

Report on the Review of Panels and Visitor Paths at the Site

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I would like, through this report, to draw attention to the general condition of the information panels and visitor Paths at the site, as well as to the condition of the mud-brick waste containers that I previously constructed.

Regarding the panels, some may wonder why I have repeatedly stated in previous reports that the panels remain in good condition. I would like to clarify that, since assuming responsibility for supervising the work, my primary focus has been on preserving the existing panels and maintaining the current situation, while keeping in mind the long-term goal of improving them and restoring them, as much as possible, to the condition they were in before 2011. My inspections have always focused on a number of key questions: Are any pages missing compared to the previous visit? Is the paint still holding up well? Are there any structural damages or breaks in the panels or their supports? Throughout this period, the answer to these questions was generally negative.

The initial objective was to preserve the existing state of the panels until a comprehensive review could be carried out. This process took longer than expected, as it required returning to the UGR to verify information and make the necessary comparisons. It is also important to note that repeated work interruptions since I assumed responsibility, together with unfavorable weather conditions, were among the main factors that delayed the completion of this task or, at least, prevented me from presenting my full assessment earlier.

On several occasions while at Tell Mozan, I also had to inquire about the fate of panels that had existed in the past. One notable example is the large welcome panel that used to stand at the foot of the mound, at the beginning of the road leading up to the site (Fig. 1): <https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-0.htm>. Unfortunately, I was

unable to locate it or determine what happened to it. Searches conducted at the mission house also yielded no results.

On the other hand, I was able to locate three panels “with cover”. However, they are in poor condition and require renovation of their display boards (Fig. 2). I also found three panels “without cover” (Fig. 3) that remain in relatively good condition and could be reused after some basic cleaning.

Following the review and comparison process, a number of discrepancies became apparent between what is documented on UGR and what actually exists on the site. Some panels and pages are available on UGR but are not present on the mound, while some panels currently found on-site have no corresponding documentation on UGR. The following observations are presented according to the order used in the Stations section of UGR <https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238intro.htm>

Stations section of UGR

Facing the Centuries

- **Facing the Centuries panel** (Fig. 4): This panel is currently missing. It should be located near Area J1, along the path leading to Area J2.
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/01.pdf>
- **Depositional History panel** (Fig. 5): This panel is also missing from the site. In addition, the PDF file available on UGR does not correspond to this panel but rather to the previous section, *The Ancient Perception*.

The Temple “Panorama”

- **Signpost panel** (Fig. 6): This panel is missing from the site.
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/02.pdf>

The Stairway

- **Facing the Transcendence** (Fig. 7): This panel is missing from the site.
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/03.pdf>
- **The Southern Edge**: This panel is missing from the site. Furthermore, UGR contains no images of this panel except for the following PDF file:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/03a.pdf>

- **Sacred and Profane:** Located south of Area J7, this panel is missing, together with *The Southern Edge* panel. No photographic documentation for either panel exists on UGR. This raises the question of whether these two panels were intentionally removed by the expedition administration at some point.
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/03b.pdf>

The Great Ascent

- **The Mountain in the City** (Fig. 8): One image appears to be missing from the panel's content.
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/04a.pdf>

The Palace “Panorama”

- **The Signpost page** (Fig. 9) is not included among the palace panorama pages:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/06.pdf>

Should this page be added to the panorama? I also think that the pages within the panorama should be reordered according to the arrangement that existed prior to 2011.

- **The Conservation and Reconstruction page** (Fig. 10) is also missing:
https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/06_suppl.pdf

Regarding these pages, we may encounter a problem due to limited space within the panorama. What would you suggest in this case? Would it be preferable to create a separate panel containing these pages rather than incorporating them into the panorama itself?

The Netherworld

- **The Signpost page** (Fig. 11) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/07.pdf>
- **The Finds from the Abi page** (Fig. 12) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/07a.pdf>
- In addition, the Abi panel is not available on UGR, and the images do not appear on the following page:
<https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-7.htm>

Palace service wing

- **The Signpost page** (Fig. 13) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/08.pdf>
No images of the corresponding panel are available on the UGR.
- **The Entering through a breach page** (Fig. 14) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/08a.pdf>
The webpage also requires translation into Arabic.
- **The The Palace Kitchen** (Fig. 15) one page is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/08c.pdf>
The webpage also requires translation into Arabic.
- **The Finding Objects** (Fig. 16) one page is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/08e.pdf>
The webpage also requires translation into Arabic.
- **The Control Room panel** (Fig. 17) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/stands/08f.pdf>
- In addition, no photographs of the panels belonging to this paths are available on UGR.

