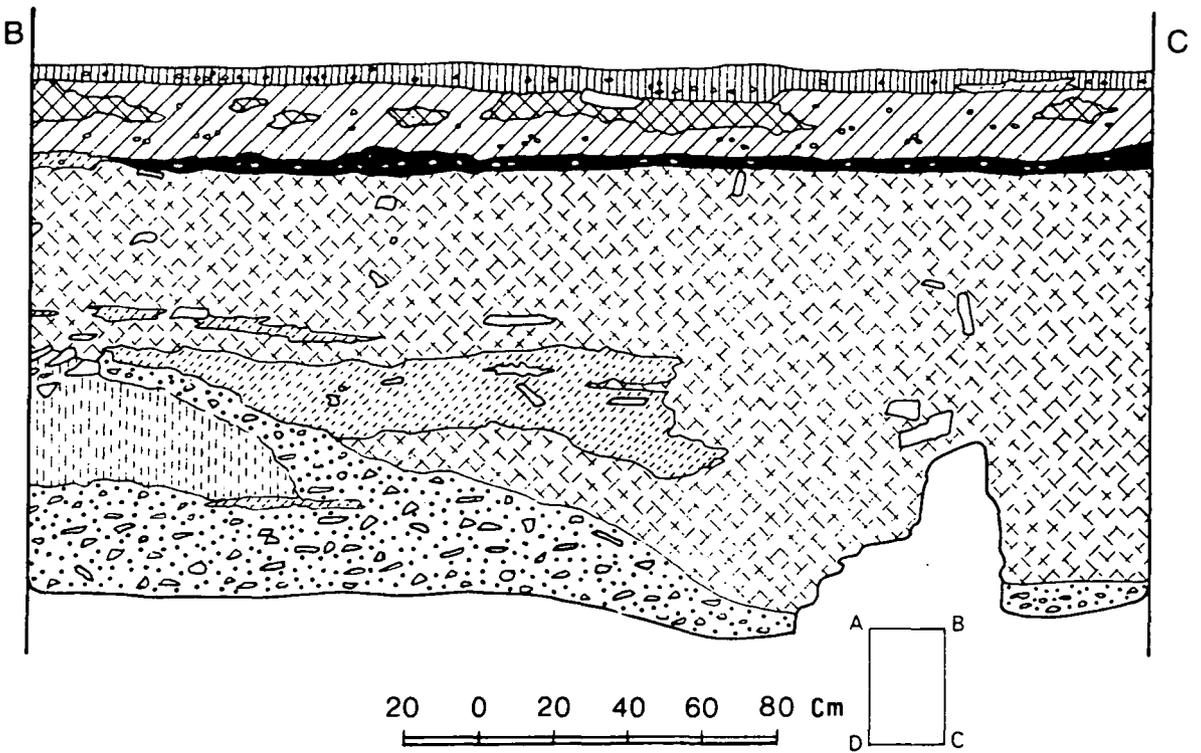
SECTION E.F TRENCH No.3 IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 29



TRENCH No. 1 IN MUWAYSIN CASTLE

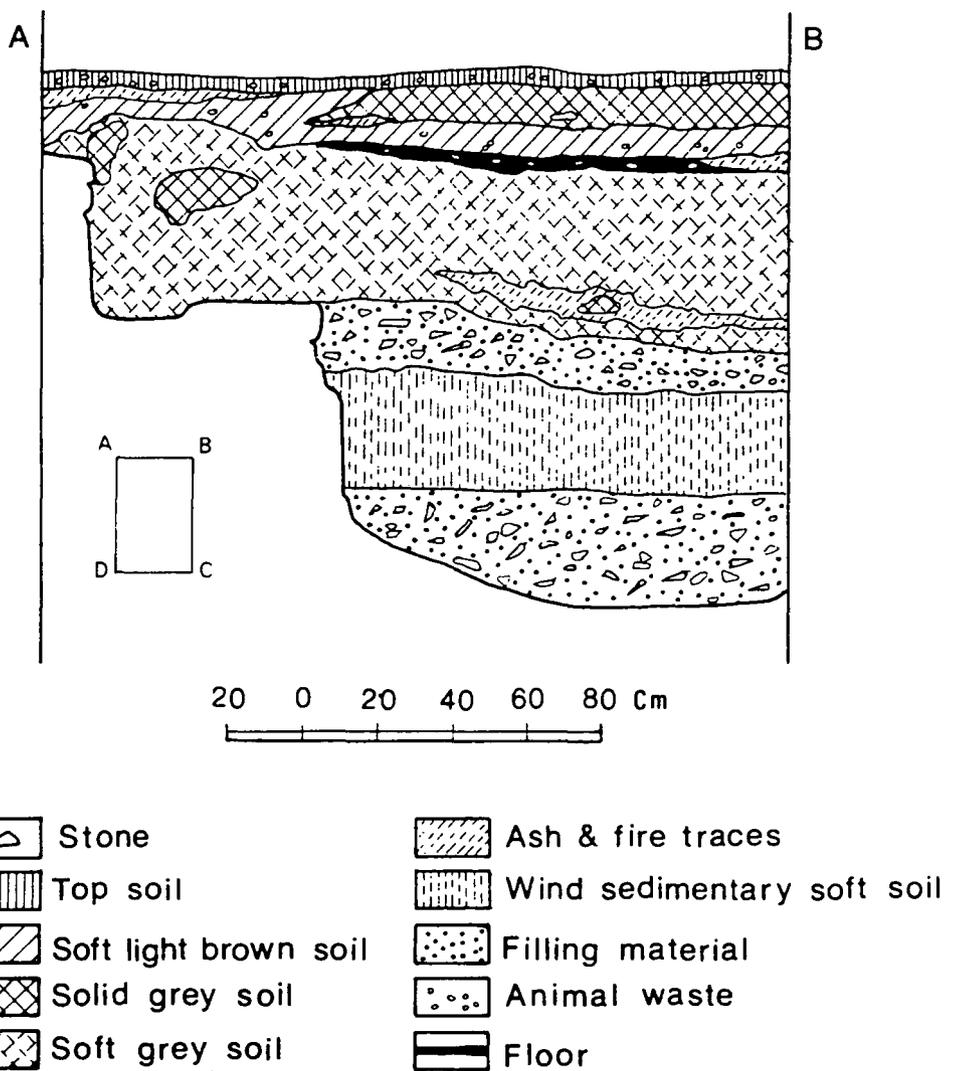
FIGURE 30



- |  |                       |  |                            |
|--|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|
|  | Stone                 |  | Ash & fire traces          |
|  | Topsoil               |  | Wind sedimentary soft soil |
|  | Soft light brown soil |  | Filling material           |
|  | Solid grey soil       |  | Animal waste               |
|  | Soft grey soil        |  | Floor                      |

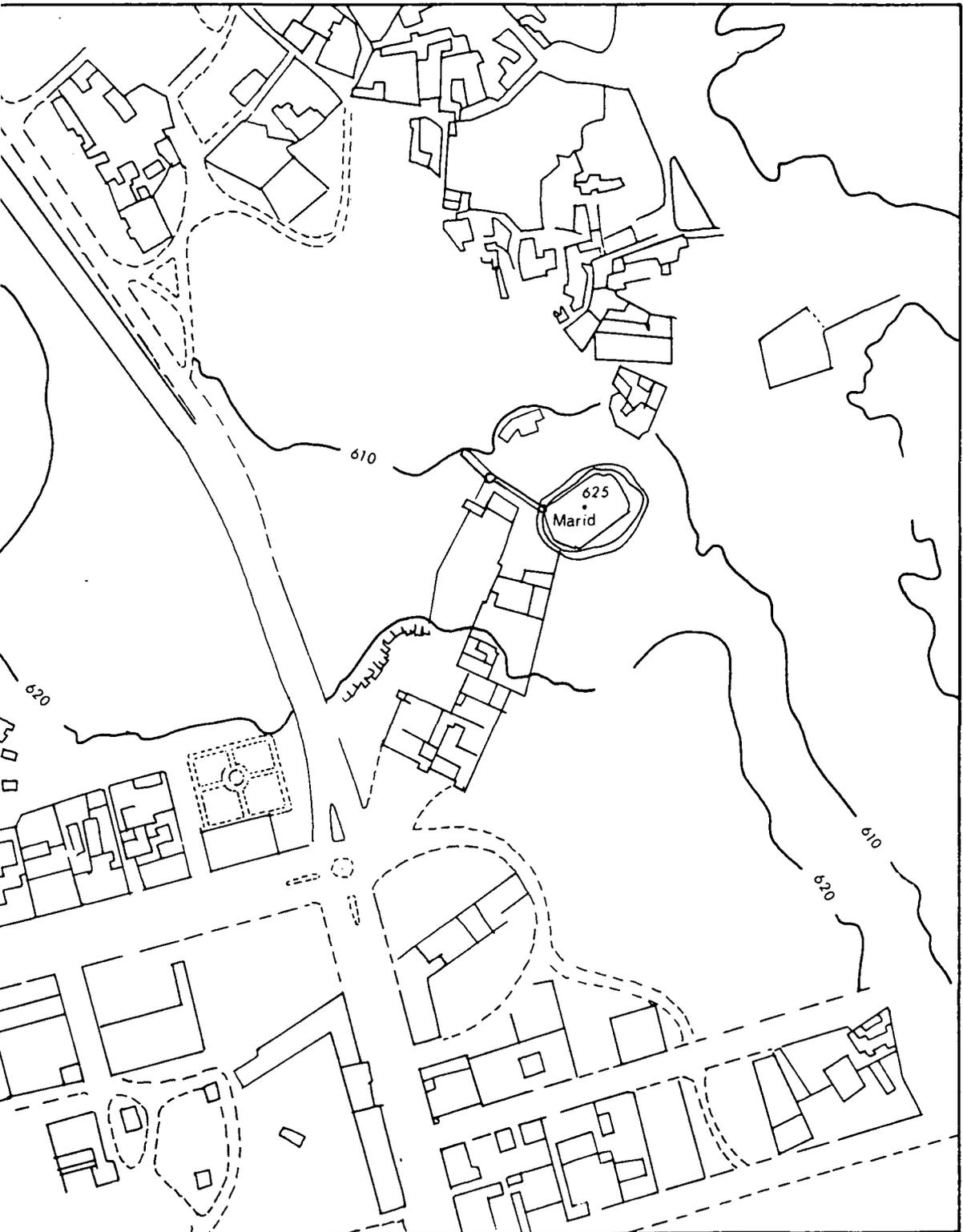
SECTION B, C, TRENCH No. 1 IN MUWAYSIN CASTLE

