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A BUILDING TYPE OF THE BURDUR REGION FROM THE NEOLITHIC PERIOD

I dedicate this article to Dr. Peter Neve (Nifi Bey), former director of the Boğazköy Excavations, from whom I learned a lot about ancient architecture.

GÜLSÜN UMURTAĞ*

The building type discussed in this article is seen over a long period in the Neolithic Age at centres such as Bademağacı, Höyücek and Hacılar¹ in the Burdur Region² (see Map and Chronological Table). This building type is usually rectangular while the door is in the centre of the long wall. Another characteristic of this particular building type is that it has an oven opposite the door. Even though there are differences in the internal design of the buildings of the various Neolithic settlements of the Burdur region, and even between buildings of the same settlement, this basic design is usually adhered to.

* Doç. Dr. Gülsün Umurtak. İstanbul University Faculty of Letters, Department of Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology.

¹ From 1978 onwards excavations in the Burdur Region under the directorship of Prof. Dr. Refik Duru, which the author has been part of, have taken place at Kuruçay (1978-88) and Höyücek (1989-92) and an investigation to find the Necropolis at Hacılar (1985-86). The excavations at Bademağacı which began in 1993 are still continuing.

² The term Burdur Region is used to refer to the Burdur Province and the Bucak Plain and its surrounding area extending as far south as the Taurus Mountains.

Bademağacı (Fig. 1, 5)

The earliest examples of this building type with an oven in the Burdur Region in the Neolithic Period have been identified from the Early Neolithic 3 (EN 3) level at Bademağacı (Duru 1998, 712).

A fairly extensive area of the EN 3 level at Bademağacı has so far been excavated and five houses in good condition have been uncovered³. Of these, the 3rd and 4th houses are joined to each other, while the others have free-standing walls. There are empty areas outside the houses which served as streets and a small square. A grain-store consisting of six boxes had been placed in one of these spaces, the space between the 1st and the 3rd houses. Another feature is a passage between the 2nd and 3rd houses. One end of this narrow gap has been rounded and closed off (*ibid.*, 714).

Along with the rectangular prism-shaped bricks (40x20x8 cm), tortoise-shell shaped (plano-convex) bricks (25x18x8, 30x18x10 cm) were used in the walls of the Bademağacı buildings, which do not have stone foundations. Sometimes instead of these two types of bricks there are layers of mud up to a certain height, at least 70-80 cm long, about 30-35 cm wide and around 8-10 cm thick. The mud, which is tempered with straw, was spread in the form of a layer onto a wall formed with the same technique and partially hardened and the same process was repeated after the initial mass had dried. This method seems to have been used especially on the inside walls of the 1st house up to a certain height. It can be assumed from the large numbers of plano-convex bricks seen on the floor of the 1st house that the upper walls as far as the roof were formed from these. There is not much evidence for widespread use of wood as a building material at Bademağacı but some examples can be cited, such as the remains of fairly thick pieces of tree trunk, which formed the threshold in the 1st and 4th houses; holes in the floor of the 1st and 5th houses, thought to belong to saplings used as props with a diameter of 20-30 cm; two pieces of tree remains placed next to each other to form the threshold of the door in the 2nd house and, in the centre of the same house, the charred remains of three thin sapling props with diameters of about 10 cm. Wood must have been used in the doors of the

³ I thank Prof. Dr. Refik Duru for permission to use as yet unpublished material related to the Bademağacı EN settlements.

houses and for the roofs but adequate evidence of this has not been found (*ibid.*, 714).

The buildings at Bademağacı are slightly distorted rectangular shaped. The long sides are 7.5 m and the short sides are around 3.5-4.5 m on the inside. The corners of the walls in all five buildings were rounded. The doors of these buildings, which are understood to have been private dwellings, opened in the centre at the long wall and were around 1 m wide or a little wider. The jambs of the door are straight in the 4th and 5th houses, while in the others they are indented into the wall. These indentations extend to around 40 cm and pottery pieces, hand axes, pieces of silex and obsidian tools used for everyday tasks were found in them. It is not clear what the doors were like or how they were closed. The thresholds of the doors consist of one or two thickish tree trunk pieces. They must have been plastered over with clay. As well as the main entrances there were narrower entrances on the narrow sides of the 1st house (east) and the 2nd house (south), but these were later closed (*ibid.*, 713-716).

The common feature in the interior design of the houses of the settlements mentioned is the placing of an oven in the middle of the long wall opposite the door. At Bademağacı the shape of the oven of the 1st house is ellipse (L. 1.05 m, W: 0.60 m, H. 0.75 m); in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th houses the back part of the ovens attached to the wall is straight, while the front part is semi-ellipse. All of them have flat roofs. In front of the mouths of the ovens there are semi-circular ashpits. The edges of the ashpit of the oven in the 1st house are slightly extended upwards and plastered (*ibid.*, 715). The rectangular oven of the 5th house is larger than the other similar ovens (L. 1.50 m, W. 1.40 m) and the back of it makes an indentation in the wall; there is no ashpit in front of it.

Besides the ovens, quite a large number of immovable items were uncovered. A platform 20 cm high and parallel to the east wall of the 1st house was uncovered. Apart from this there were circular fireplaces, hand grinders, benches and other non-portable objects in the houses. Among these a pair of obliquely placed hand grinders found *in situ* on a relatively high platform next to the oven on the eastern side are of special interest (*ibid.*). Rectangular prism-shaped benches made of clay with rounded sides

were uncovered in the 2nd house next to the oven on the north side attached to the wall and in the 3rd house near the door. Immediately in front of the oven of the 5th house there was a fire box, next to the oven and in the northwest corner of the house there were two boxes, of which the sides facing the room were made of clay.

Höyücek (Fig. 2, 6)

Another centre providing examples of the Burdur Region Neolithic Period building type with an oven is the Höyücek settlement. This type of building comes from the Shrine Phase (Sh. P) dated to the Early Neolithic (EN) (Duru 1995b, 449).

The Shrine Phase buildings are situated in an east-west direction on a narrow strip of land, and there are no buildings outside of this area that could be considered dwellings. As at Bademağacı no stone was used in the foundations of the buildings of this period, and the walls were built of mud bricks from the bottom row. Although the mud bricks were mainly in the shape of a four sided prism (50x21x9 cm), plano-convex bricks were also found (60x23x15 cm, 46x16x15 cm, 30x15x12 cm) (Duru 1995a, 727).

The plan of the 1st and 2nd buildings belonging to the early period of the Shrine Phase at Höyücek is not adequately understood, and it is not clear whether the surviving walls were extensive enough to enclose the probable living areas. The 1st building is entered by a door 1.20 m in width opening on the south wall. The exterior of the eastern side of the door is thickened to form a niche. There is an oven on the axis of the door 60 cm above the level of its threshold in the place⁴ where the building's north wall would be expected to be. The oven, which is rectangular, 95x75 cm in diameter and 65 cm high with sides are made of clay, has been well preserved apart from the roof which has collapsed. There is an ashpit with sides slightly extended upwards in front of the mouth of the oven, and the floors of both are paved with stone. The sides of the front section of the oven have been extended on

⁴ This situation gives rise to uncertainty about whether the oven belongs to this building. Refik Duru says that the problem can be solved by assuming the presence of a step on the floor of the room but it is also possible that the oven was built in an open area after the destruction of the building. He is of the opinion that the fact that the walls of the houses were in very poor condition while the oven was in good condition strengthens the second possibility (Duru 1995b, 452).

both sides and these parts are well plastered. Next to the oven there is a box; some of its sides are made of dense clay plates 3-4 cm thick, and some made of plates which have a row of reeds at the centre and have been plastered with clay on the exterior (Duru 1995b, 451-452).