Palace formal wing

- **The Signpost page** (Fig. 18) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/09.pdf>

Palace Asleep

- **The Signpost page** (Fig. 19) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/pdf/signposts/10.pdf>
- Regarding the **From Palace to Settlement** file, I am unable to access it. There appears to be an error, and I have not yet been able to verify its contents. Could you please send me the file?

Mittani Shift

- **The panel** (Fig. 20) is missing:
<https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-11.htm>

- Also, the **The Western Staircase** file cannot be opened, and therefore I was unable to verify it.

Last Stand

- The panel **The Last Stand in the Service of the Gods** (Fig. 21) is missing: <https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-12.htm>
- The file **The Twilight of Urkesh** is also inaccessible on UGR.

Broader Limits

- The panel **The Broader Limits** (Fig. 22) is missing: <https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-13.htm>
- I am also unable to access **The Four Horizons** file on UGR and was therefore unable to verify it.

Research Center

- The panel **Beyond the Dig** (Fig. 23) is missing: <https://urkesh.org/MZ/A/MPR/TEXTS/A3/238-14.htm>

Evaluation of Panel Condition and Proposed Solutions

The material currently used in the manufacture of these panels does not withstand welding if broken, making repairs extremely difficult, if not impossible, in some cases. Although previous attempts were made by a blacksmith to repair several damaged panels, the results were unsatisfactory. These repairs were carried out by a blacksmith from Umm al-Rabi' village, whose workshop appears relatively limited compared to those available in Amuda or Qamishli. For this reason, I think it would be more effective to work with a blacksmith in Qamishli, where I could transport damaged panels for repair or fabrication and bring them back to Tell Mozan afterward.

The panels consist of two main components: a metal support and a display board. Inspection revealed that the majority of the supports remain in good condition and can continue to be used, which would significantly reduce costs. The primary problem lies with some of the display boards, several of which have deteriorated beyond repair. I

therefore recommend replacing these display boards with new ones made from a stronger material that can be welded and repaired in the future if necessary.

One example is the panel in Area **J5** (Fig. 24), which has suffered damage that makes repair impractical. There are also several panels that tilt excessively backward when opened, making them difficult to read and reducing their effectiveness as interpretive displays (Fig. 25). These panels should likewise be replaced.

Based on the current assessment, only four panels require replacement. The remaining panels are still in good condition and can continue to be used with periodic maintenance and repainting. Nevertheless, some of them may eventually require similar replacement if they suffer further damage.

A positive aspect is that most of the metal supports remain in good condition, making their replacement unnecessary. For example, the four panels that require renewal all have serviceable supports, meaning that only the upper display boards need to be replaced.

As for the panels with “covers” mentioned earlier and subsequently found in storage, I think that if they are to be reused within the site's interpretive system, only their display boards will need replacement, while the existing supports can be retained because they remain structurally sound.

Based on the above, I think that we currently need to renew **seven panels with covers** (those containing more than two A4 pages), unless the reactivation of some visitor paths in the **Stations** section requires the creation of additional panels.

Visitor Paths

Some visitor paths have become less visible due to the loss of part of the crushed-stone surface that originally covered them, as well as the accumulation of vegetation (Fig. 26). The current plan is to remove weeds, soil, and debris from these paths and then redistribute and level the crushed stone. If it becomes apparent that additional material is required, we may need to bring more crushed stone to the site. I do not expect the quantity needed to exceed approximately two cubic meters.

After cleaning and resurfacing the paths, small stones will be placed along both sides of the paths (Fig. 27), as was done previously, and secured with mud to prevent the

crushed stone from spreading beyond the path boundaries. However, this treatment will require periodic maintenance, as weather conditions and visitor traffic may necessitate the repositioning of stones and repair of damaged mud sections.

As noted in previous monthly reports, several of the cement blocks used as steps within excavation areas have deteriorated significantly and, in some cases, have become almost unusable (Fig. 28). These damaged blocks should therefore be replaced. It may be possible to reuse some blocks currently scattered around the site, particularly those located near the mission house (Fig. 29). According to preliminary estimates, no more than 25 cement blocks should be required.