FIGURE 31



SECTION A, B, TRENCH No. 1 IN MUWAYSIN CASTLE

FIGURE 32



25 0 25 50 75 100 125 m



LOCATION OF MĀRID CASTLE IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

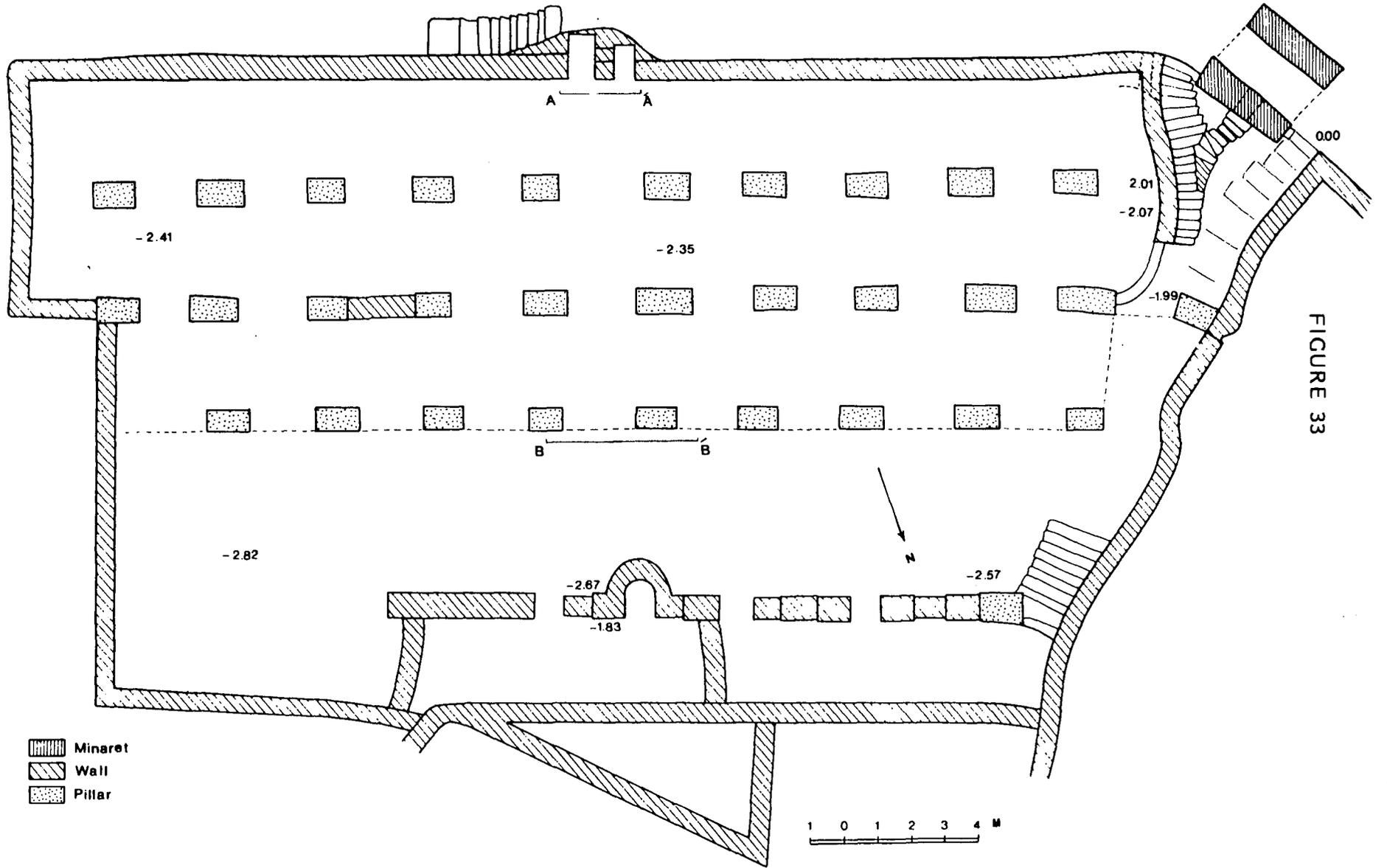
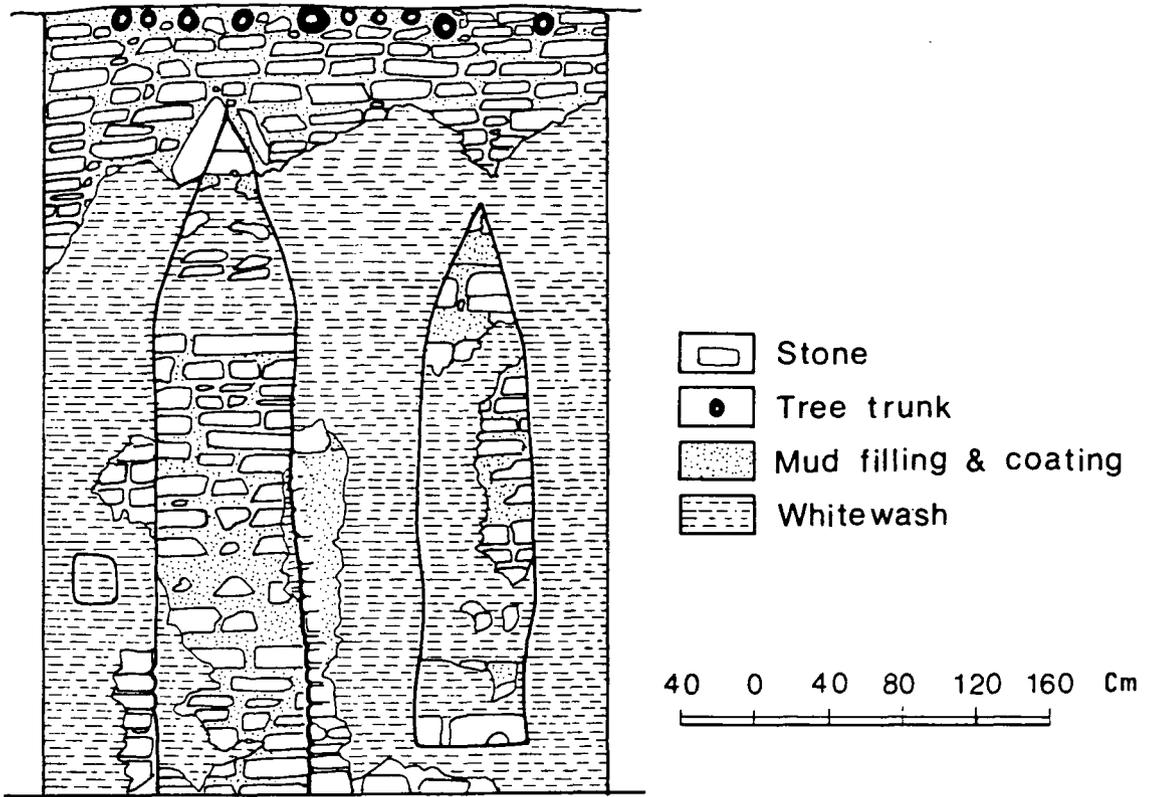


