RITUAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE DURING THE LATE NEOLITHIC AND EARLY CHALCOLITHIC: PIT RITUALS OF UĞURLU HÖYÜK-GÖKÇEADA

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
OF
MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

BY

CANSU KARAMURAT

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF SETTLEMENT ARCHAEOLOGY

JUNE 2018

Approval of the Graduate School of Social Sciences

Prof. Dr. Tülin GENÇÖZ
Director

I certify that this thesis satisfies all the requirements as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.

Prof. Dr. D. Burcu ERCİYAS
Head of Department

This is to certify that we have read this thesis and that in our opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çiğdem ATAKUMAN
Supervisor

Examining Committee Members

Prof. Dr. Yılmaz Selim ERDAL (Hacettepe Üni., Antropoloji)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çiğdem ATAKUMAN (METU, SA)

Prof. Dr. Burçin ERDOĞU (Trakya Üni., Arkeoloji)

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

Name, Last name: Cansu KARAMURAT

Signature :

ABSTRACT

RITUAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE
DURING THE LATE NEOLITHIC AND EARLY CHALCOLITHIC:
PIT RITUALS OF UĞURLU HÖYÜK-GÖKÇEADA

Karamurat, Cansu
Ms, Department of Settlement Archaeology
Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Atakuman

June 2018, 329 pages

Prehistoric pits are often interpreted as trash or food storage; however, recent studies indicate that pit-use is also related to ritual activities. The aim of this study is to understand the function of pits at Uğurlu Höyük- Gökçeada (Imbros Island) dated to Late Neolithic & Early Chalcolithic Periods (5900-4900 BC). Based on production techniques, temporal and spatial relations and artifact distributions among 37 pits and related architectural contexts, this thesis establishes history of the emergence of pit area and its social function.

Many elements of Uğurlu pits; such as association with communal buildings, mortuary practice, plaster use and “house closing”, alongside association with symbolically significant artifacts indicate a structured social action, i.e. “ritual”. Considering regional variations, a comparative scheme demonstrates similarly structured pit rituals became the hallmark from Northern Levant and Anatolia to Aegean and Balkans during the 6th millennium BC. Strikingly, many elements of pit rituals also indicate links to the Early Neolithic “Ancestor Cults” of Anatolia and Levant reflecting processes of social group formation through the agency of place.

Whereas this ancestor rituals negotiated social ties between place, actual houses and actual dead, the Late Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic ancestor rituals made the same negotiation with pits and symbolical artifacts referring to houses and dead metaphorically. Ultimately, pit rituals of Uğurlu reflect an intermediate stage in the major social transformation that took place during and in the aftermath of transition to agriculture intertwined with shifts in people's perception of their identity and social landscape.

Keywords: Pit Rituals, Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Uğurlu Höyük, Spatial Analysis

ÖZ

GEÇ NEOLİTİK VE ERKEN KALKOLİTİK DÖNEMLERDE
RİTÜEL VE SOSYAL YAPI: GÖKÇEADA-UĞURLU HÖYÜK
ÇUKUR RİTÜELLERİ

Karamurat, Cansu
Yüksek Lisans, Yerleşim Arkeolojisi Anabilim Dalı
Tez Yöneticisi: Doç. Dr. Çiğdem Atakuman

Haziran 2018, 329 sayfa

Tarihöncesi yerleşimlerde bulunan çukurlar, sıklıkla çöplerin atıldığı ya da besinin depo edilmesinde kullanılan mekanlar olarak yorumlanmaktadır. Fakat yakın tarihli çalışmalar çukur kullanımının inançsal faaliyetlerle de ilişkili olduğunu göstermektedir. Bu çalışmanın amacı, Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Höyük prehistorik yerleşiminde, Geç Neolitik – Erken Kalkolitik dönemlerine tarihlenen çukurların işlevini anlamaktır. 37 adet çukur ve ilişkili mimari yapılar arasında, yapım teknikleri, zamansal ve mekânsal ilişkiler ve arkeolojik buluntuların dağılım analizlerine dayanarak, çukur alanının ve bu alanın sosyal işlevinin ortaya çıkışı incelenmektedir.

Uğurlu'daki çukurların, komünal binalar, ölü gömüleri, sıva kullanımı ve "ev kapatma"nın yanında sembolik açıdan önemli nesneler ile ilişkili olmaları, yapılandırılmış bir sosyal eylemi gösterir ki bu ritüel olarak tanımlanmaktadır. Bölgesel farklılıklara rağmen, benzer şekilde gerçekleştirilmiş çukur ritüellerinin, MÖ 6. binyıl boyunca Kuzey Levant ve Anadolu'dan Ege ve Balkan'lara geniş bir bölgenin kendine özgü bir geleneği olduğunu gösterir. Bu yaygın çukur geleneğinin birçok

ögesinin, Anadolu ve Levant'ın Erken Neolitik "Ata Kültü" ile birtakım ilişkilerin varlığını göstermesi açısından dikkat çekicidir.

Bu ritüellerin, mekânın kurulması üzerinden sosyal grubun oluşum süreçlerini yansıttığı fikri ileri sürülmektedir. Sosyal bağlar, Erken Neolitik "Ata Kültü"nde bizzat ölüler, evler ve mekanlar arasında kurulmuş olan bağlar aracılığıyla müzakere ederken, Geç Neolitik ve Erken Kalkolitik "Ata kültü" ritüellerinde mekân ile yapılan bu müzakere, çukurların yanında ölüleri ve evleri metaforik olarak temsil eden birtakım nesnelerin üzerinden kurulmaktadır. Sonuçta, Uğurlu çukur ritüelleri, tarıma geçiş sırasında ve sonrasında meydana gelen büyük toplumsal dönüşümde, insanların kendi kimlikleri ve sosyal peyzaj algılarındaki değişimlerle iç içe geçmiş olan bir ara aşamayı yansıtmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Çukur Ritüeli, Neolitik, Kalkolitik, Uğurlu Höyük, Mekânsal Analiz

To My Family

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to express my sincerest thanks to my advisor Assist. Prof. Çiğdem Atakuman for her scientific guidance, valuable suggestions and insight throughout the research. I also would like to express my appreciation for her encouragement and academic role model.

I am greatly thankful to Prof. Dr. Burçin Erdoğu for giving me the allowance to use his data, as well as maps and other information. Also, I am grateful to him for his valuable thoughts, knowledge and scientific guidance whenever I had questions.

I also thank last member of my thesis committee Prof. Dr. Yılmaz Selim Erdal for his valuable comments and advice.

I am greatly thankful to Hasan Can Gemici for all sorts of information sharing through the study.

I am also grateful to Nejat Yücel for sharing all excavation photographs and other related information.

I also offer my gratitude to team of Uğurlu excavation project who have worked since 2009.