The staircase in Area **J5**, which has been buried by soil due to the collapse of the section opposite the retaining wall (Fig. 30), will be cleaned, rehabilitated, and repaired where necessary. The main issue, however, is the accumulation of soil resulting from previous collapses. In my opinion, this soil could be placed in burlap bags and used as additional support for the section. This approach may help stabilize the area and reduce the likelihood of future collapses. I would be interested in hearing your opinion on this proposal.

I fully realize that substantial amounts of soil have accumulated within the excavation areas over the years, and it may not be feasible at present to restore the overall appearance of the site to its pre-2011 condition. Such work would require the physical presence of the mission on-site. Nevertheless, my goal is to improve and maintain the site's general appearance as much as possible until the mission is able to resume its full field presence.

Renovation of Waste Disposal Areas

I previously constructed four mud-brick waste containers for visitors (Fig. 31), three of them along the upper path near the temple and plaza, and one near the palace. Over time, however, they deteriorated and partially collapsed due to weather conditions and the absence of regular maintenance.

The current plan is to restore these containers by repairing the existing mud-brick structures and equipping them with metal cans (Fig. 32) of the type commonly used for food products or oils. Plastic containers were previously used inside the mud structures

(Fig. 33), but experience has shown that they are not suitable for the site's climatic conditions, particularly high temperatures and exposure to rain.

I also plan to design and install small informational panels encouraging visitors to keep the site clean and dispose of waste in designated areas. We can agree later on the wording of these messages. I estimate that three small signs will be needed for this purpose.

Regarding construction materials, I would like to ask whether it would be possible to make use of the mud bricks currently stacked in front of the palace (Fig. 34) for the proposed restoration work.

Required Materials and Estimated Costs

Panels

- **Welcome panel:** approximately **\$35**
- **Panels with covers and with out new support** (which includes more than two A4 pages): **\$17 per panel**
- **Panels with cover and with new support (if needed):** **\$22 per panel**
- **Panels without covers** (which includes one or two A4 pages): **\$10 per panel**

Three panels without cover may be required for awareness messages related to site cleanliness and proper waste disposal.

Based on current estimates, the project would require:

- **Renewal of 7 Panels with covers**
- **Creation of 3 Panels without covers**
- **Creation of 1 welcome panel**

The estimated total cost for panel work is therefore approximately **\$184**.

Visitor Paths

- Approximately **25 cement blocks** may be required. At a cost of **\$0.65 per block**, including transportation to the mound, the estimated total cost would be **\$16.25**.

- If additional crushed stone is required, approximately **2 cubic meters** may be needed. At **\$25 per cubic meter**, including transportation, the estimated total cost would be **\$50**.

Figures



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

2

A bird's eye view

From this panoramic vista point you can gain a comprehensive view of the great Terrace wall and of the staircase – both built around 2600 B.C. It is not how the ancients saw it (the next stop will take you down to their level ...). But the view from up here, aided by the descriptive panels in front of you, offer you a good synthetic survey of the visual and the historical dimensions of this great monument.

المنظر

من عين الطائر

من مركز المشاهدة (البانوراما) هنا، بإمكانك أن تحقق رؤية واسعة تشتمل على كل من جدار المصطبة الضخم والدرج الذين بُنوا حوالي 2600 ق.م. هذه الرؤية تختلف عن رؤية القدماء لهما (مركز المشاهدة التالي سوف يهبط بك إلى سويتهم...). لكن المشهد من أعلى هنا، والمرفق لوحات الوصف أمامك، يزودك برؤية مركبة جيدة لامتداد هذا الصرح العظيم زماناً ومكاناً.

Figure 6

3

Facing the transcendence

From the high vista point behind us we looked down at the staircase as a bird would. Now we descend to the level where humans stood – and still stand. We have excavated a large portion of the Plaza specifically in order to make it possible for you to walk on the ground the ancients trod. As you approach the staircase, be mindful of the rich meaning it held for those who approached it thousands of years ago.

في مواجهة السمو

من مركز المشاهدة المرتفع خلفنا، نظرنا إلى الأسفل باتجاه الدرج كما يفعل الطائر. الآن ننزل إلى السوية حيث وقف البشر سابقاً - ولا زالوا يقفون-. لقد نقبنا قطاعاً كبيراً من البلازا بشكل خاص، لكي نمكنك من السير على الأرض التي وطئها القدماء. باقترابك من الدرج، حاول إدراك المعنى العميق الذي حمله لهؤلاء الذين دنوا إليه منذ آلاف السنين.