FIGURE 33

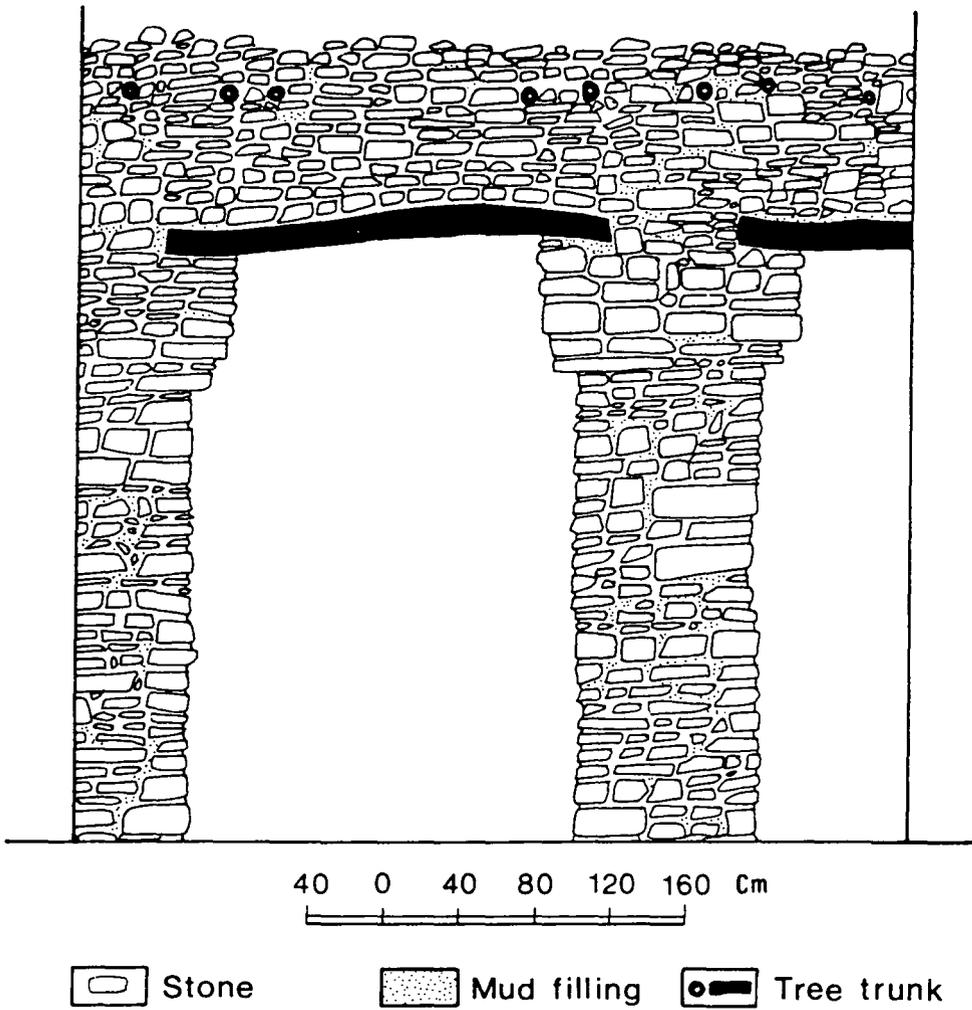
PLAN OF THE 'UMAR MOSQUE

FIGURE 34



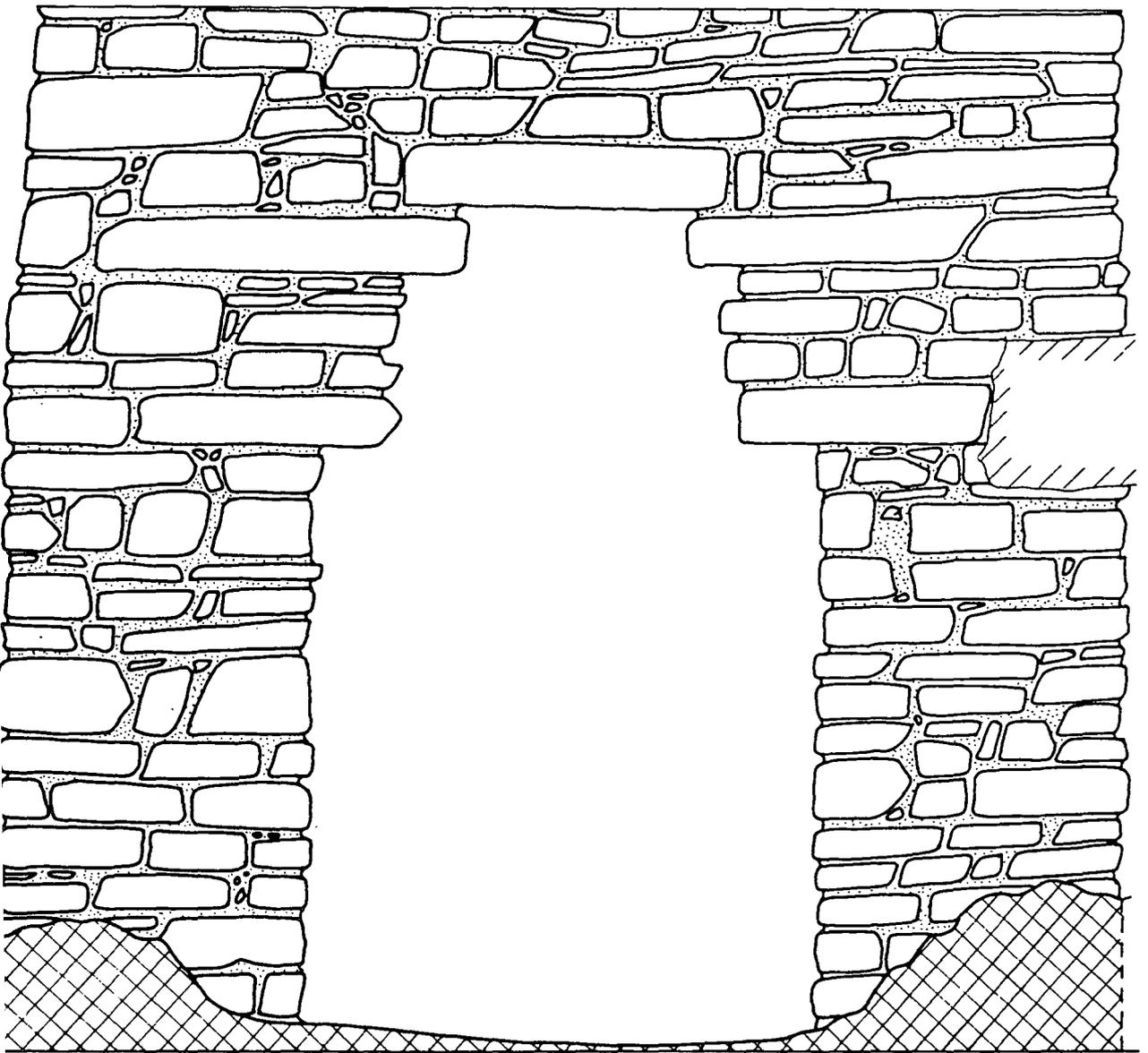
ELEVATION A, Á OF THE MIHRĀB OF THE 'UMAR MOSQUE

FIGURE 35



ELEVATION B, B' IN THE 'UMAR MOSQUE

FIGURE 36



20 0 20 40 60 80 cm

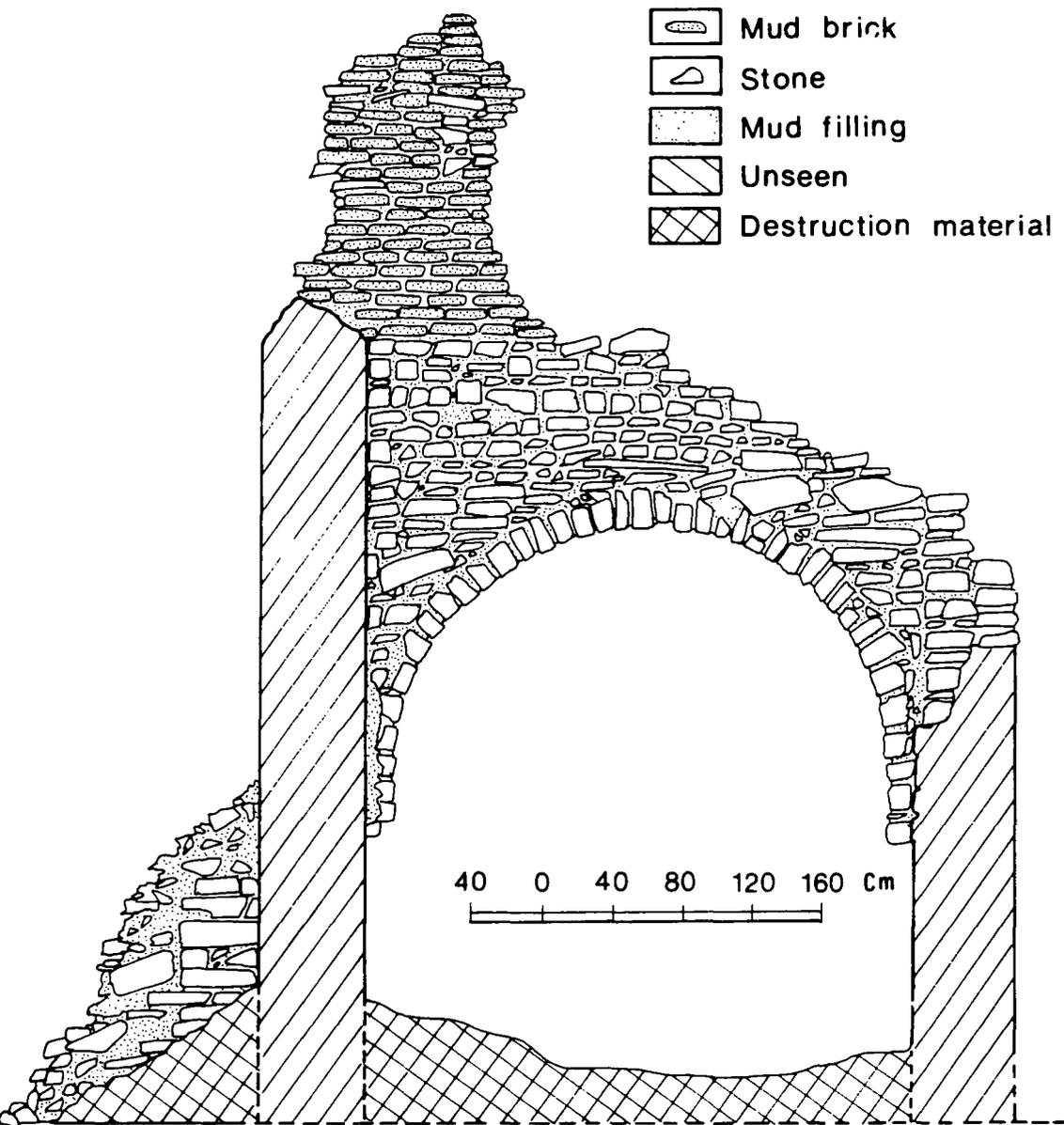
 Stone

 Mud filling

 Destruction material

VIEW OF THE PASSAGE WAY UNDERNEATH THE MINARET

FIGURE 37



THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE ANCIENT QUARTER OF  
DUMAT AL-JANDAL