I also would like to offer my greatest thanks to my family for their continuous encouragement, support, and patience through the study.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PLAGIARISM.....iii
ABSTRACT.....iv
ÖZ.....vi
DEDICATION.....viii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....ix
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....x
LIST OF TABLES.....xii
LIST OF FIGURES.....xv
CHAPTER
1. INTRODUCTION.....1
2. PITS IN PREHISTORY.....12
2.1 Previous Approaches to Pits in Archaeological Approaches.....12
2.2 Applied Methodology in Uğurlu.....44
3. PREHISTORIC UĞURLU AND ITS PITS.....47
3.1 Prehistoric Uğurlu from 7th to 4th Millennium BC.....47
3.2 Proposed Chronology for Pits at Uğurlu.....65
3.3 Descriptions of Artifact Categories Found at Uğurlu.....73
3.4 Analyses of Artifact Distributions in Time & Space.....104
3.4.1 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase II.....104
3.4.2 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase III.....110
3.4.3 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase IV.....121
3.4.4 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase V.....127
3.4.5 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase VI.....131
3.5 Establishing the Ritual Significance of the Pit Area in P5-P6.....133
3.5.1 Chronological Relations Between Pits of P5-P6 / O5-O6.....136
3.5.2 Artifact Distributions in Chronologically Ordered Pit Groups.....139

3.5.3 Distributions of Artifacts in The Context of Constructional Features of Pits 147
4. DISCUSSION 155
4.1 Emergence of The Pit Area in Time & Space 155
4.2 Spatial Continuity, Boundaries, Clusters 173
4.3 Implications for Further Study 185
5. CONCLUSION 186
REFERENCES 188
APPENDICES
APPENDIX A- Physical Features and Material Assemblages of Pits, Buildings and Special Floors 203
APPENDIX B- Turkish Summary/Türkçe Özet 317
APPENDIX C- Tez Fotokopisi İzin Formu 328

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Chronology of Uğurlu site 51
Table 2 Structural properties of pits in Phase IV 55
Table 3 Structural properties of pits in Phase III 60
Table 4 Final Chronology for Buildings, Pits and Floors at Uğurlu 71
Table 5 Artifact Categories 73
Table 6 Numeric Distribution of All Small Finds 77
Table 7 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase II (P5-BB14-BB15) 77
Table 8 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase III (Trenches of P5-P6) 78
Table 9 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase IV (P5-P6) 78
Table 10 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase V (BB20-21) 79
Table 11 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase VI (BB20-21) 79
Table 12 Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts 80
Table 13 Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts in Phase III 80
Table 14 Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts in Phase IV 81
Table 15 Total numbers of assemblage from buildings, pits, special floors and fill for each phase 82
Table 16 Distribution of pottery sherds through time 86
Table 17 Distribution of pottery colors through time 86
Table 18 Distribution of thin walled sherds through time 86
Table 19 Distribution of relative numbers of flint through time 87
Table 20 Total of animal bones (kg) in pits 88
Table 21 Distribution of decorated pots through time 90
Table 22 Distribution of eared pots through time 91
Table 23 Distribution of polypod vessel through time 92
Table 24 Distribution of Sypondylus and other seashell objects through 95
Table 25 Distribution of bone objects through time 97

Table 26 Distribution of ground stone objects through time 99
Table 27 Changes in the quantity of artifact groups at Uğurlu through time 100
Table 28 Distribution of Obsidian through time 101
Table 29 Distribution of figurines through time 104
Table 30 Numeric Distributions of Artifacts in Spatial Contexts during Phase II. 106
Table 31 Numeric Distributions of Flint in Each Spatial Context during Phase II 106
Table 32 Numeric Distributions of Total Thin Wall Sherds in Each Spatial Context during Phase II..... 107
Table 33 Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in Each Spatial Context during Phase II..... 107
Table 34 Numeric Distributions of Artifacts in Each Spatial Context during Phase III 112
Table 35 Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in each spatial Context during Phase III..... 114
Table 36 Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in Each Spatial Context during Phase III 117
Table 37 Subgroup Color Distributions of Pottery Sherds in Spatial Contexts of Phase-III..... 118
Table 38 Numeric Distribution of Artifacts in Each Spatial Context in Phase IV 123
Table 39 Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in each spatial context during Phase IV 124
Table 40 Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in each Spatial context during Phase IV..... 125
Table 41 Numeric Distribution of Small Finds of BUILDING-2..... 129
Table 42 Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in each spatial context during Phase V 130
Table 43 Numeric Distributions of Total Thin Wall Sherds in Spatial Contexts during Phase V 130
Table 44 Color Distributions of Pottery Sherds in Spatial Contexts during Phase V 130

Table 45 Small find distributions in P5-P6 pits vs. fill in Phase III..... 134
Table 46 Artifact-distributions of pits & buildings vs. artifact-distributions of fill in trenches P5-P6 in Phase IV 135
Table 47 New pit groups and their pits according to the temporal proximity 137
Table 48 Distributions of artifacts and constructional features of pits according to chronologically ordered pit stages 142
Table 49 The most substantial pits in all pits according to the amount of artifacts 145
Table 50 Average Numbers of Artifacts per Pit..... 149
Table 51 Outstanding pits in each chronologically pit stage according to multiple criteria 151

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Neolithic Sites represented with dot from Balkans to Near East and some sites are represented with double circle where pit studies were done 8
Figure 2 Chronology for Greece, Balkans and Anatolia 9
Figure 3 Site of Neolithic Makriyalos 23
Figure 4 The excavated area at Kremasti 25
Figure 5 Ritual pit from the Early Neolithic house, Kapitan Dimitrievo 26
Figure 6 “Ritual actions following a death in the MPPNB” 32
Figure 7 Pits from the Red Terrace 36
Figure 8 Excavation plan of Laodikeia at the end of 2013 38
Figure 9 Architecture and activity zones of settlement phase IX at Çukuriçi Höyük 40
Figure 10 Plan of Level II at Gülpınar 42
Figure 11 Excavation plan of Aktopraklık B 43
Figure 12 Map of the island of Gökçeada showing the location of Uğurlu 48
Figure 13 Topographic plan of the site and the excavation trenches 50
Figure 14 Architectural structure in Phase V 52
Figure 15 Architectural structures and pits in Phase IV 54
Figure 16 Architectural structures and pits in Phase III 58
Figure 17 Cylindirical form and big stones 59
Figure 18 Surrounded with stones 59
Figure 19 Pit plaster thickness 59
Figure 20 Semicircular form, thick plastering and flat stones 59
Figure 21 Architectural structures in Phase II 64
Figure 22 Historical development of Trench P5-P6-O5-O6 through time 66
Figure 23 Pits, Buildings and Special Floors in Trenches P5-P6-O5-O6 through time 67
Figure 24 Chronological relations among all constructions at Uğurlu through time 70