Figure 7

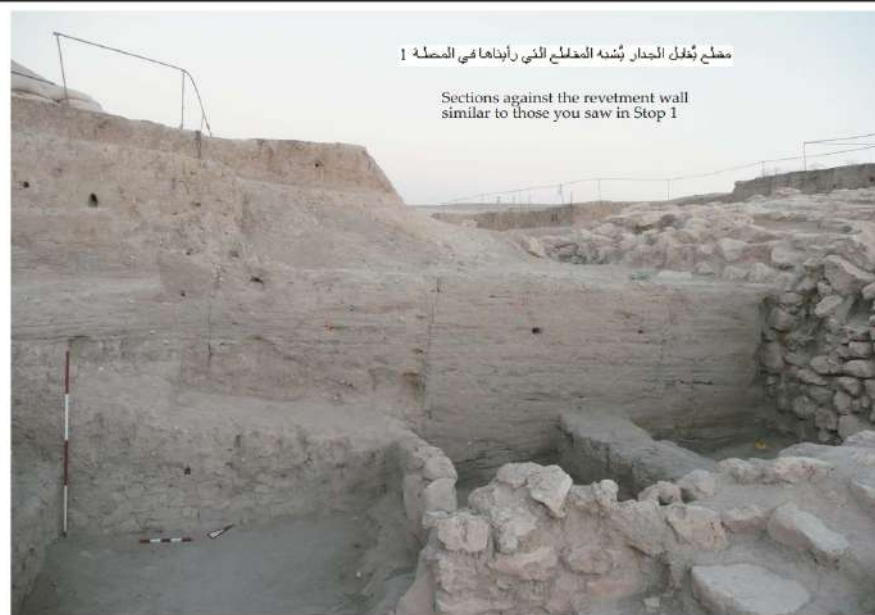


Figure 8

6

Projecting the Palace

From this panoramic vista point you have both a visual and a conceptual overview of the Palace of Tupkish, built around 2250 B.C.

But the excavations have brought to light only a portion of the full Palace –the service wing in its entirety (to the left) and a small portion of the residential and administrative sectors (to your right). Also, the northern portion of the Palace remains unexcavated.

In the distance to your right you see a yellow metal corner that marks the projected northeastern corner of the Palace. This gives you an idea of how much more there is to do in the coming years, if we want to expose the rest of the Palace...

المخطط المفترض للقصر

من مركز المشاهدة (البانوراما) هذا، يمكنك تحصيل رؤية بصرية و علمية لقصر "توبيكش"، الذي بُني حوالي 2250 ق.م. لكن التنقيبات كشفت فقط جزءاً من القصر - الجناح الخدمي كاملاً (إلى اليسار)، وجزءاً صغيراً من القطاعين السكني والإداري (إلى يمينك). أما عن الجزء الشمالي من القصر فلم ينقب بعد. على بعد مسافة إلى يمينك ترى زاوية معدنية صفراء، والتي تشير إلى زاوية القصر الشمالية الشرقية المفترضة. إن هذا كفيل بإعطائك فكرة عن كمّ الجهد الإضافي الواجب عمله في السنوات المقبلة، في حال أردنا الكشف عن بقية القصر....

Figure 9

الصيانة والترميم

تتسع فكرة الصيانة أحياناً لتتضمن عملية إعادة البناء. الصيانة تعني أن نحافظ على الأبنية كما كانت أول ما نُقِبَ عنها. أما إعادة البناء، من ناحية أخرى، تعني، إعادة بناء الأشياء كما كانت سابقاً، لكن باستخدام مواد حديثة. ونحن نحاول أن نجتمع بين العمليتين وأن نحافظ على التمييز المهم بينهما وخاصة في هذه المنطقة من التنقيبات. إن نظام الحماية ما يزال في عملية تقدم، وستلاحظون تنويعات مختلفة. هناك أيضاً تفاوت بالعلاقة بين تشكيل الهياكل التي إلى يمينكم: سوف نوفق بين الصفحات عندما يكون كل شيء كاملاً. في القصر، جميع الجدران المكتشفة هي مُعاد بناءها مكان الجدران القديمة التي كانت غير موجودة في الأصل، حتى أساساتها. نظام الحماية بدون غلاف على الجوانب يحمي أجزاء من الجدران التي تحوي على أساسات حجرية مع بقايا من اللين فوقها. أجزاء من الجدران التي بقيت أساساتها الحجرية أبقيناها مكشوفة، مع خطوط بيضاء. وأخيراً، نظام حماية مع تغطية كاملة للجوانب بشوادر خاصة تقوم بحماية الجدران التي مازالت تحوي على أجزاء من اللين. يرمز اللون الأخضر إلى قسم الخدمة في القصر، والمخطط يرمز، حتى عن بُعد، إلى الجدران المُعاد بناءها.