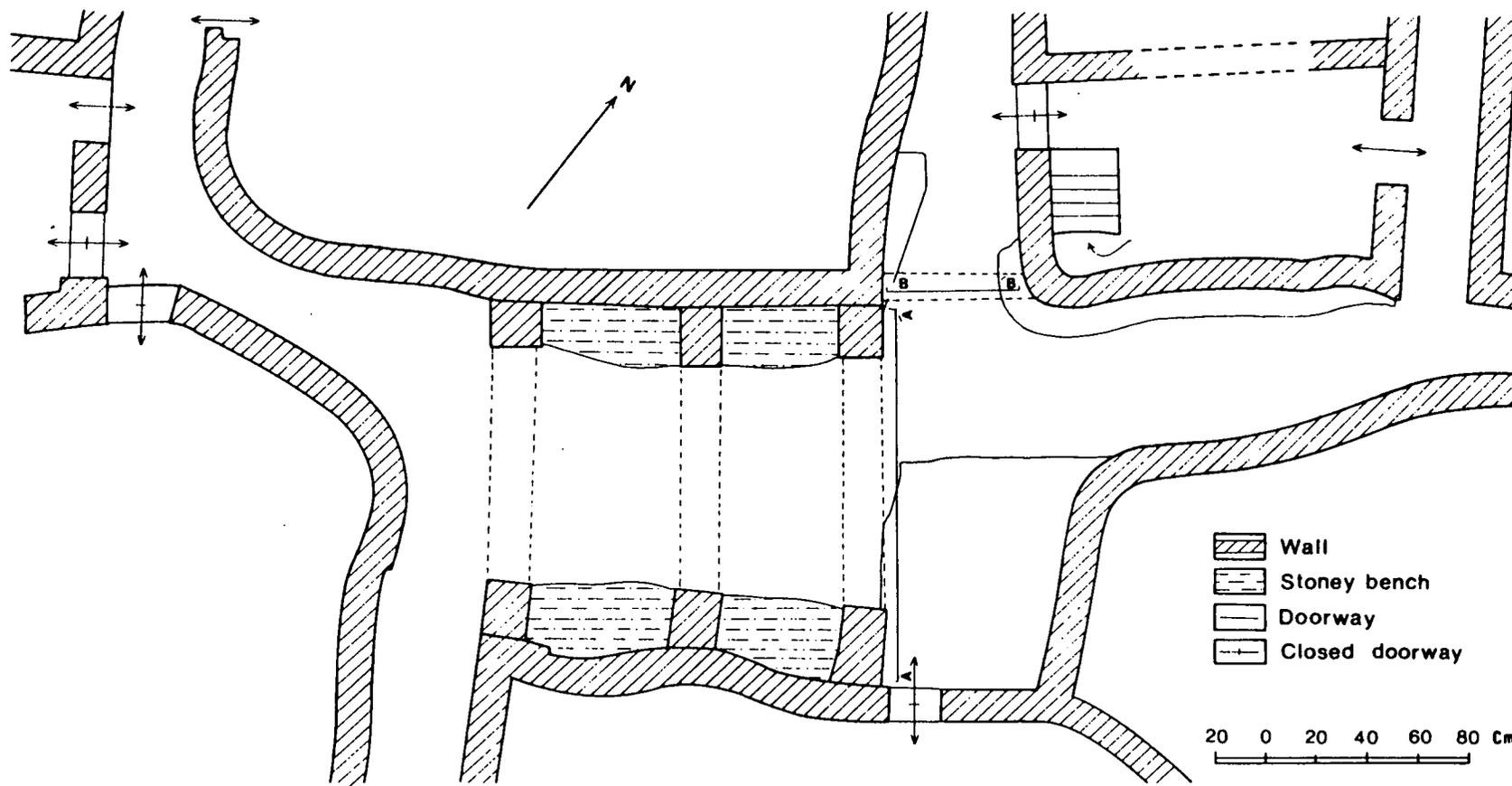
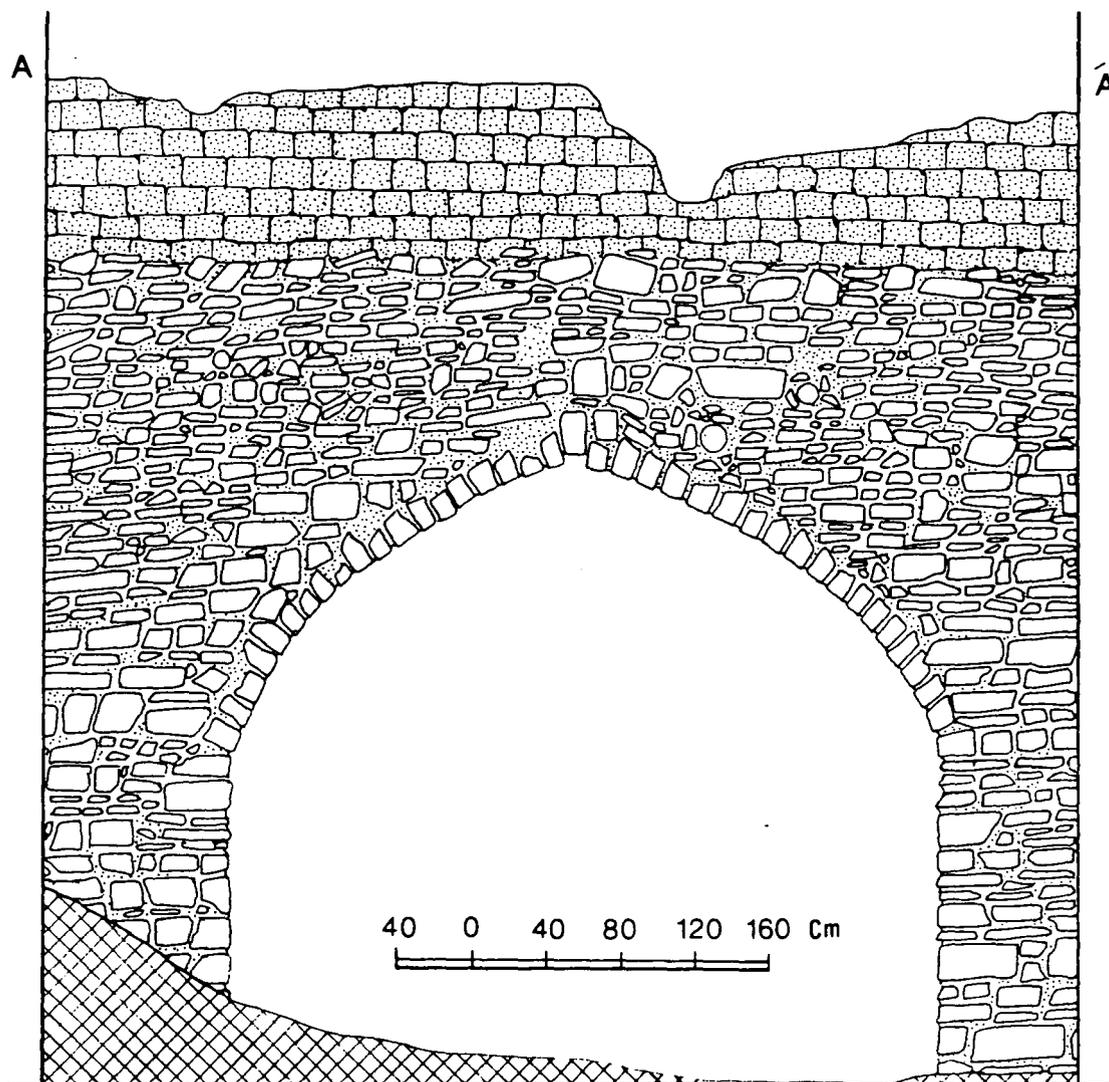


FIGURE 38

THE MAIN SQUARE IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

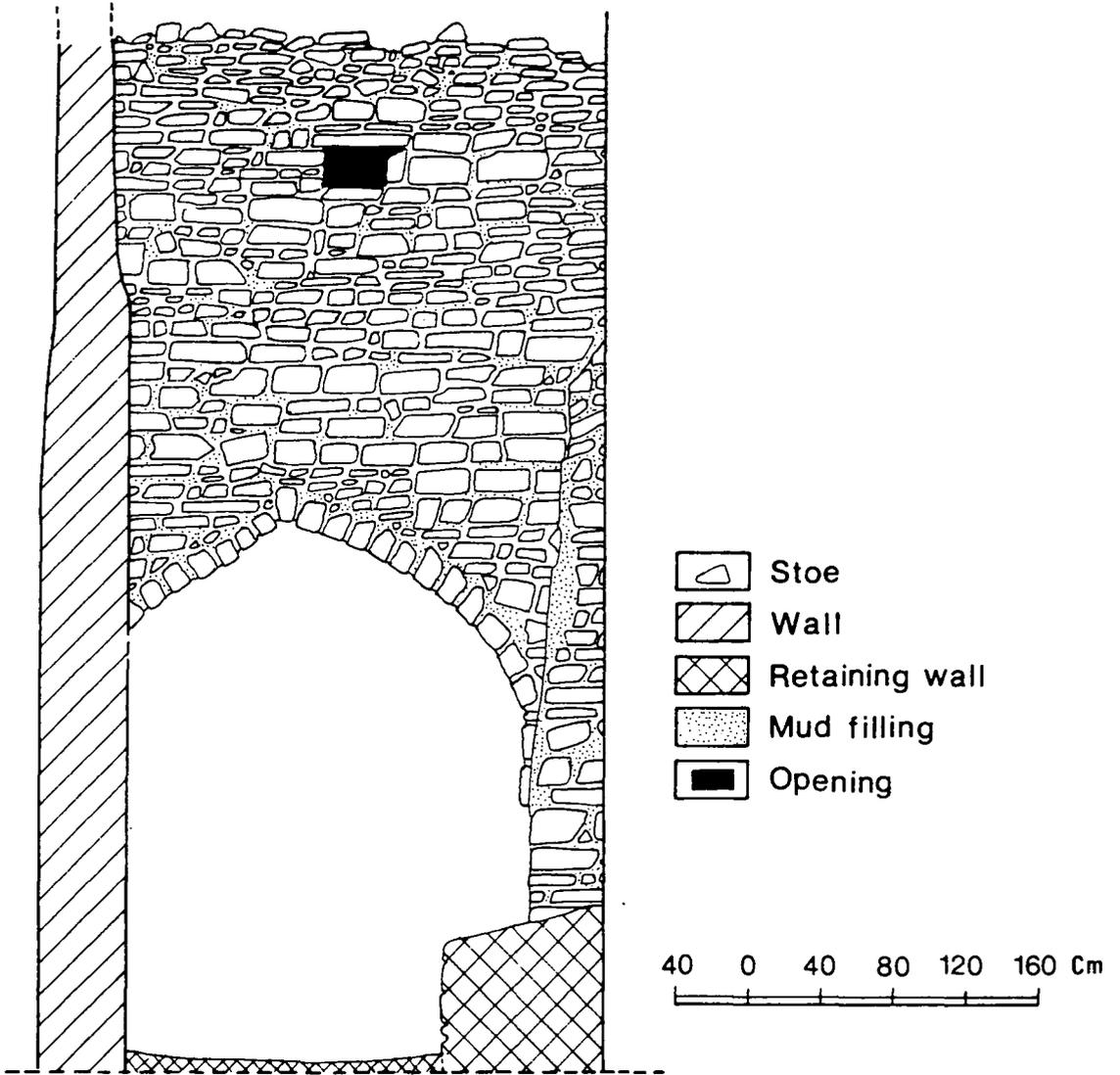
FIGURE 39



- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Mud filling |  Mud brick            |
|  Stone       |  Destruction material |