The 3rd, 4th and 5th buildings belonging to the final period of the Shrine Phase were found in very good condition. The east and south walls of building no. 3, located near the western side of the excavation area, are noticeably different in character from the thick and solid mud walls. None of the walls of the building are the same thickness, differing from one corner to another. Niches have been made on the interior side of the walls that are not particularly deep. This phenomena can be seen clearly on the interior surface of the east wall, which is shared by the 4th building. In fact some parts of the wall are only 10-15 cm thick and resemble a screen more than a wall. The interior section of the west and north walls of the building can be partly followed, but as the exterior surface of the walls could not be found the plan was not fully understood. The entrance to the 3rd building is from the south. A piece of log was placed on the threshold of the door and the jambs of the door were formed with indentations. The 4th building can be entered through a minor door at the northern corner of the east wall. It is evident that there were door openings in the northern and west wall as well. A place for a small box or a drawer was made by opening up a small indentation on the interior side of the wall to the left of the narrow door opening in the north. There are indentations of the same type in the south and west walls of the 2nd house. A large rectangular-shaped oven measuring 2.90 x 1.50 m at floor level is situated next to the northern wall of the 3rd building on the same axis as the main door. There is an ashpit with sides extended upwards at the front of the mouth of this very well preserved oven. The roof of the oven was probably flat. Three sapling props attached to the outside probably extended to the roof or supported a wooden shelf further up the wall. A few boxes with clay-plastered sides were uncovered on the inside of the east wall of this building and five marble bowls *in situ* at the entrance to the 4th building, while some pots different from the ordinary pottery of the period were found inside the oven. In addition, a few boxes of grain and a slightly raised fireplace was discovered in an empty area outside the south wall of the building. There is a work area west of the 3rd house and related to it, which is thought to have been used over a long period. The 3rd building and the small building no.4, which can only be entered at this point, must have been

used together as part of the same complex. R. Duru is of the opinion that these two buildings are not an ordinary dwelling but buildings for the purpose of religious rituals and defines this area as the 'Shrine'. The architectural plan seen in the 4th building, for example the presence of such immovable objects as the 'miniature stairs' and the 'cell' and some of the objects of different kinds found inside the room, show that the northern part of this section was probably an 'Adyton' and the southern part a depo. The 3rd building and its work area must have been the area used by the priests for the other duties of the temple.

The 5th building was probably originally made as a single-roomed building and later made into a 2-roomed building by means of a dividing wall. Between the two areas in the middle of the dividing wall there is a gap that was later closed up. In the final period, there was no gap for a door in either of the south, west or the north walls. It appears that after the destruction of building no. 1 a door was opened in the east wall, which is not in good condition. A wide door that previously existed in the north wall was later closed by haphazardly covering it (*ibid.*, 455).

R. Duru says that the Shrine, which has a different interior plan and produced rich finds, and its related buildings show that this was a religious centre; in view of this it seems that probably no ordinary people ever lived here (*ibid.*, 472).

Hacılar (Fig. 3, 7-8)

Chronologically, the final stage of the building type being examined in the Burdur Region is seen in the Late Neolithic (LN) Level VI at Hacılar.

J. Mellaart explains that the houses of the Hacılar VI settlement surrounded a square like a complex, and there were no streets or passages. According to J. Mellaart, Hacılar VII-VI may have contained about 50 houses, or a minimum of 250 people (Mellaart 1970, 22).

The houses of Hacılar VI are large, rectangular buildings. They are usually 5.5 m in width and vary in length from 6.5 m to 10.5 m. The walls in the settlement are around 1m in thickness and are built on stone foundations. The material used in the walls is sun dried mud bricks. In this level tortoise-shell shaped (plano-convex) and long, flat bricks are both used. The dimensions of the plano-convex bricks differ according to the building;

examples of these (50x50x10 cm; 46x26x10 cm) and long, flat bricks (63x19x10 cm) can be given. The floors of the houses are smoothed clay plaster (*ibid.*, 11).

In the same way as at the Bademağacı and Höyücek settlements, the houses of the Hacılar VI level are entered by means of a wide doorway in the middle of the long side. The almost square house Q4 at Hacılar VI is a slight exception to the general rule (6.5x6 m). House Q3, however, with its longer plan and the door not in the expected position, does not conform to the above definition. These main doorways have a wooden threshold between the rounded door-jambes at ground level. According to James Mellaart, their width varying from 1.5-1.75 m indicates that there was a double door supported by wooden door posts (*ibid.*, 19).

J. Mellaart informs us that the sections made of lightweight building materials and attached to the main houses were used as kitchens and that the positioning of the kitchen outside the main room is a tradition seen since the Aceramic (!)⁵ levels and continues in the later periods at Hacılar (*ibid.*, 16).

The plan of a door in the opposite wall and a large, rectangular oven on the same axis as the door is found in the buildings of this settlement. Of these ovens, only the oven of the house Q3 is domed while the other oven roofs are described as flat⁶. Some of these ovens have ashpits in front of them (House Q5), while most of them have fireplaces (Houses Q2, Q4, P1, P2), and small wooden supports have been attached to the long sides of the ovens. James Mellaart says that purpose of the indentations in the wall behind the oven is not clear but that they may have acted as a kind of chimney to draw away the smoke (*ibid.*).

There is a screen or partition in the houses, separating off approx. 2/3 of the wider section of every house. These screens are built with tree branches and plastered over with mud, and an example in House I is around

⁵ The Kuruçay excavation team worked in 1985 and 1986 in the area referred to by James Mellaart as Hacılar Necropolis (Mellaart 1970, Fig.42). As a result it became evident that a Necropolis does not exist, and that the settlements classified as Aceramic Neolithic were in fact ceramic settlements (Duru 1989).

⁶ J. Mellaart thinks that some of the ovens could have been open-topped (Mellaart 1970, 14). However, they would have had to be closed to function effectively as ovens; if they were left open they would have to have been used as fireplaces rather than ovens.

1.5 m high. Mellaart does not think that the function of the screens was to support the roof, but is of the opinion that these partitioned areas had the same function as storage rooms and compares this plan to the internal design of the buildings at Çatal Höyük.

In many of the houses there are indentations above floor level 50-80 cm in depth and 1.5-0.80 m in width, which J. Mellaart calls cupboards, and such items as storage units made of clay, fireboxes and hand grinders were uncovered. Oval or truncated oval structures made of clay were also found in some rooms. Mellaart says that these are usually associated with grinding stones, querns and mortars, small benches and platforms are generally seen in all the houses. At the Hacilar VI settlement immovable clay-plastered containers about 1 m or more high were used for storage. Examples of these are found in Houses 6, 7, 4 and 3 on the long wall or outside the door (*ibid.*, 14-15). It is thought that light entered the buildings of Hacilar VI through windows 1.5 m above floor level and 55 cm in width (*ibid.*, 15).

The internal design of the buildings of Hacilar VI strengthens the possibility that they were used as ordinary dwellings. However, J. Mellaart suggests that Houses Q3 and Q5 had a special function due to the large number of figurines found in them (*ibid.*, 18-19, 21).

Observations and Conclusions

One of the important characteristics of the building type being studied is its rectangular plan, which is a little distorted in the Bademağacı buildings but clearer with straighter sides in the Höyücek and Hacilar examples⁷. The walls of the Bademağacı and Höyücek buildings do not join at a 90° angle as they appear to have been rounded at the corners. In contrast, in the plan of the houses of Hacilar VI the walls are joined at right angles. Apart from the addition of a stone foundation at Hacilar VI, the building materials and elements used in the construction of the buildings appear to be similar in all the settlements. The combined use of plano-convex and rectangular bricks is seen at Bademağacı, Höyücek and Hacilar. However, the technique of constructing a wall by spreading mud to form layers is only seen at Bademağacı.

⁷ References to sources for subjects already discussed will not be repeated in this section.

It has been confirmed that wood was used in all three settlements for door thresholds and supports. In addition to this at Höyücek the side of a box was made by means of plastering mud over thin branches; and at Hacılar screens were constructed in a similar way. The roofs of the houses are thought to have been flat, constructed by forming a frame from tree trunks and branches, which was then covered with clay. Undoubtedly, there were problems to overcome before the roofs could be covered successfully. In the 1st, 2nd and 5th houses at Bademağacı and the 5th house at Hacılar the places where the wooden posts stood on the floors have been identified. It is clear that they were placed to support the roof. Does the fact that evidence of a similar technique was not found in other buildings necessarily mean that those roofs were made without any support?

It appears that the building type with an oven was used, with slight variations to the main plan, in all the settlements examined. At Bademağacı this building type is seen with comparatively smaller dimensions and with single-roomed free-standing buildings. These were separated from each other by small empty spaces or passages. As the excavations at Bademağacı continue, the position of the dwellings in the settlement plan should become better understood (Fig. 1, 5). At Höyücek the building type with an oven is seen in a large partially free-standing building, which is part of a series of buildings with the same religious function (Fig. 2, 6). In this settlement the 3rd building, which conforms to the building type with an oven, is next to the adyton; the wall joining the two buildings is thin enough to be described as a screen or partition and there is a door of access between the two areas. This shows that the area with an oven was a special place with a particular function. We do not think that this room was used as the living quarters of the priests. As R. Duru suggests (Duru 1995b, 455), the building no. 5 at Höyücek seems more likely to have been the house where the priests lived. At Hacılar, there are some differences in plan such as a building with free-standing walls (House P2) and buildings constructed next to each other with shared walls as in houses P1, P3, Q2 and Q4. At this settlement there is also the example of small buildings made of lightweight building materials and constructed next to a larger main building. The small buildings north of House Q4, partly sharing the same walls and with an internal design similar to the main building, are described as being used for the purpose of kitchen or domestic activities (Mellaart 1970, 15) or can be considered as an annex to the main building (Aurenche 1985, 166). Our opinion is that these small

rooms were planned as extra living quarters due to an increased demand for dwellings in the settlement, or as a second living room linked to the original building. It is possible to draw the conclusion that during the course of the Hacilar VI settlement the need for extra buildings of varying dimensions was the result of an increase in the population and the wealth of the community. It can also be said that the settlement plan changed continually throughout Hacilar VI as additions were made, and that perhaps the system of one large room with two small rooms was for the housing of large families, as it also provided room for the work to be carried out.