Figure 25 Varieties of pottery forms of Uğurlu through time 85
Figure 26 Varieties of decoration on ceramics from all phases at Uğurlu site 90
Figure 27 Samples and decorations of eared pots from all phases at Uğurlu site 91
Figure 28 Samples and decorations of polypod vessels from all phases at Uğurlu site 92
Figure 29 Samples of spondylus objects from all phases at Uğurlu site 94
Figure 30 Samples of other seashell objects from all phases at Uğurlu site 94
Figure 31 Samples of awl from all phases at Uğurlu site 96
Figure 32 Samples of other bone objects from all phases at Uğurlu site 96
Figure 33 Samples from ground stone objects, flint and obsidian from all phases at Uğurlu site 98
Figure 34 Samples of figurines from all phases at Uğurlu site 102
Figure 35 Features of production and breakage for figurines in Phase IV and Phase III. 102
Figure 36 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 1 108
Figure 37 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 6 109
Figure 38 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 7 109
Figure 39 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 3 119
Figure 40 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 4 120
Figure 41 Spatial distribution of small finds in Ö191 special floor 121
Figure 42 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 5 125
Figure 43 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 8 126
Figure 44 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 9 126
Figure 45 Spatial distribution of small finds in Yellow Floor 127
Figure 46 Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 2 131
Figure 47 Temporal Groups According to the chronological relations in micro level among pits in Phase III 138
Figure 48 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/a 156

Figure 49 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/b 157
Figure 50 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/c 158
Figure 51 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4/3-PitSatege2 160
Figure 52 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege3 162
Figure 53 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege4 164
Figure 54 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege5 166
Figure 55 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege6 168
Figure 56 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege7 170
Figure 57 Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege8 172
Figure 58 Emergence of pit area through time 178
Figure 59 Changes of Social Regeneration Practices from Pre-Pottery Neolithic to Early Bronze Age 184

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In etymological perspective, pit is usually defined as a hole, hollow, indentation or a low area in the ground or the surface in dictionaries (pit, n.d.; pit, n.d.). In contrast to its simple description in dictionary, it can be said that pit is more complex formation in the archaeology. Pits and practice of pit – digging is as old as human history. One of the earliest usages of pits is observed as deliberate burial of dead that is considered as one of some ways researchers may examine both the cognitive behavior and development of self-consciousness for early humans. This practice also means emotional connection with the dead (Renfrew and Bahn, 2016, p. 391 – 431). The earliest instance of deliberate burial of dead with ornaments and colors has been revealed in Skhul and Qafzeh Caves in Israel dated to 80 – 130 kya (Shea, 2011, p. 8; Shea and Bar-Yosef, 2005). Except for burial pits, humans dug pits to store food having vitally importance because food must be preserved from other peoples, animals, insects, bacterial or fungal actions. Especially, storage of food in subterranean pits has been developed as a subsistence strategy. In this way, people prevented food scarcity for the community life. Also, protecting seeds for future was very important (Martinek, 1998, p. 89; Gallagher and Arzigian, 1994). Another motivation for digging pit is to remove refuse materials from the habitat (Edwards, 2009, p. 65). Domestic waste from daily use and constructional debris were mostly filled inside of the rubbish pits.

Additionally, pit during the human history was used as a kind of physical place for cooking that is the most important part of the process of food preparation (Graff, 2015, p. 32). Primarily meat and some kinds of vegetables were cooked in pits as cooking hole. One more field in which pit is used effectively emerged with the innovation of pottery. This usage termed as pit firing is the oldest method for firing potteries. It is

suggested that firing is an essential step in the process of pottery production. Following to unfired potteries are put together in the pit, the filling is covered with combustible materials. Later, pots are fired up to the desired condition (Daszkiewicz and Maritan, 2017, p. 487). On the other hand, humans dug pit for shelter which is the most vital need to survive. The semi-subterranean pit-dwellings were cut into the soil with their roofs reaching down to the surface of the floor. There were four or more posts inserted in the ground of the dwelling so that they support the roof. The upper part of pit-dwelling was covered with bark, leaves or earth as a kind of protection against adverse weather conditions (Maringer, 1980, p. 116). In addition to all above, pit was dug for the ritual activity that is one of the most important regulators of social life in the prehistoric societies. Pits were used as a context for ritual or as ritual itself for mainly vowing, sanctifying of a place or establishing spiritual bond with someone or somewhere.

In addition to its various usage patterns, also, pit intrinsically destroys the stratigraphy of filling indicating the historical process accumulating layer by layer in a specific location because the soil extracted during the pit – digging get mixed with surface soil. During filling of pit, this mixed heap again are thrown into inside of pit. In the meanwhile, both inside of pit and the level used with pit are endamaged from the stratigraphic aspect. Furthermore, because a pit cuts into the previous structures in the same area, it becomes hard to understand relations between pits and other constructions. Therefore, archaeologists don't desire to find a pit during excavations. Nevertheless, pit is one of the most frequently found formations in the field studies due to its various functions as mentioned above. Like other remains, hence, understanding of pits is especially important for the archaeological researches.

During the history of archaeology, it seems that pit interpretations have directly been related in how archaeologists understand Neolithic transition due to needs of storing surplus food and getting refuse away from settlement as results of sedentary life and agricultural production. In this context, in Culture Historical era, investigations about understanding of Neolithic were shaped by Gordon Childe's syntheses performed in

the early 20th century (Childe, 1935, 1936, 1942). Childe clarified the transition to farming with his Oasis Hypothesis (1956). According to this hypothesis, there was a climatic crisis causing to environmentally difficult situations in the Levant at the end of the last Ice Age. Due to increased aridity, humans, animals and plants would have been forced to occupy in oases consisting of water sources and vegetation. According to Childe, people domesticated plants and animals to secure resources and decrease competition (Vanderwarker, 2006, p. 12-13). Advantages of this subsistence economy encouraged societies to adopt sedentary life. People began to store their surplus and then shared again these products between each other. Mechanisms of accumulation and distribution of Neolithic life got more complicated in time. Increased surplus required storage facilities and centralized control mechanisms leading to hierarchical societies beyond kinship (Childe, 1950, 1951; Atakuman, 2015a, 2015b). From this perspective, pits observed at Neolithic settlements are often regarded as storage facilities or facilities that help other domestic activities such as firing, cooking or even trash depositing. Therefore, archaeologists mostly prefer these interpretations without any analysis for understanding of pit function.

The earliest interpretations about pit function come from researches of Iron Age settlements in Britain. It was mentioned that grain would have been stored in smaller pits whereas the greater pits were accepted as dwellings (Garrow, 2006, p.3 – 4). Pits of Neolithic period in Britain were interpreted as food storage due to finding carbonized hazelnuts and traces of grain inside of potteries in pits. Also, pits were interpreted as firing area or trash because of the fact that pits were used as rubbish by filling domestic waste when effectiveness of pits as food storage came to end (Edwards, 2009, p.63).

Previous studies adopting functionalist approaches in archaeology were being criticized from various aspects at the beginning of the 1980s. As especially ethnoarchaeological studies brought a new perspective known as post-processual approach that ideology and social dynamics could be realized in the material culture, these ethnographic studies and their syntheses can be seen as the motivation of these

criticisms (Moore, 1982; Hodder, 1982a; Garrow, 2006). Hodder and Moore among the most famous ones questioned how beliefs shaped the routes of creating material patterning. And, their studies have shown that the routine practices are influenced by the symbolic orders and norms of the society (Garrow, 2012; Hodder, 1982b; Moore, 1981).