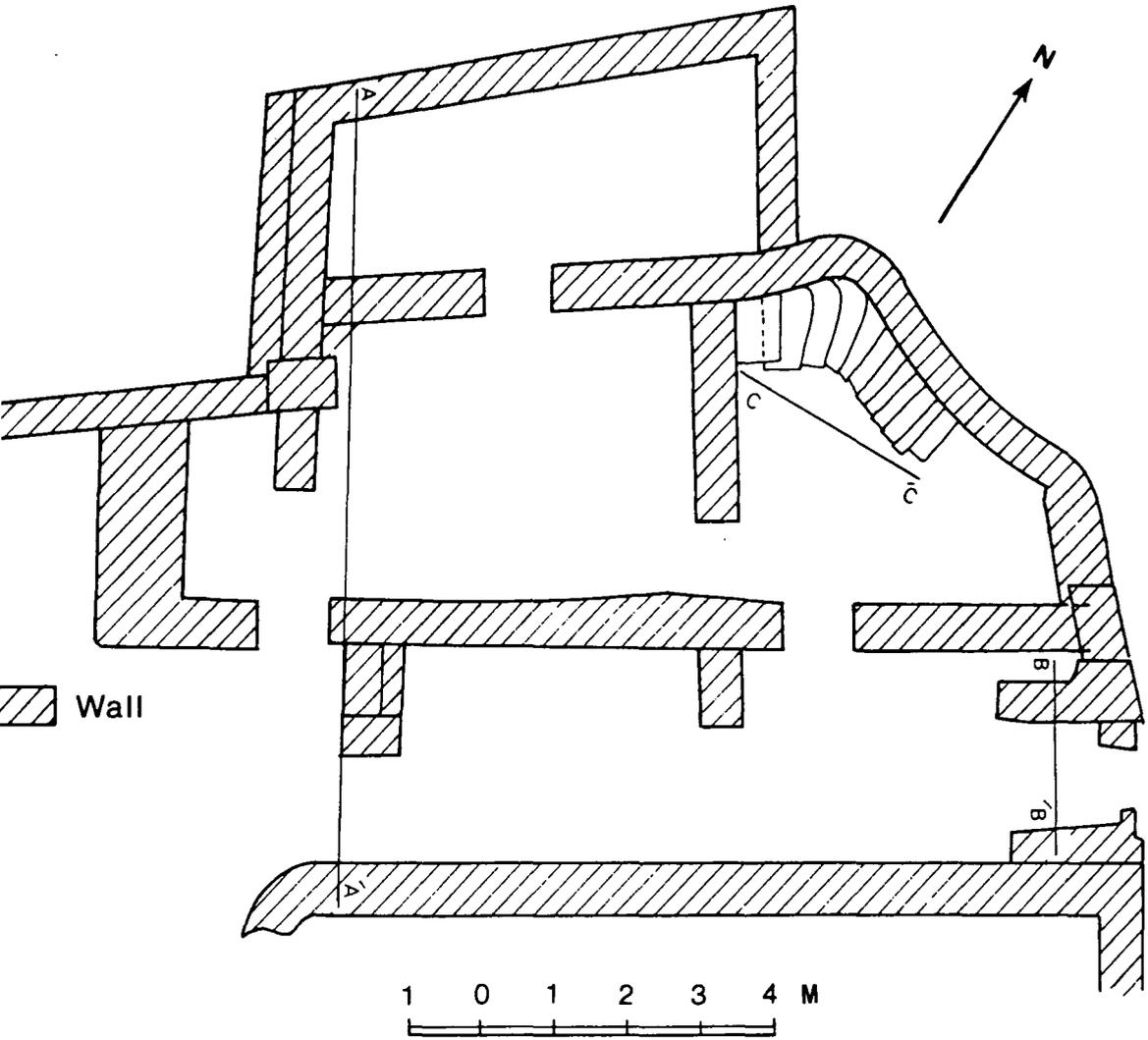
ELEVATION A, Á IN THE MAIN SQUARE/DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 40



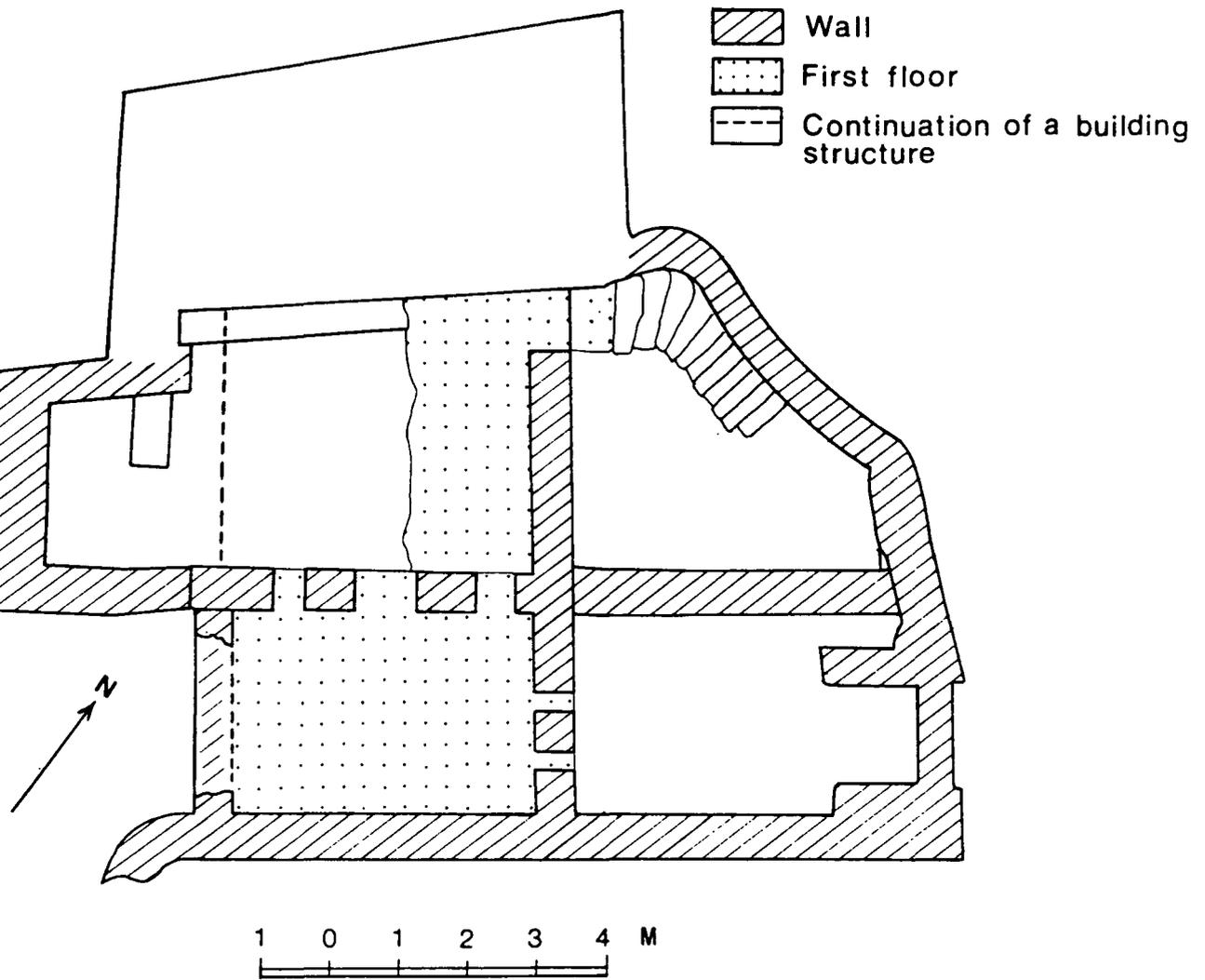
ELEVATION B, B' IN THE MAIN SQUARE/DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 41