The building type with an oven appears to be a main architectural plan which is seen in ordinary dwellings at Bademağacı and Hacilar⁸ but could also be adapted to a different function as part of the building complex of the Shrine Phase at Höyücek. At Kuruçay, the other important Neolithic centre of the region (see the Map and Chronological Table), the situation is different. At this centre, in the 12th level settlement –the earliest level with architectural remains– (Fig. 4) the 1st house is a building with a stone foundation and a distorted rectangular plan (8.50x4.50x5.30 m on the inside). It is thought that one of the walls of this building had fallen down the slope, as it was missing. The door space of this building was not indicated on the foundation so its position could not be identified. The floor of the building was formed with a covering of small pebbles; about 40 grinding stones, some of which were in good condition, were found *in situ* on the floor (Duru 1994, 9-10). The door must have opened in the centre of the east wall of the building. Some time later the 2nd house was added by being joined on to the east wall. The corners of the east walls of this new building with comparatively smaller dimensions were rounded and in the middle of the room there was a horseshoe-shaped hearth with an area for lighting fires surrounded by stones. A door had been opened in the west wall of the 2nd house with a threshold covered with pebblestones (*ibid.*). This door provided access between the two buildings and indirectly strengthens the theory that the door of the 1st house was on the east wall. In later periods new buildings were added to the south of the two buildings described here.

⁸ J. Mellaart suggests that Houses Q3 and Q5 belonging to Hacilar VI may have had a special function (see p. 8). It is clear from the position of these buildings in the settlement plan, the interior design and the non-portable items found in them, that they are no different from the other dwellings. The large number of figurines found together can be explained in a different way, for example they could have been there for the purpose of trade.

The 3rd building belonging to this stage was in poor condition. R. Duru informs us that the settlement plan consisting of these three houses, which saw additions and repairs over a long period, is contrary to what we know of the architecture of this period (*ibid.*, 10).

The defence system with towers that appears in level 11 at Kuruçay is thought to have surrounded houses and other civilian buildings of which most seem to have disappeared as a result of being dragged away in a flood disaster (*ibid.*, 11-12, Pl. 15). This situation means that, apart from a few feeble parts of walls, little information can be gained about the architecture of the houses of Kuruçay level 11. The 1st house of level 12, with its distorted rectangular plan and probable door opening in the middle of the long wall on the eastern side, bears some resemblance to the contemporary architecture of the region.

At present it is difficult for us to determine the place of the building type with an oven in the settlement plan and its geographical distribution. We hope to be able to examine in more detail the position of this building type in an entire settlement as a more extensive area of the EN3 level at Bademağacı is opened up. It will not be surprising if most of the buildings uncovered in the coming years conform to the building type with an oven. As the Shrine Phase buildings at Höyücek are linked to each other in a building complex with a religious function and no other buildings are found in the settlement, they do not give much insight on this subject. At Hacılar, however, the situation is a little different. J. Mellaart estimates that there are about 50 buildings in level VII and VI at Hacılar (see p.6) but it is not possible to know how close theoretical plans (Mellaart 1970, Fig. 8-9) are to the original ones.

Concerning the interior design of the buildings being examined it appears that the position and opening of the doors can be adapted to the needs and general plan of the buildings in the settlements. In the houses at Bademağacı (Fig. 1) and in the 3rd building at Höyücek (Fig. 2) the door jambs are made with indentations. R. Duru says that this situation gives the impression that there was a door system with bolts that extended into the walls on both sides of the door, but the complete pots and small hand axes that were found *in situ* in the indentations show that this cannot have been the case (Duru 1995b, 454). At Hacılar the same system could only be determined on the north side of House P2. Apart from this, straight and

slightly rounded door jambs were found (Fig. 3). In all three settlements there is no evidence of door openings other than the main door of each building. At Bademağacı, as at Höyücek, it is evident that secondary doors in the houses were later closed; R. Duru expressed the possibility –in a spoken communication– that the secondary doors were used as access to areas where domestic tasks were performed in certain months of the year and were then closed off with mud and tree branches as the colder weather and rains began. The narrow passage in the east wall of the 1st house at Bademağacı, which was later closed, seems to have formed a link between the storage unit and the house for a period (Fig. 1, 5).

The most characteristic basic element of this kind of building is the position of the oven on the same axis as the main door. The ovens in the houses of Bademağacı are ellipse, semi-ellipse and rectangular in plan (Fig. 1); at Höyücek (Fig. 2) and at Hacılar (Fig. 3) there are rectangular ovens. It is clear that, apart from one example at Hacılar, the tops of all the ovens are flat. The outward protusions on both sides of the oven in the 1st building at Höyücek were apparently added for aesthetic reasons and for the time being can be said to be without any parallel examples. The indentations at the back of some of the ovens of Hacılar VI are described as chimneys by J. Mellaart (Mellaart 1970, 19). It is not possible to accept this theory without finding a chimney connection in the existing ovens. No indentations that could have been chimneys have been found at Bademağacı and Höyücek. In this building type, the positioning of the oven opposite the door could be to comply with a system in which there was no chimney and the aim was to make use of the air current to exude the smoke from the mouth of the oven.

In the building type with an oven, apart from the placing of the oven and the door in the middle of the long sides on the same axis, there is no other evidence to show that the builders were fond of symmetry. We will probably never know what practical purpose the door and oven facing each other had in the Neolithic village life or whether or not there was a magical meaning to this design.

Besides the basic foundational elements that characterise the building type with an oven in the Burdur Region, we have given details above of the interior design of the buildings and the large number of non-portable items. Items such as single or multiple storage units with clay sides found inside the buildings or in the courtyard and platforms for sitting or reclining, benches

made of clay, hearths, niches of different dimensions in the interior walls, all found inside the buildings, appear in each of the settlements with minor differences between them.

We stated at the beginning that the earliest example of the building type with an oven was uncovered in the Bademağacı EN3 settlement. It is clear from the wall construction technique, the housing plan and even the presence of the ovens, that the EN3 buildings are too well-developed to be the first examples. The development process of the construction of the building type with an oven has to be sought in the earlier levels. The excavations in recent years in the area to the south of the EN3 have so far produced only one building belonging to EN4. This rectangular-shaped building of smaller dimensions, with walls made of a different technique to that of the other buildings, has a door that opened on the narrow side of the building. Inside the building there was no oven or hearth or any non-portable items. The levels EN5 and EN6 excavated in the same narrow area have so far only been determined by burnt floors, pottery and other small finds (Duru 1999).

The pre-Shrine Phase levels at Höyücek were investigated with two deep trenches. A large amount of pottery and some other small finds were gathered systematically from Trench A, which reached virgin soil, but no architectural remains or floors were discovered. It is understood from the burnt traces and layers of ashes that the Early Settlements Phase (ESP) extended only over a very limited area (Duru 1995b, 449-450).

In the Aceramic (!) levels IV and V at Hacılar some ovens and parts of walls that were insufficient to give a clear plan were uncovered (Mellaart 1970, 3-5; Fig. 3-4). Due to the very limited area covered by the excavations of these levels, it is not possible to gain reliable information about the buildings that the ovens belonged to and their plans or the possible development of the wall sections.

Although in some places very faint burnt traces were discovered, no part of a floor or a foundation were found in the 13th level at Kuruçay, which is on virgin soil (Duru 1994, 9).