Following to this awareness stage, understanding prehistoric societies on their periods and developing kinds of devices for understanding their world perspective were aimed in the scope of contextual archaeology. At this point, the context of the object was considered as an important component to read the meaning of object (Hodder, 1986, 1987; Johnsen & Olsen, 2000, p. 105 – 107). For this, similarities and differences are examined in aspects of temporality, space, depositional unit and typology. According to the contextual approach, an object is tried to be understood by associating and comparing with other objects having temporal and spatial relations and by considering in terms of its location and set of assemblages in which it was found (Thomas, 1991, p. 95).

In the light of the ethnoarchaeological studies, it has been suggested that material culture is meaningfully constituted. In other words, everything is meaningful and meaningfully deposited (Hodder, 1991, 1995). Thus, both distributions of material culture around places and the process from production of object to its discard create meaning. Following to researchers realized that some objects were deposited in some specific places according to patterns, Colin Richards and Julian Thomas firstly focused on depositions of material culture by considering the nature of ritual practice. At the same time, ritual practice was defined as “highly formalized and repetitive behavior” (Richards & Thomas, 1984). And then, it has been suggested that structured behaviors with intentional selections generated depositions called as “structured deposition” (Richards & Thomas, 1984; Chapman, 2000; Garrow, 2012). Due to carrying “associations and meaning beyond its functional use”, structured deposition has an important role for understanding the material culture (Hodder, 1986; Barrett, 1991; Robb, 1998; Bradley 2005; Benjamin, 2009).

The recent studies adopting these newer theories and methods have indicated that pits wouldn't have been constituted as a result of domestic activity or economic needs. In this direction, all these approaches and their questionings have become general criteria for pit studies. At the end of comparisons and analyses on pit contexts, intentionally selected materials were buried in pits (Garrow, 2006, p.6). In addition to this deliberate act, it has been indicated that the pit – digging had a critical role in symbolical social events, such as commemoration (Edwards, 2009, p.75-76; Pollard, 2001, p.325). Also, it has been pointed out that practice of pit – digging forges a link between the present and ancestors (Chapman, 2000, p.64).

Looking at these approaches territorially, pits of Neolithic Balkans are commonly interpretaed that pit usage had symbolic meanings and relations for the society (Bailey, 2005). Likewise, pits are considered to be related with ritual activities in association with social regeneration in Balkans, such as Bulgaria and Serbia (Chapman, 2000; Tringham, 2000; Nikolov, 2000, 2011). When we look at the studies of Neolithic pits in the region of Greece, it is seen that approaches of pit – use are generally within the direction of socio – symbolic (Pappa et al., 1999, 2004, 2007, 2008; Souvatzi, 2008). On the other hand, it cannot be sad that archaeological studies from the region of Anatolia and Near East have adopted this partial newer approach spreading on researches in Balkans, Greece and Britain. Thus, pits are being interpreted as storage for food or refuses without detailed works. This state is a deficiency and poses a critical problem for archaeological studies in Anatolia and Near East. This point is accepted as one of the motivations of this dissertation. Furthermore, these regions are geographically close to each other and also have interactive relations in the context of socio – economic activities whereas the case that a contemporary practice observed within close regions is being interpreted dissimilarly has raised a question mark in minds. This point is also encouragement factor for this study. A research remedying this critical deficiency in the context of Anatolia has gained importance in the archaeology literature.

As mentioned before, Neolithic transition was originated in Levant in which communities started to farm with the stress of climatic crisis during Younger Dryas. When the earliest domestication of plants and animals was being performed in the Fertile Crescent in about 8500 BC, at the same time when, Neolithic life with some indigenous differences noted on especially settlement schema, burial tradition and lithic technology was observed in the central Anatolia (Baird, 2007; Esin & Harmankaya, 2007; Özbaşaran 2011; Baird 2012; Düring, 2013, p. 76 – 77). On the other hand, the earliest Neolithic societies with the innovations of this transition in western Anatolia appeared in the first half of the seventh millennium BC when it has been argued that the earliest Neolithic settlements in Marmara region are dated to about 7000 BC onwards (Düring, 2013, p. 79). After Anatolia and Aegean region, Neolithic life was observed in Balkans in the later 7th millennium BC. This movement lastly reached to Britain in about 3500 BC.

There are numerous modelling studies and researches of material culture on the spread of Neolithic. These studies mostly claim that the driver of this spreading was migration. The most accepted model for the Prehistory of Anatolia and Aegean is the 'Neolithic package' suggesting moving with migration waves to certain regions (Çilingiroğlu, 2005; Düring, 2013). However, apart from 'demic diffusion' meaning the spread of Near Eastern farmers themselves, there are some archaeologists preferring 'cultural diffusion' basing on the appropriation of the new method of food production by indigenous foragers. One of the key points enlightening this confusion about the diffusion is Aegean Islands. Nevertheless, according to the point of view of some archaeologists working on Aegean Islands, early farming communities were not located in the eastern Aegean islands (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b). The importance of Uğurlu appears at this key aspect because Uğurlu is the only known early agricultural settlement in the eastern Aegean Islands (Fig. 1, Fig. 2; Erdoğu, 2014a, p.157). In addition, because Uğurlu is an island settlement, examinations at Uğurlu try to find some answers to some basic questions "Why do people choose to live on an island and how do they manage in an insular setting? What kinds of relations exist between islanders and mainlanders?" (Erdoğu, 2011a, p. 46; Knapp, 2008, p. 13 – 14).

Therefore, Uğurlu site maintaining from 7th to 4th millennium BC located on the island of Gökçeada has been selected as a case study.

Totally 37 pits dated from 5900 BC to 4900 BC were excavated in the settlement. According to spatial distributions of pits in the site, all pits except for two ones in Uğurlu have been aggregated in front of Building 4 interpreted as a communal or public building. Archaeological finds coming from pit contexts are observed as elaborative craftsmanships and intensity of symbolism. In addition, human skeletons and human bones one of the most important groups of archaeological finds have been uncovered in only pits at the site. Also, geographical location of Uğurlu is close to the contemporary sites having pit practice in Greece and Bulgaria (Erdoğu, 2014a, p.162). Within this context, pits at Uğurlu will help to understand the nature of the cultural practices and social structing for Neolithic Uğurlu society in this study.