Conservation and reconstruction

The notion of conservation extends sometimes to include reconstruction. Conservation means to preserve and protect the monuments as they are when first found. Reconstruction, on the other hand, means to rebuild the way things were, but with modern materials. At Mozan, we maintain the important distinction that obtains between the two, as you see documented especially in this part of the excavations.

The system is still in flux, and you will notice several variations. There are also discrepancies in relationship to the synthetic panel to your right: we will harmonize our pages when everything is complete.

In the Palace, all exposed mudbrick walls are reconstructions of ancient walls that have totally disappeared, including the foundations.

Shelters without side covers protect those portions of the perimetral walls of which only the stone foundations and lower courses are still extant.

Partition walls of which only the stone foundations are left are left uncovered, with only a white outline.

Finally, shelters with canvas or burlap side panels protect the walls of which we still have mudbrick portions.

The color green identifies the service wing of the Palace, and stripes identify, even from a distance, the reconstructed walls.

Figure 10

7

Descent to the Netherworld

The structure to your right was not visible from the outside as our protective cover seems to suggest. It was entirely underground, and only a small cave like entrance would have been visible, blocked by a couple of boulders instead of a regular door panel. (These boulders are simulated by the two metal boxes we have placed in front of the entrance.)

Here and throughout the Palace you will be more dependent, for explanations and illustrations, on the panoramic panel at stop 6, and on the binder that our guard will show you. This is because we are in a transitional phase in our signage. We are experimenting with the small metal panels you have seen so far on your itinerary. If successful, we will replace the binder with such panels throughout.

الهبوط إلى العالم السفلي

المبنى إلى يمينك لم يكن مرئياً من الخارج كما قد يوحي الغطاء الحامي الذي وضعناه. لقد كان مطموراً بشكل كامل تحت الأرض، لكن ربما فقط بوابة صغيرة تشبه الكهف كانت مرئية، ومغلقة بحجرين كبيرين عوضاً عن لوح الباب الاعتيادي. (تم تمثيل هذين الحجرين بصندوقين معدنيين وضعناهما أمام المدخل). هنا وعبر القصر، سوف تتبع الشروحات والصور التوضيحية على لوحة البانوراما في الوقفة 6، وفي المجلد الذي سيرضه عليك الحارس. كل هذا لأننا نمر بمرحلة انتقالية في وضع لوحات الدلالة. إننا نختبر الآن اللوحات المعدنية الصغيرة التي رأيتموها في دليل الزائر. إذا نجح الاختبار سوف نستعيض عن المجلد بهذه اللوحات عبر المكان.

Figure 11



Figure 12



Figure 13

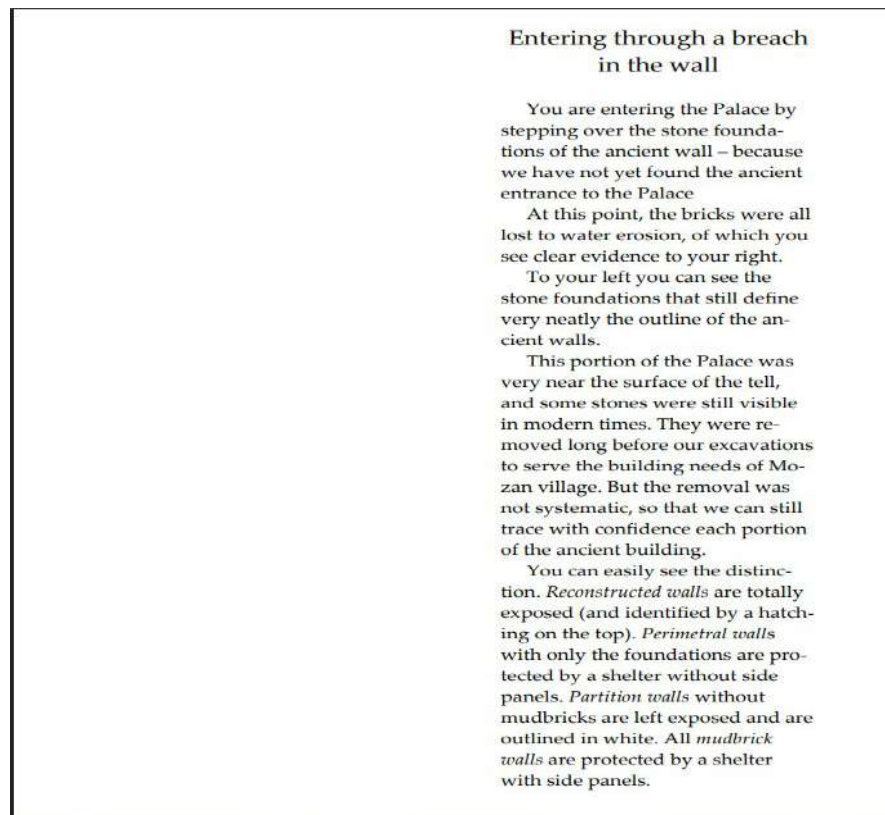
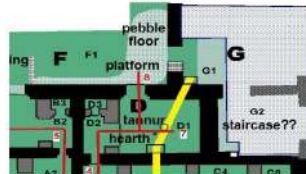