When we look at the architectural traditions of the neighbouring areas in the Neolithic Period, we are faced with different developments. At the settlements of Aşıklı (Esin 1996) in Central Anatolia, Çatal Höyük (Mellaart

1962; 1963; 1964; Hodder 1996) and Can Hasan III (French 1972) such basic architectural elements as the positioning of the buildings adjacent to one other and the preference of making the entrance to the building through the roof show that there is a significant difference in the understanding and application of architectural principles between the two regions. Similarities such as door openings in the dividing walls of multi-roomed buildings at Aşıklı and the use of a storage unit system resembling a honeycomb (Esin 1996), the presence of platforms for sitting and reclining, niches, ovens attached to the walls and hearths at Çatal Höyük (Mellaart 1962; 1963; 1964) and also the use of mudbricks as the main building material in all the settlements, are not enough to say that the Burdur Region and Central Anatolia have a common architectural tradition. It has previously been emphasized by James Mellaart (Mellaart 1970, 4, 7) that the red plastered floors of Hacılar's Aceramic (!) levels resemble those at Çatal Höyük. It is very interesting that the red plastered floors of the Aceramic (!) levels (Duru 1989, 101, Pl. 19/2-3), which were uncovered again during the investigation to find the Hacılar Necropolis (see Footnote 5), were not found in any of the settlements subsequently excavated in the Burdur Region. Could this point to connections in the north of the Burdur Region in the early periods of which we do not know the details?

The architectural plan of the 2-3 roomed elongated rectangular buildings at Erbaba, one of the Neolithic settlements of the Lake District, does not conform to the type seen in the Burdur Region. The fact that no door openings were found suggests that the houses were entered from the roofs (Bordaz and Bordaz 1976; 1982; Duru 1999). Neither is there any resemblance between the rectangular plan buildings with stone foundations at Köşk Höyük in Central Anatolia that have been published so far (Silistreli 1986) and the Neolithic Period architecture of the Burdur Region.

The rectangular building plan with pisé and wood as the main building materials (Roodenberg 1993) in level X at Ilıpınar, in the southern part of the Marmara, and the round huts surrounded by a defence wall with a thick foundation in the 4th phase of the Hoca Çeşme settlement (Özdoğan 1996; 1998; 1999) in Thrace are significant. It is clear that the main building material used in the northern part of Western Anatolia was usually wood and this means that there are some important differences in the architecture of the buildings (Duru 1996; Özdoğan 1996). As no systematic excavations have

been done in the southern part of Western Anatolia, there is insufficient information available to effectively discuss architectural traditions there.

We have already pointed out that there are important similarities between the pottery forms of the Burdur Region those of and the Aegean Islands and Greece (Umurtak 1999). It would be logical to assume that there could also be similarities in architectural techniques. Cave settlements such as Ayio Gala (Hood 1981), Nemea (Blegen 1975) and Franchthi (Jacobsen 1969; 1981), which have been shown to have important similarities in pottery typology to the Burdur Region, cannot be included here due to their lack of architectural remains. It is also impossible to evaluate settlements such as Knossos (Evans 1964), Agios Petros (Efstratiou 1985) and Nea Makri (Theocharis 1956) in this respect due to the very limited nature of their architectural remains. Sufficient information is not available about the early period of the Neolithic at Lerna. It is obviously not possible to make a connection with the building with a stone foundation resembling a megaron, which we think dates to a much later period (Caskey 1957; 1958). In Greece the settlement providing comparatively better information, Achilleion, which has a rectangular building with a stone foundation and walls formed with *pisé* technique in Level 1b, horseshoe-shaped hearths⁹ and a domed oven with a bench attached to the side in level IIa and buildings made using wattle and daub technique in level IIb (Gimbutas and others 1989), shows a different architectural preference to that of the Burdur Region.

It is understood that in this period people groups related to each other lived in the Burdur Region, which was one of the most important areas for the establishment and development of the Anatolian Neolithic. In time, just as differences appeared in the pottery traditions of the settlements, differences in architectural traditions were also inevitable (Duru 1994, 83-89). The main examples of this can be seen in the red plastered floors found in the Aceramic (!) levels at Hacilar which were not seen again at any other centre in the region, the appearance of stone foundations at Hacilar VI and the technique of wall construction in layers seen at Bademağacı. In spite of the different techniques mentioned, the building type with an oven continued as an unsophisticated building model peculiar to the Burdur Region without seeing many changes to its basic characteristics. The

⁹ The comparison and discussion of the horseshoe-shaped hearths of this settlement and similar examples in Anatolia could be the subject of another study.

rectangular plan house Q4, which is part of the group of buildings called "the south-west shrine" by James Mellaart (Mellaart 1970, 29, Fig. 20, 25) seen in the Early Chalcolithic levels IIA and IIB at Hacilar, has a door with an indented jamb on the eastern side and an oven opposite the door that shows this tradition was still remembered as late as the middle of the 6th millenium.

The as yet only partially excavated levels earlier than EN3 at Bademağacı could give some idea of what the prototypes of this building type, which is seen over a very long period from the EN to the LN, were like. Bademağacı is only 40-50 km as the crow flies away from Beldibi (Bostancı 1959) in the Antalya Region, where the first experiments at making pottery took place prior to the Neolithic Period. It is very likely that people left the coastal strip of the Mediterranean, which was not suitable for agriculture, crossed over to the north of the Taurus Mountains and found the small plain on which Bademağacı is situated to be a suitable place to develop agriculture and in connection with this set up the first villages (Duru 1997, 798). The fact that, although pottery and other small finds were uncovered in the ESP at Höyücek and in level 13 at Kuruçay, no agricultural remains apart from some burnt traces were found suggests that in this period in the Burdur Region people lived in simple non-durable huts made of tree branches and mud. If the earlier EN levels at Bademağacı reflect the same situation, it seems that it will be difficult to follow the transition phase to a settled lifestyle, in other words to identify the first architectural experiments.

It is clear that in the future as the earliest levels at Bademağacı are reached it will not only be the prototype of the building with an oven that we will be seeking to find out about¹⁰.

¹⁰ I thank Miss Angela Bell (Masters student, İstanbul University Faculty of Letters, Department of Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology) for translating this article into English.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- AM Mitteilungen des deutschen archäologischen Instituts,
athenische Abteilung
- An St Anatolian Studies
- BSA Annual of the British School of Archaeology at Athens
- KST Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı-Bildiriler
- TAD Türk Arkeoloji Dergisi
- TÜBA-AR Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi Arkeoloji Dergisi

TÜRKÇE ÖZET

Fırınlı yapı tipi, Neolitik Çağ'da Burdur Bölgesi'nin -kronolojik sırayla- Bademağacı (Duru 1997; 1998; 1999), Höyücek (Duru 1995a; 1995b) ve Hacılar (Mellaart 1970) gibi merkezlerinde, uzun bir zaman dilimi içerisinde karşımıza çıkmaktadır (bakınız Harita ve Kronoloji Tablosu). Sözkonusu yapı çoğunlukla dikdörtgen planlıdır, kapı uzun duvarın orta kesiminde yer alır. Yapıya karakteristik özelliğini veren bir öge de, kapının karşısındaki fıırındır. Burdur Bölgesi'ndeki Neolitik yerleşmelerin herbirinde binaların iç düzenlemesinin o merkeze özgü, hatta aynı merkezdeki yapılar arasında bile farklılıklar göstermesine karşılık, bu temel uygulamanın çoğunlukla tercih edildiği anlaşılmaktadır.

Burdur Bölgesi Neolitik Çağ fırınlı yapı tipinin bugün için bilinen en erken örnekleri Bademağacı Erken Neolitik 3 (EN 3) tabakasında belirlenmiştir.

İncelediğimiz yapıların karakterini belirleyen önemli bir özellik olan dikdörtgen planın, Bademağacı yapılarında hafif yamuk (Fig. 1), Höyücek (Fig. 2) ve Hacılar (Fig. 3) örneklerinde ise daha düzenli uygulandığı görülür. Bademağacı ve Höyücek yapılarında duvarların 90° açı ile dönmediği görülür, duvarların birleşme noktaları yuvarlatılmış gibidir. Buna karşılık, Hacılar VI. tabaka planında, duvarların birleşme noktalarının dik açılı olduğu izleniyor. Bu tür yapıların inşasında kullanılan yapı malzemesi ve yapı elemanlarının, Hacılar VI'daki taş temel uygulaması dışında, sözü edilen yerleşmelerde birbirine benzer olduğu görülmektedir. Bademağacı, Höyücek ve Hacılar'da kaplumbağa biçimli ve dikdörtgen kerpiçler birlikte kullanılmakta, 'dökme yöntemi' ile duvar örme tekniğine ise bu merkezlerden yalnızca Bademağacı'nda rastlanmaktadır.

