

The Royal Palace of Urkesh: Recent excavations

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Excavations of the service wing of the Royal Palace AP at Tell Mozan (ancient Urkesh) are all but complete, and the full floor plan of this part of the building is now clear. The formal wing, attached to the service wing and raised by about 2.5 ms above it, appears to be much larger. Current excavations have begun to expose a monumental, stone paved courtyard, probably near the main entrance to the complex. Construction of the palace can now be dated to the reign of Naram-Sin. Above the palace, we are finding an important sequence of settlements from the Ur III and Old Babylonian periods. The paper will present the overall stratigraphic situation, the current architectural findings, and our special effort at conservation of the walls.

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