Figure 14

The Palace kitchen

We know that sector D of the service wing was the Palace kitchen because of the several cooking installations found in it.

Also, the small room D3 (just like its counterpart B3 in the storage area), must have served to keep foodstuff in a cool setting: the walls are very thick and there is no reason to assume that this served as a vault.



The walls were well preserved, and because of our protective system you can see them as they were when first excavated.

Notice in particular the difference in color of the mudbricks: the red bricks in the lower courses are the ones used in the initial construction, the grey ones are those of the later rebuilding.

Also notice how the substructure in stone is higher in front of you: it is because this was a retaining wall for the fill that made the floor on the other side 2 m higher.

Figure 15

Finding objects

As you look back, you see that sector A was almost completely eroded. A wadi streaming down from the top of the tell, the rain and the wind removed much of the topsoil, and then, in years past, stones that appeared on the surface were removed to be used in the construction of the local houses.

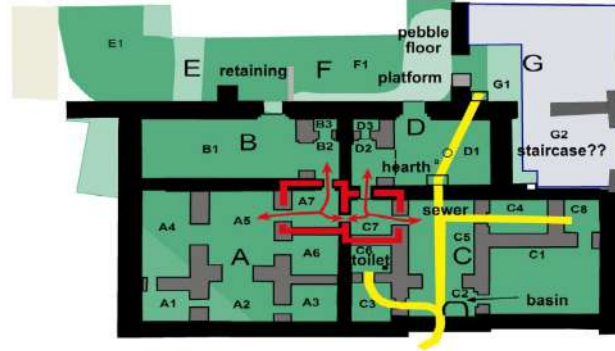
But even here we have found important objects. The beautiful bearded head was found tucked away in the remaining corner of the floor in room A3 (see plan on the other panel in this room).

One reason we can see the tiniest of objects, like the small fragment of the sealing found in this room, is because of the tents we use to shield us from the blinding sun.

As it is from tiny fragments of sealings like the one you see displayed here that we recovered the most important bit of information about ancient Urkesh – the very name of the city, and the names of its kings and queens and their courtiers.

To your left, in room B2, is where we found the three small fragments of an important lexical tablet.

Figure 16



غرف التحكم The control rooms

الغرفتان (7أ) و (7ب) صغيرتان جداً وتحتوي كل منهما على ثلاثة أبواب. من الواضح أنه قصد بهما معنى أكثر أهمية من أن يكونا مجرد غرف بنشاطات كالنشاطات الأخرى بالقصر.

نعتقد بأنهما استخدمتا كغرف تحكم، مثلاً، كمكان حراسة لمراقبة من يدخل إلى الأقسام الخاصة من جناح الخدمة، كالقسم (أ) والقسم (س). إن عملية التحليل التي تُظهر كيف كان قد صُمم البناء الداخلي يتفقان، وكيف بُنيت الأقسام الوظيفية المختلفة فيه بطريقة عالية المستوى من الدقة، كله كان مخطط من قبل.

The two rooms A7 and C7 are very small and with three doors each. They are clearly meant for some more specific purpose than the other activity areas of the Palace.