Ahşabın üç yerleşme yerinde de kapı eşiği ve dikme olarak kullanıldığı kesinleşmiştir. İnce dalların çamurla sıvanarak, Höyücek'de kutu kenarı; Hacılar'da paravana yapımında kullanıldığı görülmektedir. Evlerin çatılarının düz olduğu, ilk aşamada ağaç ve dallardan oluşturulan iskeletin daha sonra toprakla kapatıldığı düşünülmelidir. Çatıların kapatılmasında, henüz bu çağlarda birtakım sorunların yaşandığında kuşku yoktur. Bademağacı'nda 1., 2.

ve 5. evlerde, Höyücek'de 5. evde ağaç dikmelerin tabanlarda oturduğu yerler kesin olarak saptanmıştır. Bunların çatıyı desteklemek için yerleştirildiği anlaşılmaktadır. Diğer yapılarda aynı uygulamaya ait izlere rastlanmaması, bunlarda çatının desteksiz kapatıldığı anlamına mı gelmelidir?

Fırınlı yapı tipi, sözkonusu yerleşmelerin herbirinde, temel planda ufak farklılıklarla uygulamaya konmuş gibidir. Sözkonusu plan, Bademağacı'nda ve Hacılar'da konut, Höyücek'te ise Tapınak kompleksinin bir parçası olarak farklı işlevlere uyarlanabilen bir temel şablon durumundadır.

Bu tür yapıların en karakteristik ögesi, ana kapının ekseninde yer alan fırınlardır. Bademağacı konutlarında elips , yarım elips ve dörtgen planlı, Höyücek'de ve Hacılar'da dörtgen planlı fırınlar vardır. Hacılar'daki bir örnek dışında bu fırınların hepsinin tepelerinin düz olduğu anlaşılmaktadır. Bu tür bir yapıda fırının kapının karşısına yerleştirilmesi, bacanın olmadığı bu sistemde, fırının ağızından çıkan dumanın odadan hava akımı ile belki daha kolay atılması gibi bir amaca uygun olabilir. Neolitik köy hayatında, bir evde karşılıklı duran kapı ve fırının başka ne gibi pratik bir amaca hizmet ettiğini ya da majik bir anlamı olup olmadığını belki hiçbir zaman öğrenemeyeceğiz. Fırınlı yapı tipinde, fırının ve kapının binanın uzun kenarını ortalarak aynı eksene yerleştirilmesi dışında, yapı ustalarının simetriden hoşlandığını gösterecek başka bulgulara rastlanmaz.

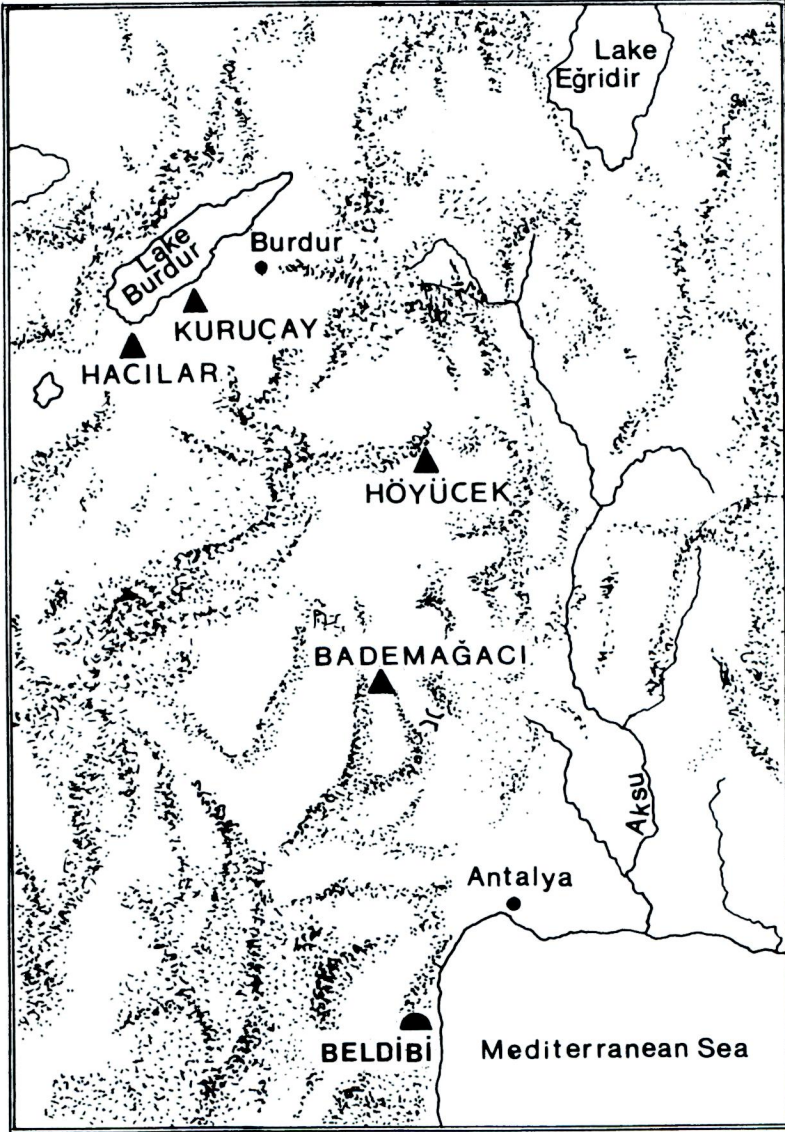
Neolitik Çağda komşu bölgelerdeki mimarlık geleneklerinin durumuna bakıldığında, farklı uygulamalarla karşılaşılmaktadır. Orta Anadolu'da Aşıklı (Esin 1996), Çatal Höyük (Mellaart 1962;1963;1964; Hodder 1996) ve Can Hasan III (French 1972) yerleşmelerinde yapıların birbirine bitişik konumda çoğalması, kapı yerine çatıdan girişin tercih edilmesi gibi temel öğeler, iki bölge arasında mimarlık anlayışı bakımından çok belirgin bir farklılık olduğunu göstermektedir.

Orta Anadolu'daki Geç Neolitik yerleşmelerden Er Baba'da (Bordaz ve Bordaz 1976; 1982) birbirine bitişik, çok mekanlı yapılar Burdur Bölgesi'ndeki duruma hiç uymamaktadır. Köşk Höyük'ün şimdiye kadar yayınlanmış olan taş temelli, dörtgen planlı yapıları ile (Silistreli 1986) Burdur Bölgesi Neolitik Çağ mimarlığı arasında bir benzerlik olduğunu söyleyecek durumda değiliz.

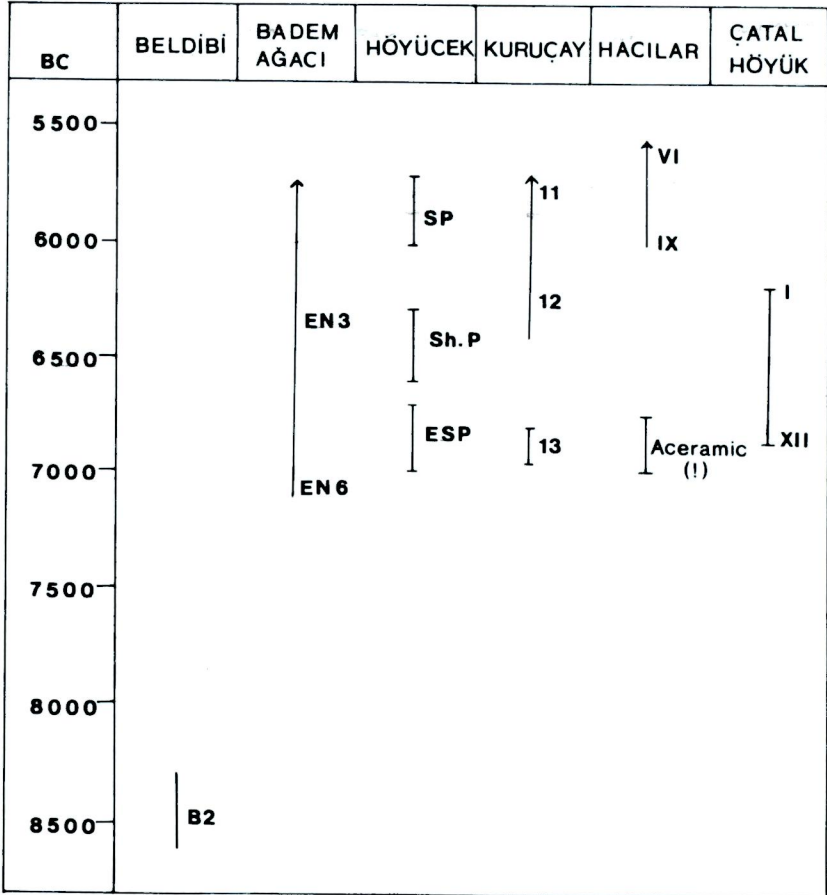
Marmara'nın güney kesiminde Ilıpınar X. tabakasında malzemesi pisé ve ahşap olan dörtgen planlı yapı anlayışı (Roodenberg 1993), Trakya'da Hoca

Çeşme yerleşmesinin 4. evresinde, kalın temelli bir savunma duvarı ile çevrilmiş dairesel kulübeler (Özdoğan 1996; 1998) dikkati çekmektedir. Batı Anadolu'nun kuzeyinde yapı malzemesinin genellikle ahşap olduğu ve bu durumun yapı uygulamalarında bazı önemli farklılıklara neden olduğu anlaşılmaktadır (Özdoğan 1996; Duru 1996). Batı Anadolu'nun güneyinde ise, Neolitik Çağ'a ait sistemli kazılar yapılmadığı için mimarlık uygulamaları hakkında üzerinde tartışmaya değer bilgi edinilememektedir.