Figure 1. Neolithic Sites represented with dot from Balkans to Near East and some sites are represented with double circle where pit studies were done

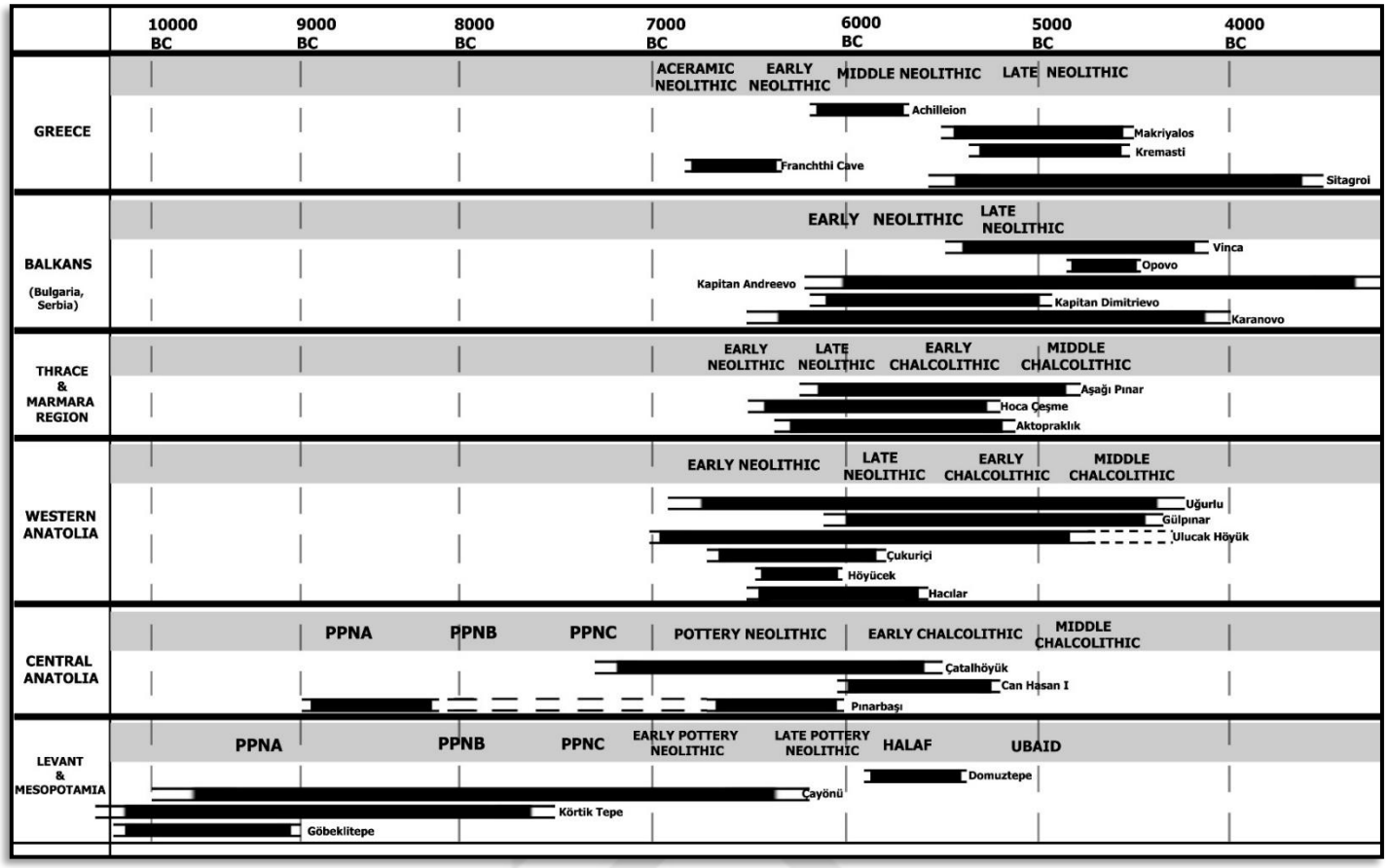


Figure 2. Chronology for Greece, Balkans and Anatolia
(Souvatzi, 2008; Nikolova, 2001; Bailey, 2000; Erdoğu and Çevik, 2015; Özdoğan, 2011; Atakuman and Erdem, 2015; Campbell, 1992)

This thesis is aimed to support the matter of getting critical answers within the scope of a large scale archaeological project of Uğurlu. Relations between pits and other architectural structures and also pits and material culture items in the context of time and space will be mainly analyzed for the aim of the study. Chapters of thesis have been developed in this direction.

Following the first chapter, Chapter 2 consists of two main parts: literature review of pit studies and methodology applied in this study. Theoretical background of pit – use practice and related concepts are established in the section of literature review. Statement of the matter in the upper scale shows parallelism with historical development of theory and methods in archaeology. Several approaches related to pit – use will be explained within the geographical context. Followed by pit studies in Anatolia and its near region are investigated, other pit studies in literature from especially England will be introduced one by one.

Pit – related approaches fed from culture history and processual discourses will be established in the first group. As these approaches directly connect to historical development of archaeology, there are early pit studies in the literature in this group. Because of the fact that the functional perspective is accepted as a priority by several researchers in academia, in our time, there are lots of studies adopting these approaches. Pits are usually interpreted as food storage and rubbish pit by studies of this group. Post – processual and contextual approaches are dominant in researches about pit – use in the second group of the literature review. Pit studies in direct proportion to the intellectual development of archaeology have started to rise during 1980s. According to these studies, pits are associated with rituals being one of the most important characters of the social life.

Methodology is introduced in the second part of Chapter 2. Considering the necessity of understanding the function of pits in historical process of the settlement area, pits and related structures and material culture for specifically in this study, an appropriate methodology will be developed and presented in this part. Methods will be used to

process data step by step.

Raw data gathered from a number of sources will be processed in the Chapter 3. This section will be handled in three stages. The first stage may be seen as an introduction because Uğurlu site in each phase as the case study of this dissertation will be represented in the context of time – space. Afterwards, a kind of chronology will be built for spatial contexts, especially pits in the light of the process of synthesizing as the second stage. Analyses and their outputs developed in the direction of approaches and methods will be established one by one in the last stage of this chapter.

Outputs of analyses presented in the Chapter 3 will be evaluated in the Chapter 4. For this, finds of analyses will be discussed on theoretical basis established in Chapter 2. Some deductions and critical answers about pits and practice of pit – use will be obtained as a result of this process.

The historical development of this thesis will generally be summarized in the Chapter 5. The state realized during the general overview of Uğurlu excavation and then supported by literature review became the research subject of this study. Later, methods and analyses developed for this data will be reminded with its main lines. The final picture about practice of pit – use at Uğurlu settlement will be summed up with the deductions of these analyses.

CHAPTER 2

PITS IN PREHISTORY

2.1 Previous Approaches to Pits in Archaeological Approaches

From the early part of twentieth century until the early part of the twenty – first century, numerous research has been made on the understanding of the functions of pits in the social and economic contexts. In consequence of these studies, kinds of arguments concerning the uses of these pits have been suggested, such as food storage, trash, dwelling, fire place, cooking area, burial place and ritual area. It can be said that the subjects of how these different approaches to pit – issue were shaped complies with the process of the intellectual development in the field of archaeology. Especially, the perception of Neolithic transition has been mainly shaped by the culture historical and the processual approaches which have the tendency of grounding their interpretations only on a survival/economic basis. In other words, Neolithic life has been understood as limited to mainly three concepts: sedentary life and intensive agricultural activities and consequently, surplus. From this point of view the Neolithic communities were in the need of organizing / creating spaces in accordance with the requirements of intensive production such as depos for storing, trash for residues of the intensive production and consumption, firing places for cooking or baking pottery (Childe, 1935, 1936, 1942, 1950, 1951; Vanderwalker, 2006; Atakuman, 2015a). Thus, these functionalist arguments on pits are adopted by a great number of researchers.