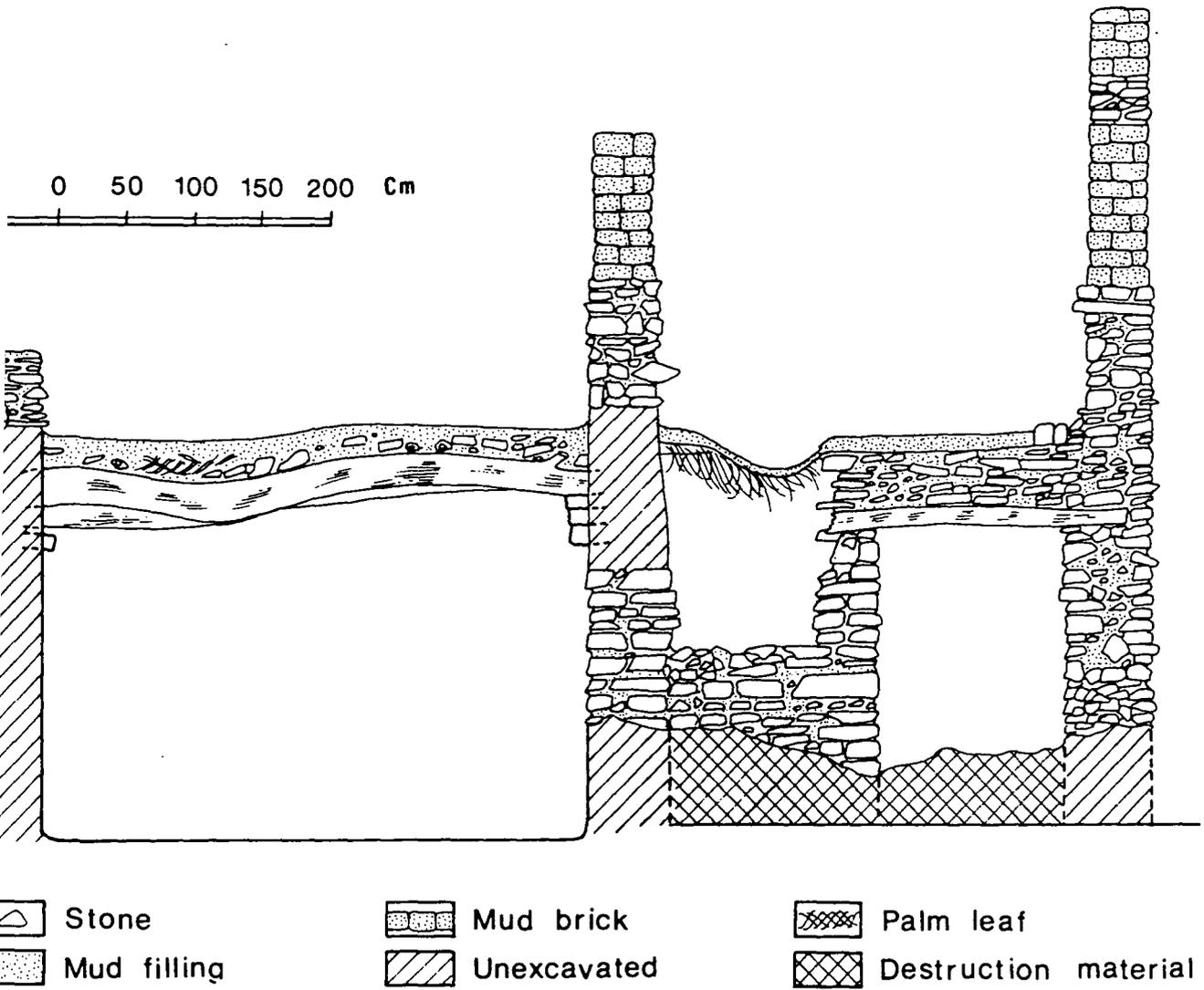
PLAN OF A HOUSE IN THE RESIDENTIAL AREA IN DŪMAT AL-JANDAL

FIGURE 42



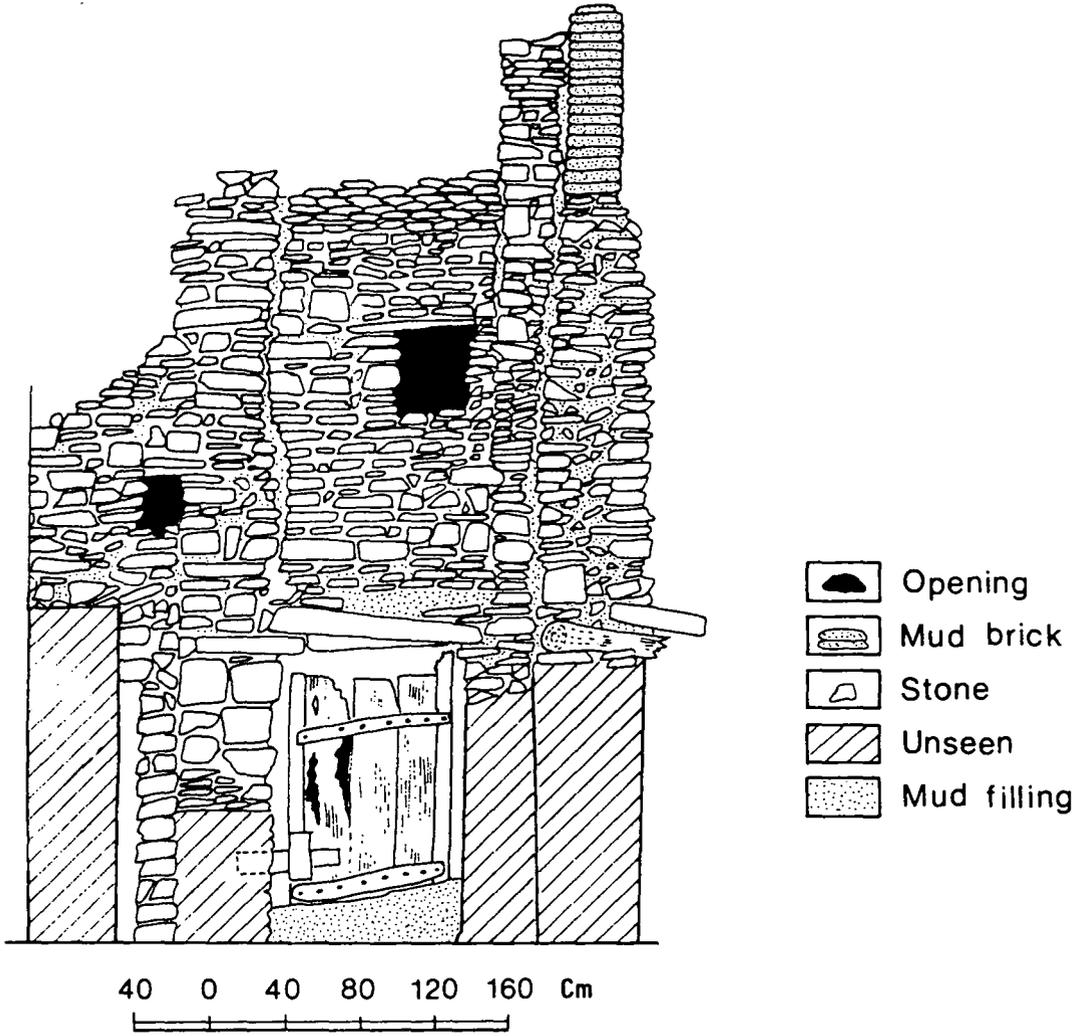
PLAN OF THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE HOUSE