Uzun bir süre yaşamış ve gelişmiş gibi görünen bu yapı tipinin öncüleri hakkında Bademağacı'nda EN3' den daha erken olan ve bir kısmı henüz pek az kazılmış olan tabakalar ipucu verebilir. Bademağacı, Antalya Bölgesi'nde Neolitik öncesi ilk çanak çömlek üretimi denemelerinin yapılmış olduğu Beldibi'ne (Bostancı 1959) kuşuçuğu 40-50 km kadar uzaktadır. Tarıma elverişli olmayan Akdeniz sahil şeridinden, Toros dağları'nın kuzeyine geçerek, tarımı yayla koşulları içinde daha iyi uygulama olanağı bulan insanların, Bademağacı'nın içinde yer aldığı küçük ovayı, tarım pratiğini geliştirmek ve buna bağlı olarak ilk köylerini kurmak için uygun bulmuş olmaları büyük olasılıktır (Duru 1997,798). Höyücek'de Erken Yerleşmeler Dönemi'nde, Kuruçay'da 13. tabakada çanak çömlek ve diğer küçük buluntular ele geçmesine karşılık, bir takım yanık izleri dışında mimarlık kalınusına rastlanmamış olması, bu dönemlerde Burdur Bölgesi'nde dal ve çamurdan yapılmış, hafif ve dayanıksız, basit kulübelerde oturulduğunu akla getirmektedir. Eğer, Bademağacı'nın daha erken tabakalarında da durum böyle ise, bölgede ilk yerleşik düzene geçiş sürecinin, bir başka anlatımla ilk mimarlık denemelerinin izlerini belirlemek son derece zor gibi görünmektedir. İleride Bademağacı'nın en erken yerleşmelerine inildiğinde, öğrenmek istediklerimizin sadece fırınlı yapıların prototipi ile sınırlı kalmayacağı anlaşılmaktadır.