We assume that they served as control rooms, i.e., as places where guards could check who was entering the innermost parts of the service wing, sectors A and C.

This is indicative of how well designed the entire building was, and how highly structured the different functional areas within it had been planned.

Figure 17



Reception suite of the Palace جناح الاستقبال في القصر



Just as in the Service wing, here, too, we enter through a breach in the wall. The blue arrow shows the projection of a possible entrance to the Formal wing. The few rooms excavated so far seem to correspond to the reception suite, where the king would receive important visitors.

- 1 – Originally with a white pavement and white plaster on the walls, and with a drain, this was probably a room for freshening up
- 2 – the formal courtyard
- 3 – access to the courtyard
- 4 – possibly a waiting room

كما في الجناح الخدمي، هنا أيضاً، ندخل عن طريق صدع في الجدار. السهم الأزرق يبين احتمال وجود مدخل إلى الجناح الرسمي. إن الغرف القليلة المكتشفة حتى الآن مطابقة لجناح الاستقبال، حيث يستقبل الملك ضيوفه المهمين.

- 1- كانت هذه الغرفة في الأصل ذات أرضية بيضاء وكسوة جصية بيضاء على الجدران، وتحتوي على صرف صحي، من الممكن أن تكون غرفة للاستراحة.
- 2- الباحة الرسمية
- 3- مدخل إلى الباحة
- 4- ربما غرفة انتظار

Figure 18

The
Palace
asleep
القصر
في نيات

[illegible]

Figure 19

The great
Mittani
shift

[illegible]

Figure 20

12

The last stand in the service of the gods...

المرحلة الأخيرة في خدمة الآلهة

Around 5000 B.C., Urkesh was still an active city-state. It was served by a relatively small settlement, of which you see here the final remains – the Temple always stands a short distance to the east. It was Urkesh's last century. And it is the last step where we can follow your civilization to progress.

حوالي 5000 ق. م، تابعت أوركيش نورها لمكان مقدس. هو في ذلك المكان من قبل مستوطنة صغيرة نسبياً، ترى بقاياها الأخيرة هنا - وكان المعبد هو دائما دائما من مسافة قريبة إلى الشرق. كان القرن الأخير من حياة أوركيش. وهذا المرحلة الأخيرة حيث نعرض تقدم الحضارة.

Figure 21

13

The broader limits

حدود إطار المدينة

This is the highest point on the mound, more than 20 meters above the plain level (and almost 500 m above sea level). From here, you have a good view of the limits of the Chagar City. The city had an oval shape, about 1.5 km in length and 1 km in width. It was one of the largest Syrian cities of the third millennium B.C.

هذه هي أعلى نقطة من التل، أكثر من 20 متر فوق السطح المسطحي (أور حوالي 500 متر فوق سطح البحر). من هنا، يمكنك أن تشاهد بشكل جيد حدود المدينة العفريتية. كان المدينة شكل بيضاوي، حوالي 1.5 كم طولاً، و 1 كم عرضاً. قد كانت واحدا من أكبر المدن السورية في الألف الثالث قبل الميلاد.

Figure 22

14

Beyond the dig

ما بعد الحفريات

Our final task as archaeologists is to document and interpret what we have excavated. We start, as it were, by translating a record of dirt into a record of paper (or, today, of electronic bits...). The archaeological record has been recorded as a full-fledged narrative. Indeed, it allows us to start to engage in protected study periods, using, right from the start, some of the most advanced methods and techniques. The result is a record series of publications which you will find in this section on our website: www.oxfordjournals.org (this will take you online).

إن مهمتنا الأخيرة كعلماء آثار هي توثيق ما حفرناه وتفسيره. نبدأ، كما نرى، بترجمة سجل من التراب إلى سجل من الورق (أو، اليوم، من البتات الإلكترونية...). السجل الأثري قد تم توثيقه كسلسلة من النصوص. في الواقع، إنه يسمح لنا أن نبدأ في التفاعل مع السجل الأثري باستخدام بعض أكثر الطرق المتقدمة والأساليب والتقنيات. النتيجة هي سلسلة من المنشورات التي ستجدونها في هذا القسم من موقعنا الإلكتروني: www.oxfordjournals.org (هذا سيأخذكم على الموقع الإلكتروني).

Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25



Figure 26



Figure 27



Figure 28



Figure 29



Figure 30



Figure 31



Figure 32



Figure 33



Figure 34