One of the earliest arguments on pits and their functions belongs to Pitt Rivers, who has specified reflecting the school of thought of his time that some pits from the Iron Age in Britain, may have been used for grain storage (Rivers, 1898; Bowden, 1991; Garrow, 2006). In the first decade of the twentieth century, most of interpretations and

arguments concerning about pits and their roles in the life of community were shaped according to Rivers. Followed by Wyman Abbot examined a certain number of pits in Peterborough, the greater pits as dwellings and the smaller ones as storage were interpreted (Abbot, 1910, p.334; Garrow, 2006, p.4). Abbot, in the same period, identified pits as closed findings because of their form as sealed assemblages (Thomas, 2012, p.1). During the following twenty years, some researchers continued to adopt the similar approach which means that pits meet the needs of sheltering, storing food and depositing the rubbish of the society.

In the 1960s, Clark and friends, shared a similar pit perspective of the first decade of twentieth century. They had excavated 200 small pits in small clusters at Hurst Fen in Suffolk, which was a significant Neolithic settlement site containing huts or houses considered in relation to the large numbers of pottery and flint founding (*Clark et al.*, 1960, p.205, 207; Garrow, 2006, p.5; Edwards, 2009, p.63). the fact that there was no other construction apart from 200 pits and a possible later period ditch was not regarded as a strange situation because this was accepted as a consequence of nomadic life. Followed by the examinations, it was identified that the site was just composed of pits. Researchers, hence, began to ponder on the aim of pit – digging. Then, after the pits in Hurst Fen were analyzed and compared with the similar basket-lined pits in Egypt, items of Hurst Fen were interpreted as storage pits (*Clark et al.*, 1960, p.211; Garrow, 2006, p.5). Moreover, some critical evidences such as carbonized hazelnuts and sherds with grain impressions strengthened the argument that pits were used mainly as food storage (*Clark et al.*, 1960, p.213; Edwards, 2009, p.63).

Christopher Houlder, studied at a Neolithic settlement on Hazard Hill in Devon, also made contribution to the understanding of pit as storage by adding cooking holes into his area of research (1963; Garrow, 2006, p.5). In 1964, a paper written by Field *et al*. is regarded as significant for the topic of pits (Thomas, 2012, p.1). The geographical distributions of pits were related to the agrarian economy of the lowland in England along with grain storage facilities. Consequently, Field *et al.* made the assumption that if there were pits in the site, these pits would have been used as storage which is the

indicator of an arable economy. On the other hand, the economy of the society was based on animal husbandry or pastoralism (Field et. al., 1964, p.372–373; Brophy and Noble, 2012, p.64; Thomas, 2012, p.1). Pits were inherently seen as being part of the domestic activity instead of a ritual (Field *et. al.*, 1964, p.369; Garrow, 2006, p.5).

These pit studies in England fell short in terms of their methodologies. In this sense, post – processual and contextual perspectives displayed in the 1980s have begun to affect the perceptions about pits. However, before 1980s, there were very few interpretations about pits stating that they may also be a part of a ritualistic activity. In one of these investigations dated 1970s, Case, who excavated a site including lots of intercutting pits consisting of piles of potsherds, fragments of burnt animal bones and flint flakes, brought forward the idea that this material had been extracted from rubbish dumps in desolate settlements (Case, 1973, p.188; Thomas, 2012, p.1). According to this idea, such material, had also been preserved because it represented fertility. In this regard, sherds and flints in the pits were interpreted as indicator of growing soil crops. Case, thus, considered that this material would have been deliberately chosen and placed inside pits for sympathetic magic (Bradley, 1982; 1984, p.51; Thomas, 2012, p.1-2).

In the 1980s, shortcomings the culture historical and processual archaeology came to the fore because of the gaps that remained unexplained. Central criticisms are:

> Uncritical acceptance of positivism, stress on functionalism and environmental adaptation, behaviorist emphasis on biological directives, underestimation for emphasis on social relations or cognition or ideology, lack of concern for the present social production of knowledge, overemphasis on stability rather than conflict, reduction of social change to effects of external factors (Miller & Tilley, 1984; quoted in Shackel & Little, 1992, p.5).

Many archaeologists supporting criticisms above suggested that the dominant functionalist approach made archaeology dehumanized (Leone, 1986). Human life, at

this point, began to be seen from a combination of functionalist and symbolic sides (Conkey & Spector, 1984; Shackel & Little, 1992, p.5). Beyond this perception, it has been suggested that the daily practices are mostly shaped by the symbolic orders and norms (Hodder, 1982b; Moore, 1981). Also, it was considered that especially contextual distributions of material inventory of the settlements themselves might be meaningful acts (Hodder, 1991, 1995). Thus, ideology and social dynamics could be read in the material culture (Hodder, 1982a). Rituals symbolizing communication and regulating social dynamics were placed on the basis of this perspective. Thus, in the second group, the activity of pit – digging was interpreted as a ritualistic social event. Also, the pit – digging has been suggested as a part of commemorative social activities.

At the beginning of the 1980s, Ian Hodder and Henrietta Moore, having important ethnoarchaeological fieldworks, brought a new perspective which argues that ideology and social dynamics could be realized in the material culture (Garrow, 2006, p.5; Moore, 1982; Hodder, 1982a). They criticized the effects of beliefs of community on the way of disposing rubbish, causing the archaeological deposits (Hodder, 1982b; Moore, 1981). In other words, how the beliefs shaped the routes in which people created structured material patterning was wondered. Therefore, these studies indicated that the routine practices like rubbish disposal were influenced by the symbolic orders and specific norms of the society (Garrow, 2012, p. 109, 134, 135). Likewise, based on the material record connected to the past in Shanks and Tilley's article dated 1982 deposition activities with a material pattern was studied and as a result of the contextual analyses, social attitudes, rituals, ideological manners and conceptual changes of the communities could be understood from the relations between objects and contexts and their changes throughout time (Hodder, 1982b; Moore, 1982; Shanks and Tilley, 1982).

Following to archaeologists realized that some specific objects were deposited in reference to patterns having higher structure, the relation between 'ritual practice' and the deposition of material culture was studied. Soon after, in 1984, Colin Richards and Julian Thomas firstly denominated the activity of deliberatively selectioning and

accumulating as ‘structured deposition’ in their article and then mentioned ritual activity and structured deposition in Later Neolithic Wessex (Chapman, 2000, p.62; Garrow, 2012, p.86). Since this study consisting of the analysis of depositional patterning having a systematic approach to the notion of ritual enables to the analyzing of symbolism and structure as contained in material culture and deposition, it can be seen as a milestone for the literature of archaeology (Richards & Thomas, 1984, p.190-191; Garrow, 2006, p.6).