Map



Chronological Table

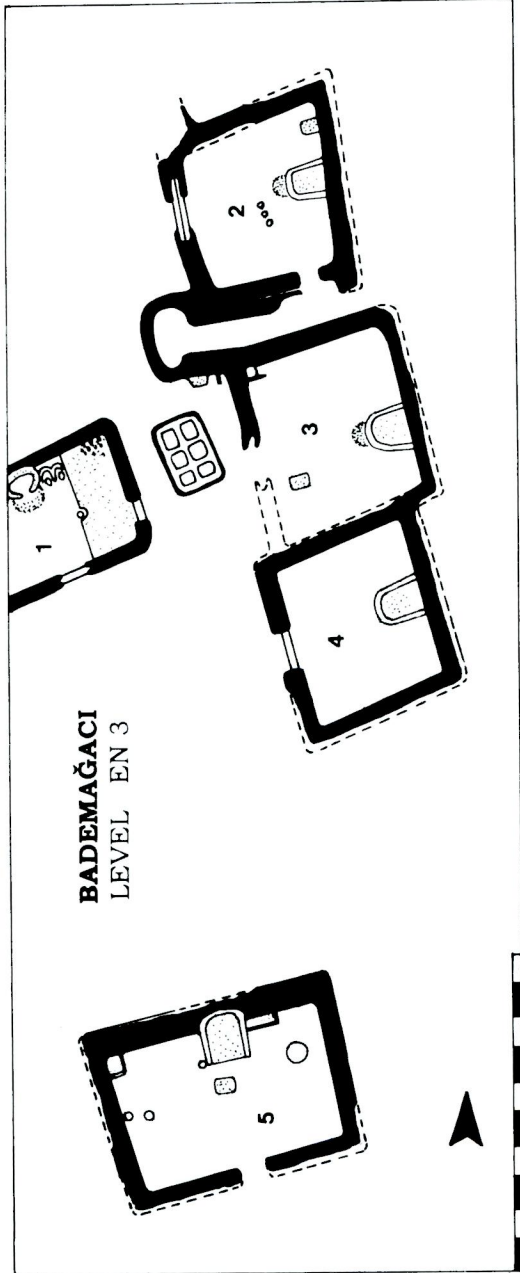


Fig. 1

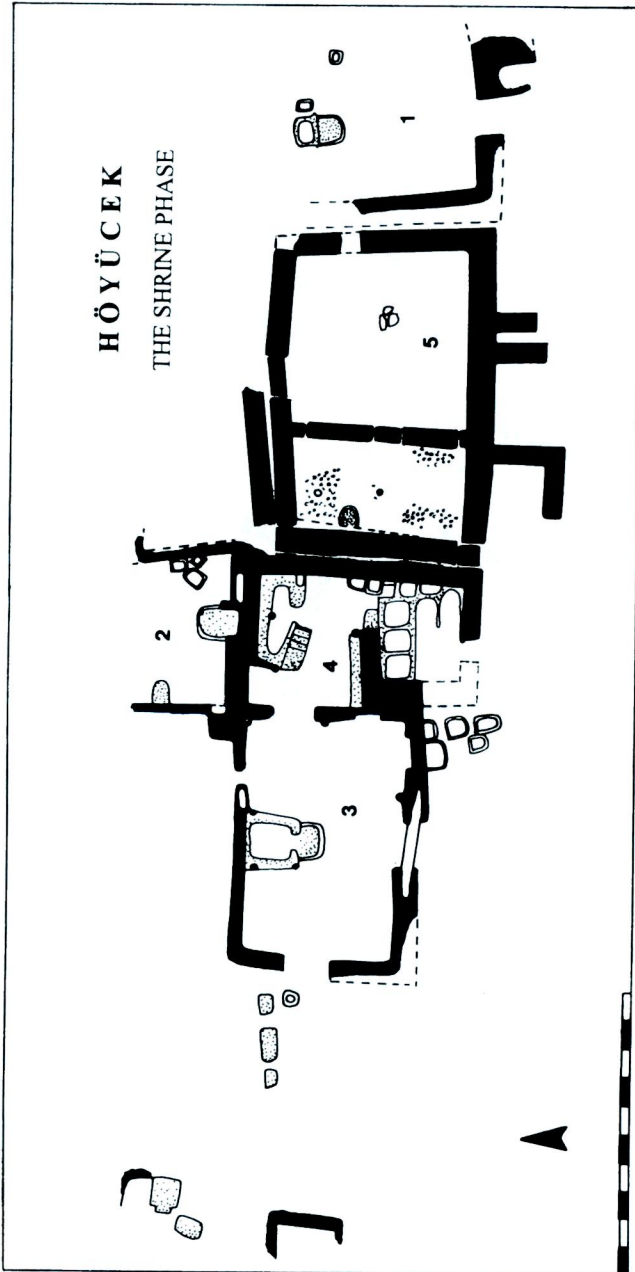


Fig. 2

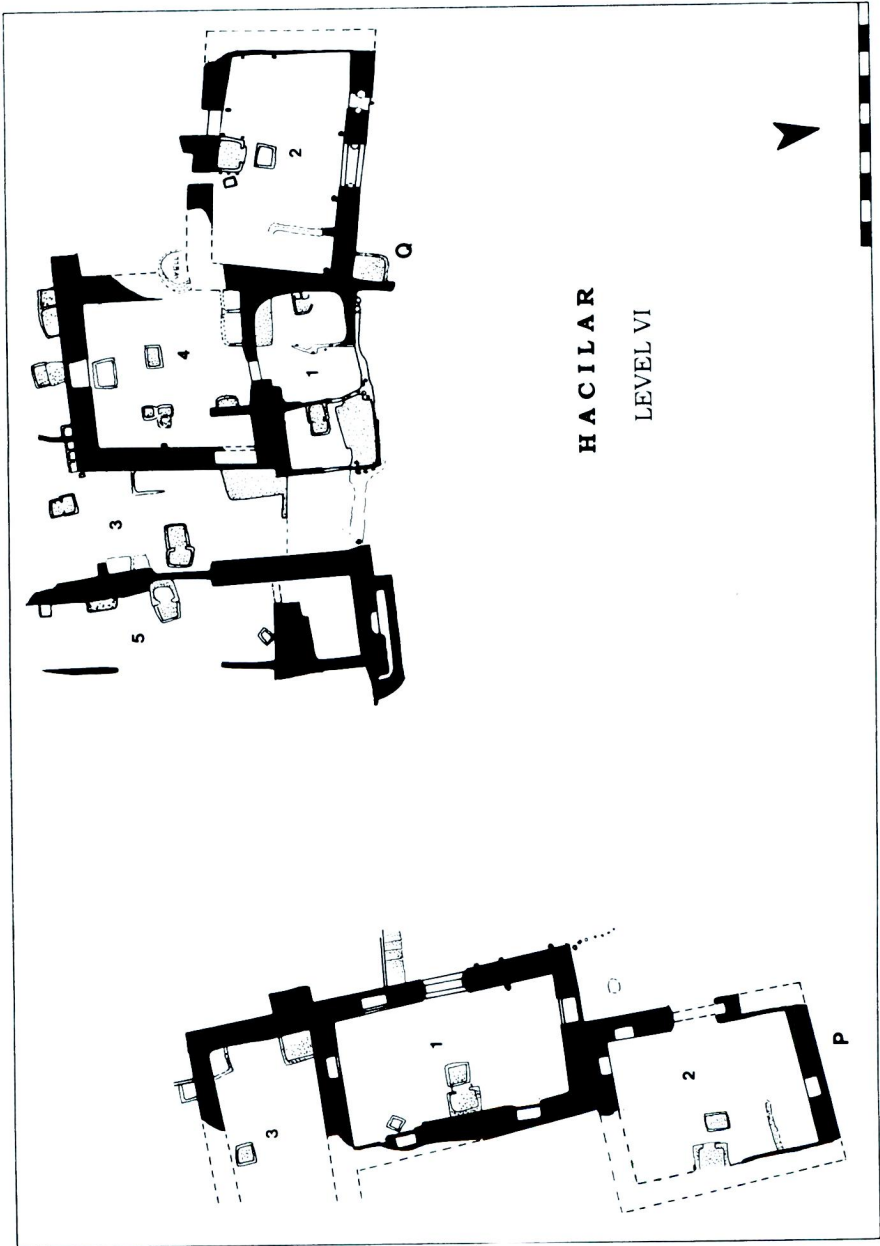


Fig. 3

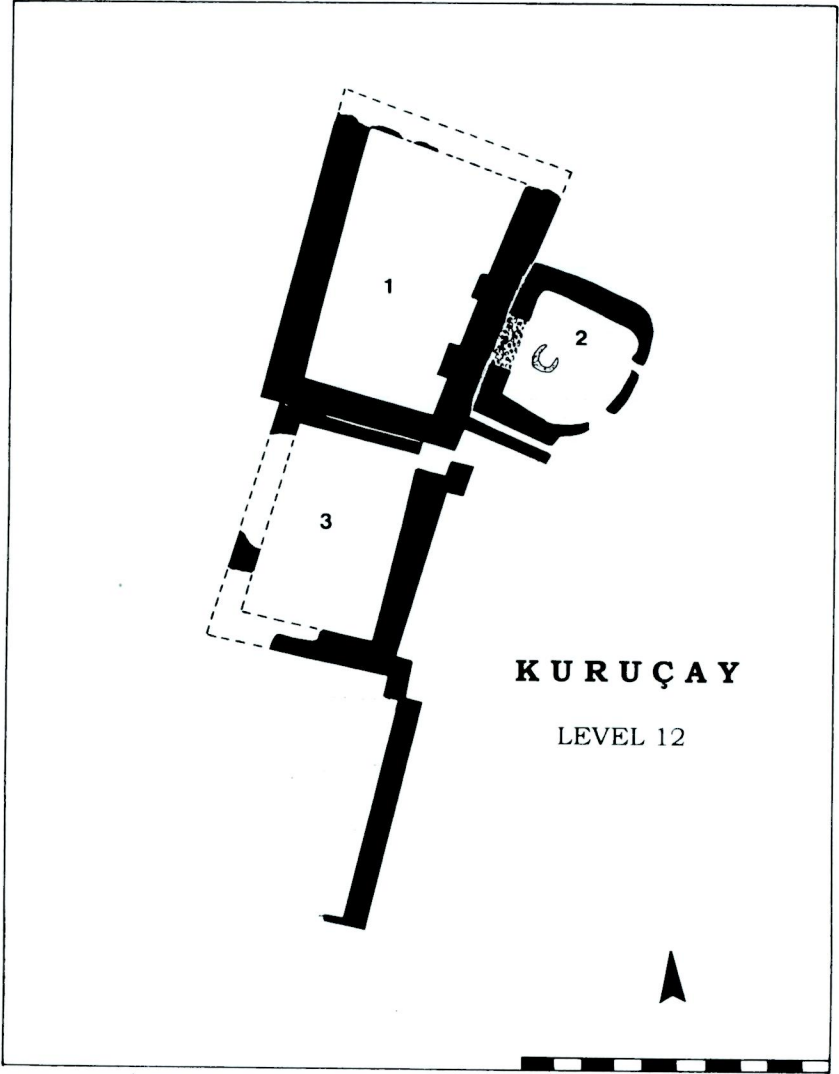


Fig. 4

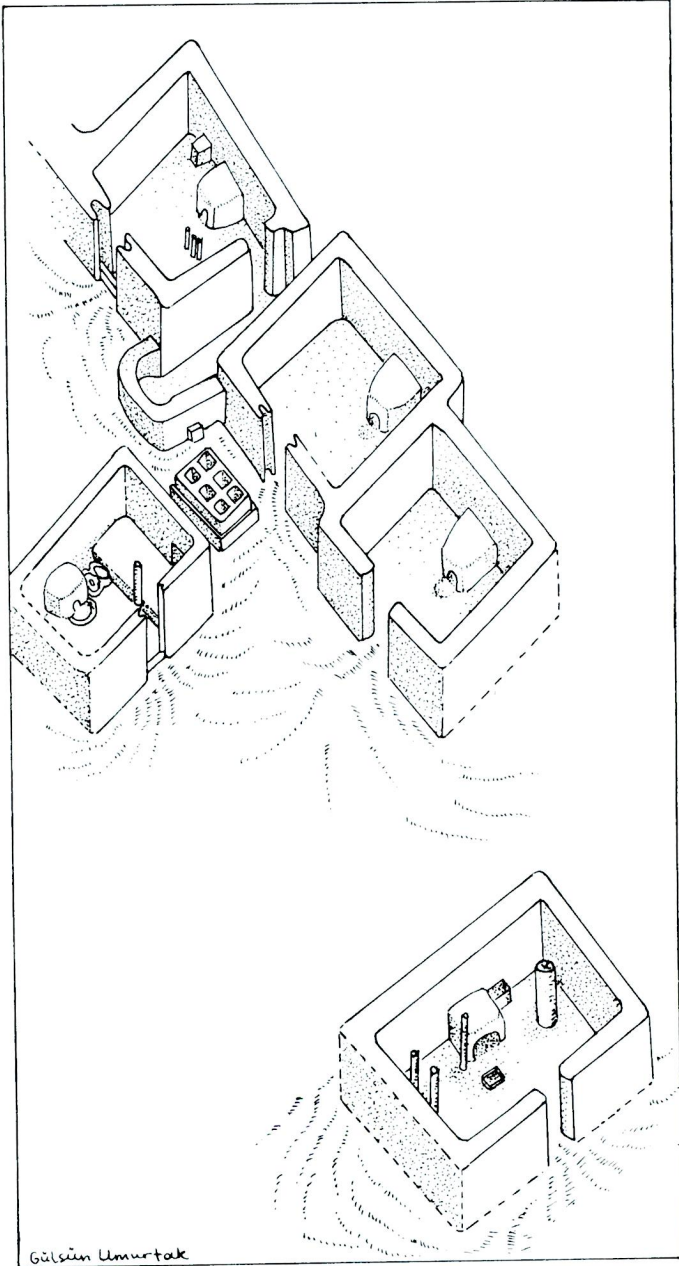


Fig. 5 - Bademağacı - EN 3. Isometric drawing of the houses.