FIGURE 43



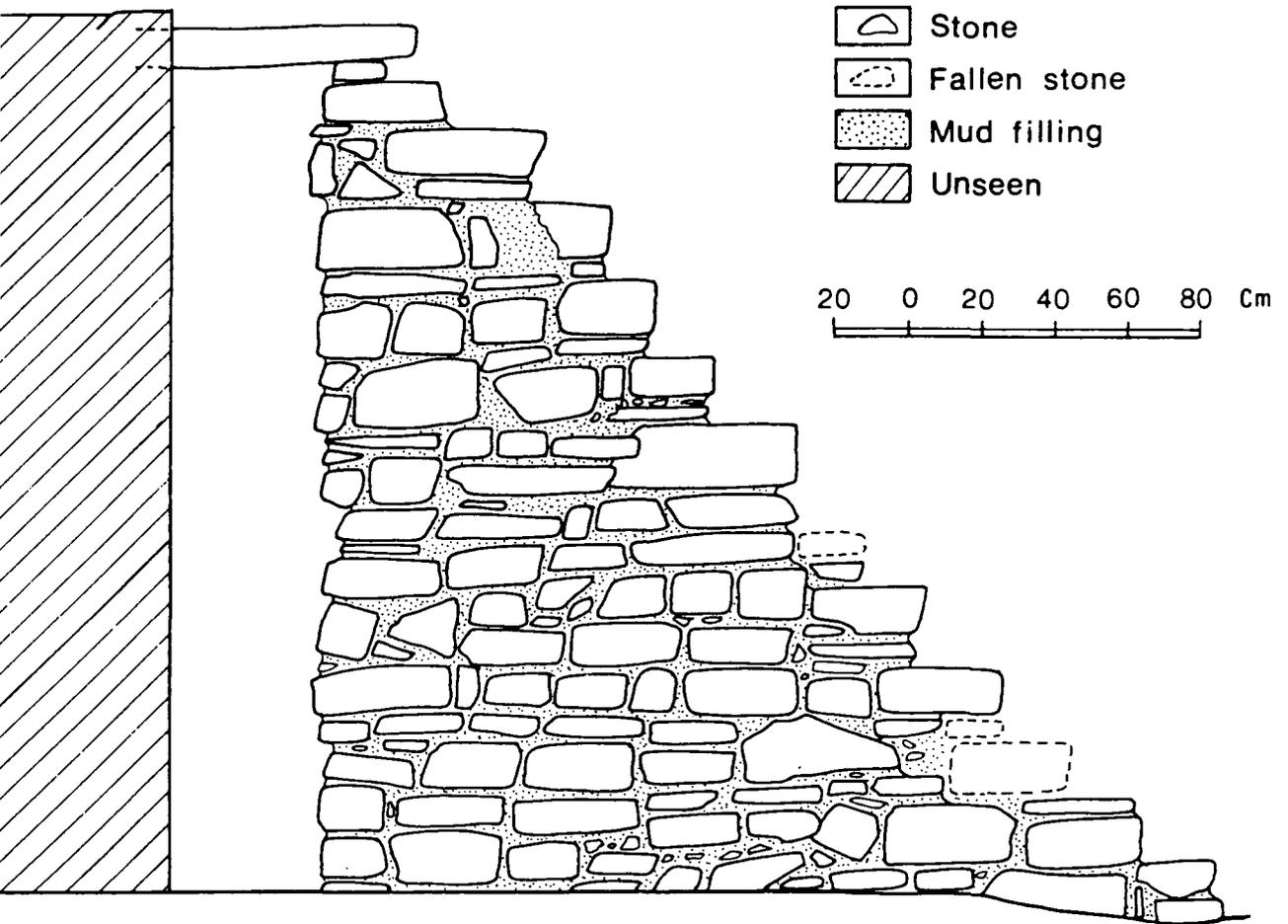
ELEVATION A, A' OF THE HOUSE

FIGURE 44



ELEVATION B, B' OF THE HOUSE

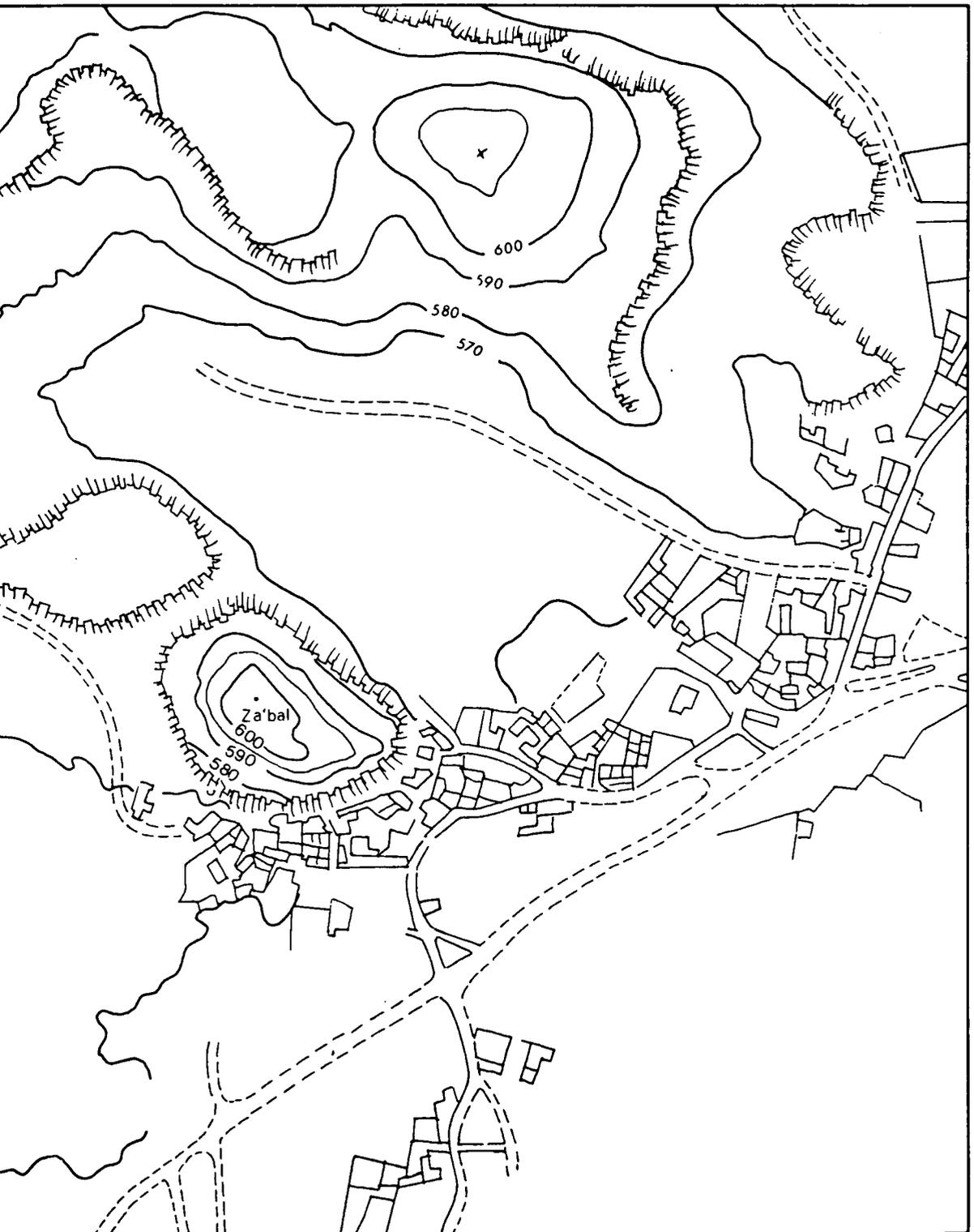
FIGURE 45



SIDE VIEW C, Ć IN THE HOUSE

ELEVATION C, Ć OF THE HOUSE

FIGURE 46



25 0 25 50 75 100 125 m

**ZA'BAL CASTLE IN SAKĀKĀ**

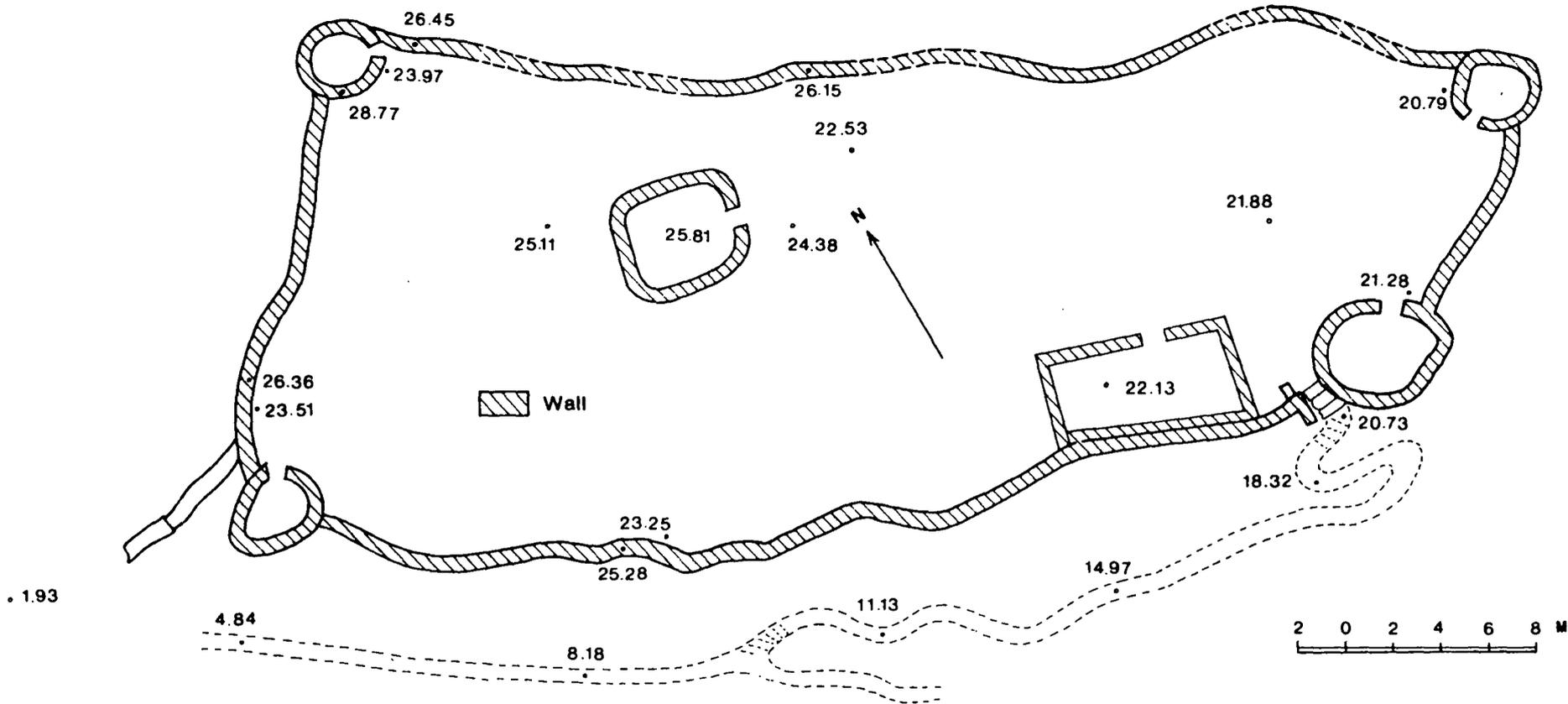
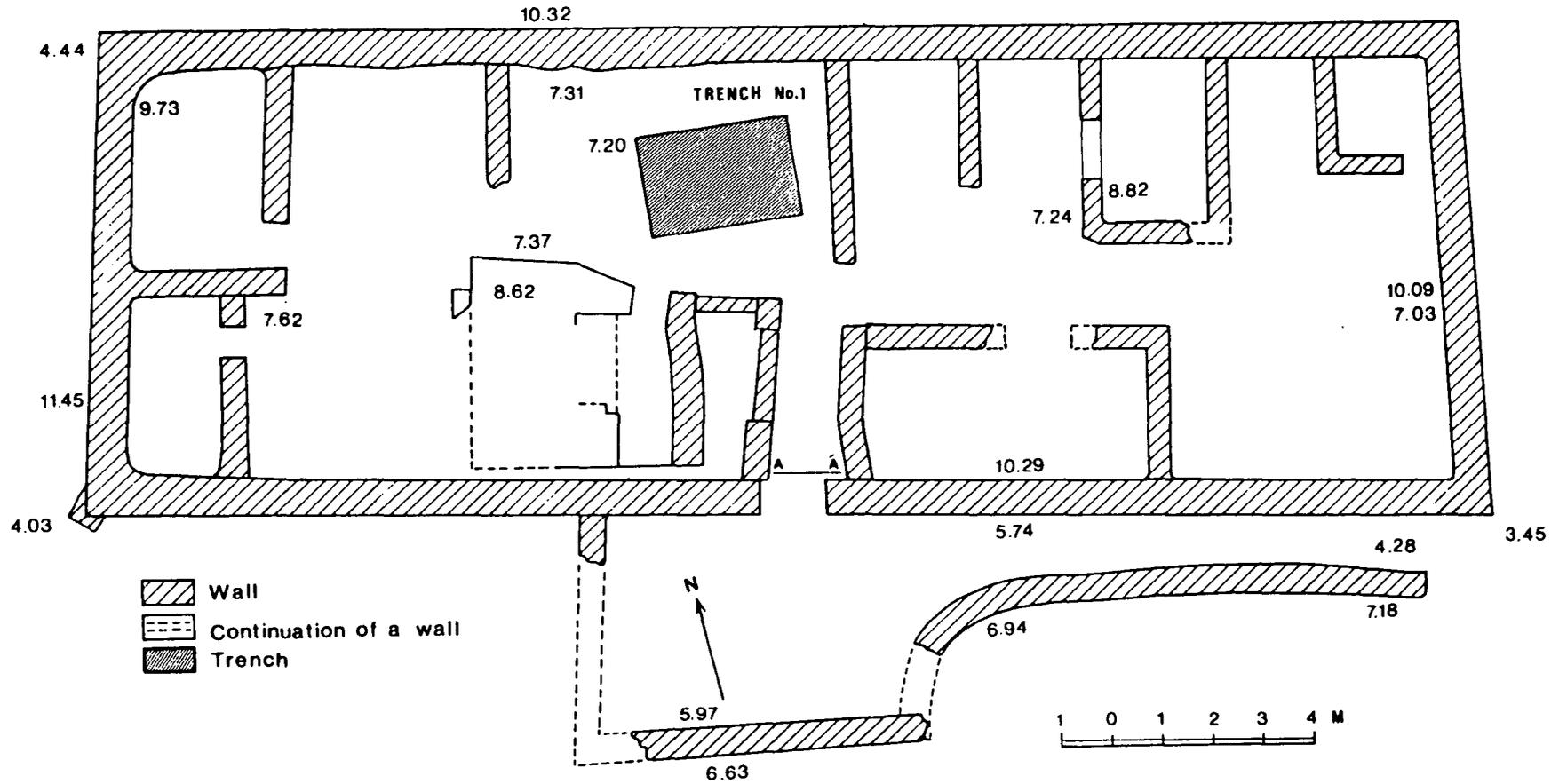