Until 1980s, it was accepted that monumental structures were especially built for ceremonial purposes. Trash and ‘post-built’ structures known as domestic contexts, however, were not taken into this frame (Richards & Thomas, 1984, p.189; Garrow, 2012, p.86). Later, Richards and Thomas redefined the notion of ‘ritual’. In their paper, ritual activities were defined as “highly formalized, repetitive behavior” that generates a high level of structure recognized as the main theme of ‘structured deposition’ (Garrow, 2012, p.87). Based on this, they suggested that this concept could be applied on other types of deposits. Thomas states that this conceptualization was later applied on pits of Neolithic depositional contexts (2012, p.1; Richards & Thomas, 1984, p.215). Chapman mentions that because a high degree of structure could be related with both ritual activity being formalized and repetitive behaviour and domestic activity, after Richards’ and Thomas’ work, archaeologists have tried to separate ritual practice from secular one by specifying criteria (2000, p.62; Renfrew, 1985; Barrett, 1991; Cunliffe, 1992; Willis, 1997; Clarke, 1997). Besides to this effect, Richards and Thomas have demonstrated that “… ritual is not beyond the realm of archaeological inference” (Richards & Thomas, 1984, p.215; Garrow, 2012, p.90). Following the notion of ‘structured deposition’ was manifested, it was accepted as an essential social practice by the archaeologists who support the later perspective.

In her article *The Later Neolithic in Eastern England*, Rosamund Cleal deduced that ‘structured deposition’ was not only represented in the contexts of influential monuments but also in modest ones, such as ‘domestic context’ because flint artifacts

intensively found in pits may have been chosen deliberatively (1984, p.54; Garrow, 2006, p.6).

During 1980s interpretations of Neolithic pits continued in dichotomy: the pits should have been functioned as either rubbish and storage or structured deposition & ritual. Following the discovery of numerous pits within various contexts during the 1980s and 1990s, this sharp contrast between the mundane and ritual function of the pits slowly began to disappear. Probably, at the end of the 1990s, following to the notion of 'the ritualisation of the everyday' was coined, 'structured deposition' and 'rubbish disposal' might have been accepted as same phenomenon (Bradley, 2005; Brück, 1999, 2008; Brophy & Noble, 2012, p.65).

Georgieva, also studying on the 'pit complexes' a part of Thracian culture, put forward some arguments to confute the interpretations of 'rubbish pit' or 'grain storage pit' in 1991 (p.1; Hawthorne, 2009, p.49; Nekhrizov & Tzvetkova, 2012, p.177). In Georgieva's work, some anthropomorphic figurines made of fine clay with 'schematic' body parts were found in pits (2001; Nekhrizov & Tzvetkova, 2012, p.185). Moreover, along with bones of domesticated and wild animals which were frequently found, whole or partial skeletons belong to victimised dogs part of the ritual practices were rarely encountered in the pit contexts (Georgieva, 1999, p.194, 201-205; Nekhrizov & Tzvetkova, 2012, p.182). Georgieva, therefore, stated that Thracian pits and pit fields should be considered as special sanctuaries in which rituals were related with fertility and the 'cult of the dead' (1991, p.8-9; Nekhrizov & Tzvetkova, 2012, p.193-194).

Many of the most important studies and numerous articles of 1990s belong to Julian Thomas, author of '*Rethinking the Neolithic'* (1991), *'Time, Culture and Identity'* (1996), '*Understanding the Neolithic'* (1999). The idea of '*deposition as a cultural practice in itself'* became the center of his research in 1991. The practice of depositing something under the ground was put in the centre for 'being Neolithic' (Garrow, 2015,

733). In his case, Thomas indicated that Neolithic pits were not applicable for comparing with Iron Age pits in terms of storing grains.

By focusing on deposited artifacts which contain human bones, whole polished axes and chalk plaques, he, in contrast to storage facilities or daily house waste, accepted that Neolithic pits were dug "specifically for the burial of particular materials, and backfilled immediately afterwards" (1991, p.60, 75). In his work, in 1996, Thomas pointed out a critical issue. Accordingly, the pit - digging and deposition of items would have affected on the relationships between people and place (p.116; Garrow, 2015, p.732). As a consequence of the state of things, he deduced that "the physical alteration of the earth would have had on people's perception of place" (quoted in Garrow, 2006, p. 7). Thomas ably struggled against the preconceived opinions grain storage and rubbish for pits. In the book '*Understanding the Neolithic',* it is demonstrated that shallow and bowl-shaped pits were not proper for storage due to the high-mobility life model and using of wild resources (Thomas, 1999, p.29; Brophy & Noble, 2012, p.64-65; Edwards, 2009, p.320).

To refute the ideas on pits being rubbish depos, moreover, Thomas indicated that some certain sherds intentionally were put upright position inside a pit which is an indicator of the structured deposition. And again, the deliberate deposition and selection of specific parts of potteries would have had a role for commemoration which are related with a symbolical social event, such as the feast (1999, p.70; Edwards, 2009, p.75-76). Another fundamental argument of Thomas is that a certain place would have gained a meaning through the practice of pit – digging. In other words, a physical and metaphorical bond between people and place would have established. It is also noted that "both the physical presence of pits in the short term, and the memory of their digging and filling in the longer term, would have served to remind people of their ties to a place, of its history" (2006, p.7; Thomas, 2000, p.79). Depositional practices also had performative and improvizational structure with its local dynamics because it cannot be considered as a "universal set of rules" determining the relationships between people, place and material (Pollard, 2001, p.316; Thomas, 1999, p.78-79).

In his thesis, Joshua Pollard followed the way of Thomas and highlighted two key points which are 'intentional selection' relating with the deposition of 'unusual items' and 'spatial and associational patterning in the past deposition' (1993; Garrow, 2006, p.6). In Pollard's study dated 1995, depositions were associated to symbolic remembrance. During the ritual practices, 'a variety of connotations and symbolic references' were come together in the special place. The process of deposition itself might be a part of the ceremony that had been witnessed by the members of the community (p.137; Pollard, 2001; p.325; Garrow, 2012, p.97-98; Thomas, 2012, p.7). In 2001, Pollard mentioned about a relation between pits and memory as "part of the significance of the sporadic burial of settlement residues would have lain in engendering memory" (p.323; Thomas, 2012, p.7). From similar perspective, Pollard (1999) pointed out that the aim of the practice of pit – deposition may have been an act of deprecation toward the disappearance of social order which isfollowed leaving settlement (p.89; Garrow, 2006, p.7). In the context of 'spatial and associational patterning in the past deposition', Pollard indicated that 'particular dispositions, the use of left and right hands, and the laying out of objects in relation to the sides and back/front of the body, could have served to reproduce classificatory principles of purity, gender symbolism and so forth' (2001, p.325; Garrow, 2012, p.101). Similar to Thomas, he, also, explored that depositional practices had performative and improvizational nature (Garrow, 2006, p.8).