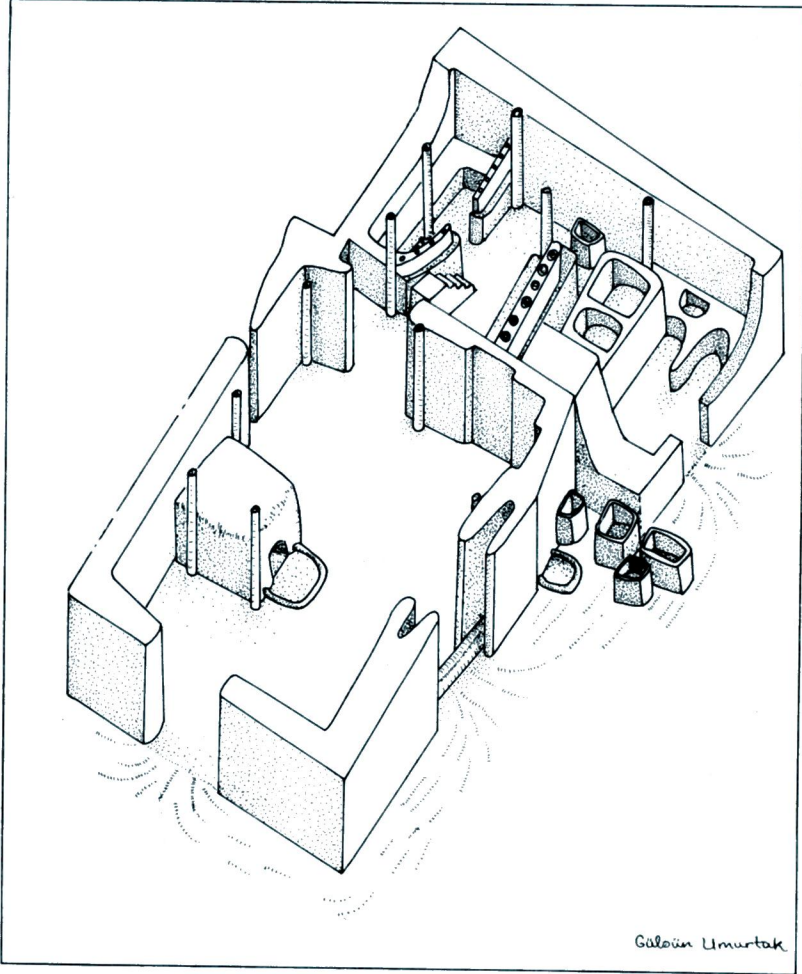


Fig. 6 - Höyücek - The Shrine Phase. Isometric drawing of the 3rd and 4th buildings.

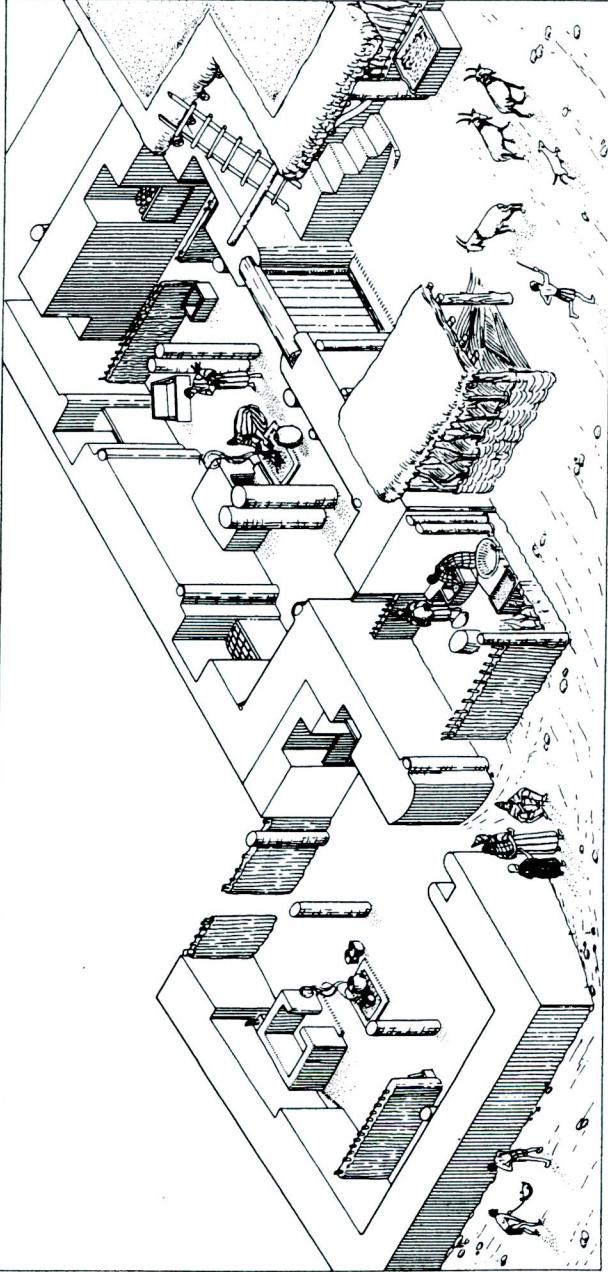


Fig. 7 - Haclar - VI. Isometric drawing of the houses in area P (Mellaart 1970, Fig. 10)

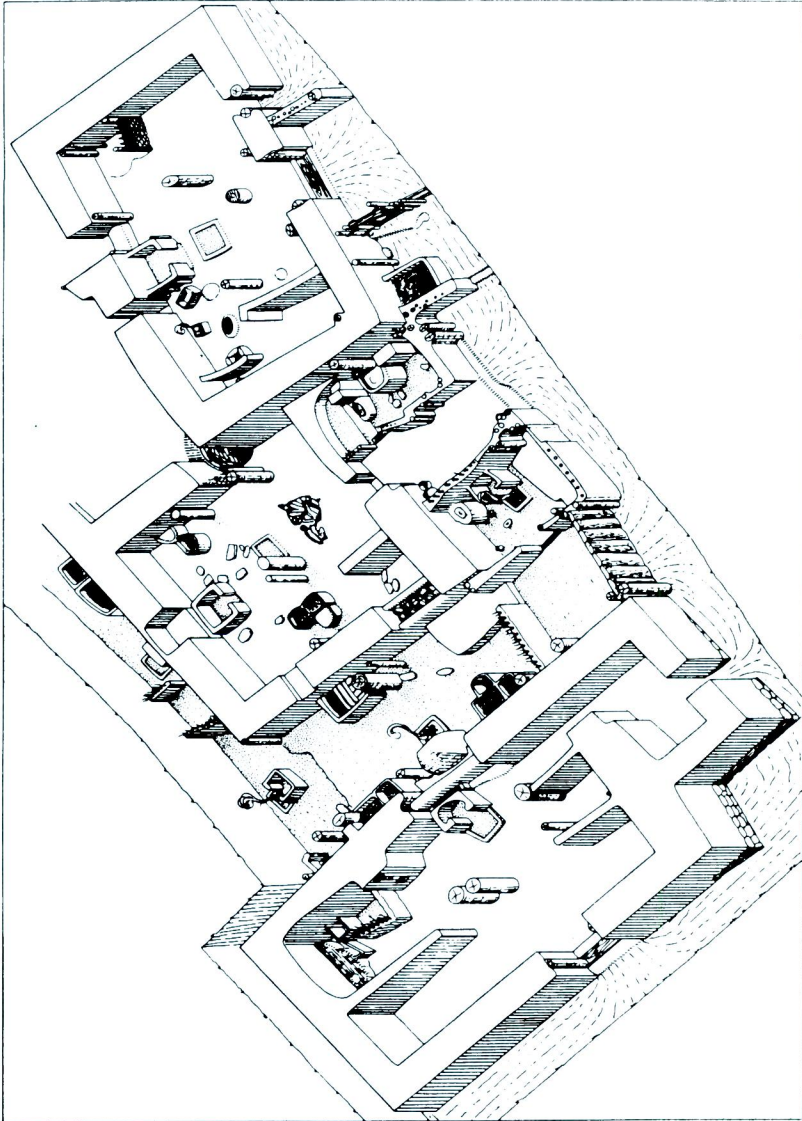


Fig. 8 - Hacilar - VI. Isometric drawing of the houses in area Q (Mellaart 1970, Fig. 11)