FIGURE 47

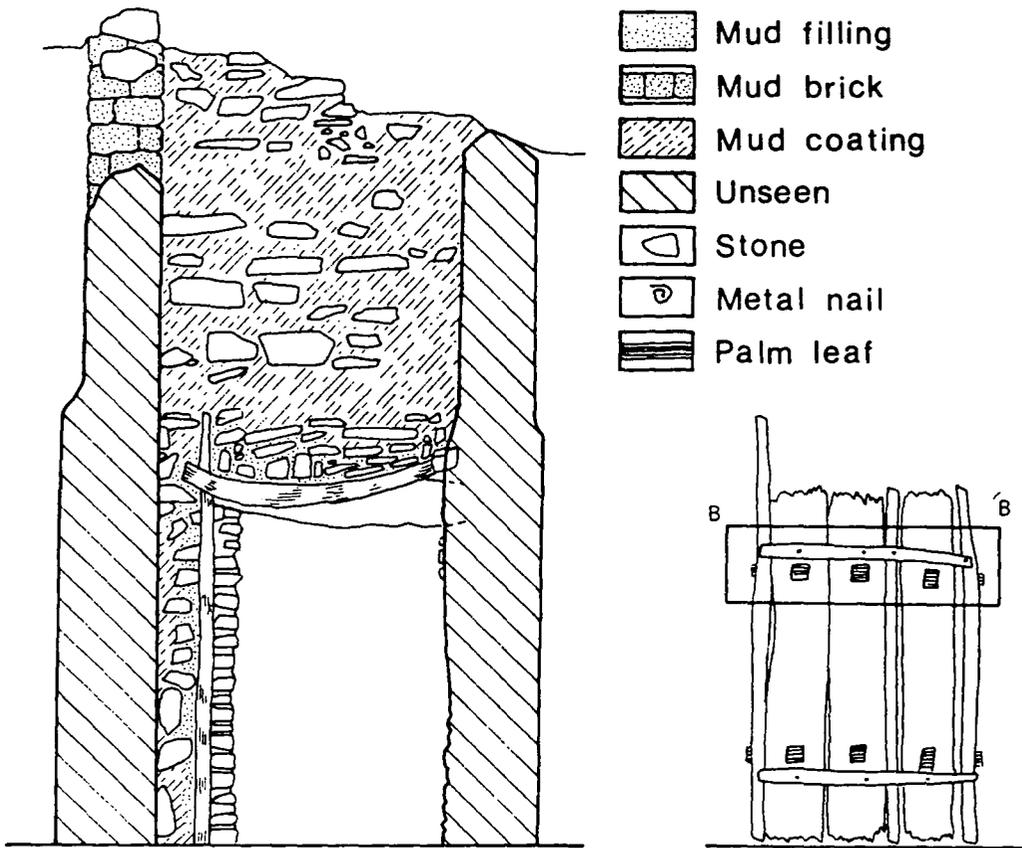
PLAN OF ZA'BĀL CASTLE / SAKĀKĀ



3.18  
FIGURE 48

PLAN OF MUWAYSIN CASTLE

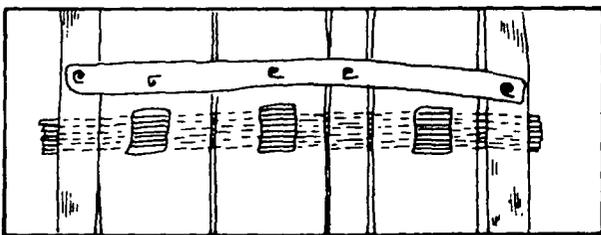
FIGURE 49



-  Mud filling
-  Mud brick
-  Mud coating
-  Unseen
-  Stone
-  Metal nail
-  Palm leaf

Front view A, A

The door



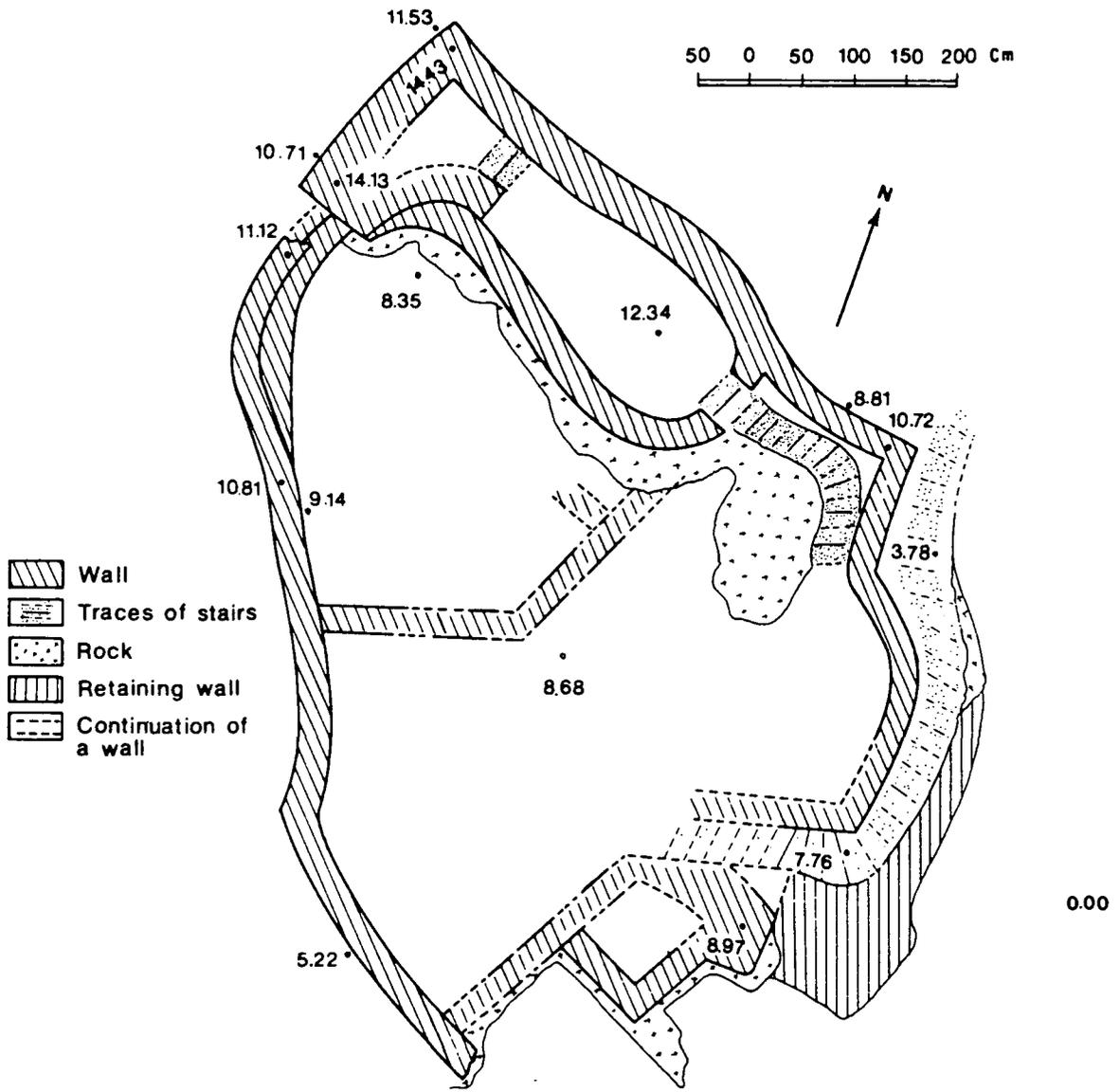
Blow-up of B, B

40 0 40 80 120 160 Cm



MAIN GATE OF MUWAYSIN CASTLE

FIGURE 50



PLAN OF AL-QUDAYR CASTLE/SAKĀKĀ