In his work (1995), J. D. Hill discussed about the definition of 'structured deposition' together with the concepts of 'symbolic', 'unusual', 'non-domestic', 'intentional' and 'ceremonial'. He noted that all deposits having associations are structured due to the fact that all activities are structured, and meaning are produced symbolically by people (Hill, 1995, p. 95-96; Crease, 2015, p. 25). Therefore, according to Hill, a link between 'structured deposition' and 'ritual practice' is not possible to establish (1995, p. 96; Edwards, 2009, p. 81). He also stated that one single definition cannot be created for 'domestic' or 'rubbish' (1995, p. 44). At the end of the 1990s, authors started to mention the concepts of deposition, pits and settlement together in their studies such as Edmonds, who coined a 'crop-related metaphor'. Accordingly, pit practices namely,

digging and filling, appear to be similar to 'the planting of crops' which refers to 'hope of renewal and regeneration' metaphorically (1999, p. 29; Garrow, 2006, p. 7).

Richard Bradley emphasized the importance of structured deposition as he thought the material culture in the deposit should have a social meaning apart from having just functional purposes (Bradley, 2005, p.194; Edwards, 2009, p.108). He has noted that the deposition with the context can be understood as a key which can help to interpret the distinction between the *deposition for storage facilities* and the *deposition for ritual practice* (Crease, 2015, p.29). However, this separation between ritual and domestic is a hard work (Bradley, 2005; Edwards, 2009, p.111). When this issue is considered specific to pits, Bradley explained that pits cannot be seen as an indicator of the subsistence economy whereas storages for grain were needed (Edwards, 2009, p.65).

In his works on the date of 2000, John Chapman questioned reasons of breakage, broken objects and the place preferences for deposition and metaphorical relations between people and the objects. He, thus, developed concepts of 'fragmentation', 'accumulation' and 'enchainment' through his studies on Balkan settlements during the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods. He thought that the process of 'fragmentation' causes the process of 'accumulation' and the 'associations' while creating 'enchained relationships' (2000; Garrow, 2006, p.8; Jervis, 2014, p.9). In other words, this is a social process as there is a strong relation between act of fragmentation or intentional breakage and links between people, structured deposition and artifact (Edwards, 2009, p.105). He has powerfully challenged the perception of rubbish for pits. According to Chapman, because the meaning of 'rubbish' in 20th century may not be compatible with its meaning in prehistoric practices, this case leads to conceptual confusion in the archaeology literature (2000, p.61). He suggested that deposition practice in pits would be more structured than random discard 'rubbish' (Chapman, 2000, p.61). Moreover, he suggested that the act of pit – digging connects the present activity with past of ancestors. Based on this, Chapman stated that digging of pit may be understood as a kind of 'exchange with ancestors' which refer to *the new ones for old* (2000, p.64).

Duncan Garrow working on pits at Kilverstone suggested that depositing specific objects in certain locations may have been part of essential social practices (2012, p.92). He, however, mentioned that 'structured deposition' used proteanly is not directly related to symbolic meanings. Also, a certain differentiation was drawn between 'odd deposits' and 'material culture patterning' (Thomas, 2012, p.124). Indeed, these two notions are in the two ends of a continuum. 'Material culture patterning does not even have to come about (unintentionally) because of underlying symbolic schemes. It can just happen' (Garrow, 2012, p.109). Garrow, despite this, pointed out that 'odd deposits' consciously reflected symbolic values in a certain place (2012, p.94). Garrow, moreover, stated that 'the artifacts show extensive signs of weathering and burning, and there appears to have been a significant interval between the accumulation of the cultural material in a 'pre-pit context' of some kind and its final deposition' (2007, 12; Thomas, 2012, p.4). Also, it was emphasized that 'pre-depositional processes' occurring around pits have important role for understanding of deposition (Garrow, 2012, p.134). However, in opposition to Garrow's distinction, Thomas suggested that people had being lived in 'the grey area' between two ends of spirituality and mundanity as parts of a single phenomenon because 'everyday activities' materialize and reproduce 'symbolic meaning', like parts of the same 'recursive cycle of meaning/practice' (2012, p.107, 126).

In addition to these studies which mostly belong to British archaeological school of thought, it would be appropriate to mention several other pit studies from different sites contemporary with of Uğurlu such as Greece, Balkans, and especially Bulgaria.

Neolithic flat settlement of Makriyalos is situated on gentle slope of hill in the coastal lowlands of Pieria in Macedonia, northern Greece. The size of the research area reached up to about 50 hectares with the excavations performed by Greek Archaeological Service between 1993 – 1998 (Pappa et al., 2004, p. 17; Pappa and Veropoulidou, 2011, p. 105). Two separate phases dated to Late Neolithic period were uncovered in the excavation (Fig. 3). The earliest phase, Makriyalos I, dates to the early Late Neolithic, 5500 / 5400 – 5000 BC while the second phase, Makriyalos II,

dates to the later Late Neolithic, 4900 – 4600 / 4500 BC BC (Pappa et al., 2013, p. 77 – 78). Authors defined MKI as a system of ditches, borrow pits and natural boundaries because they were dominant during this earliest phase (Pappa and Veropoulidou, 2011, p. 105). Ditches consisting of Ditch Alpha and Ditch Beta encircled an area of 28 ha occupied by pits termed as pit – dwellings or habitation pits (Pappa et al., 2013, p. 77). Borrow pits as another construction item measured about 30 m in diameter were revealed by excavations (Tsoraki, 2007, p. 290; Pappa et al., 2004). It is highlighted that a great part of the total amount of archaeological assemblages during phase of MKI were found in these pits (Pappa and Veropoulidou, 2011, p. 105).

Pit 212, one of the borrow pits at Makriyalos, is located in the middle of the area which is surrounded by Ditch Alpha probably constructed contemporarily with this pit (Pappa et al., 2004, p. 18; Pappa and Besios, 1999, p. 181). Dimensions of pit are 30 m in the direction of North – South and 15 m in the direction of East – West. The depth is between 1.2 – 1.4 m in the middle of pit. Some smaller cutting pits were also observed in the bottom (Pappa et al., 2004, p. 19). Pit 212 composed of three main layers was dated to the early Late Neolithic by ceramic assemblage (ibid., p. 20). According to the studies on material inventory involving a great number of pottery, animal bones, seashells and stone tools in the context of Pit 212, ceramics consisting of large storage vessels, small cups and bowls that are used for cooking, storing, presenting and consuming inside of pit are in good state. Burnt clay fragments of probably ovens or hearths were found in the base filling of the pit. Also, a huge amount of animal bones (738 animals according to MNI analysis) was uncovered in Pit 212.
Studies on surfaces of animal bones showed the presence of a mechanical damage whereas there is no trace of weathering (ibid., p. 21, 24, 33). On the other hand, researchers mentioned that most of finished shell products were obtained in Pit 212 in the phase of MKI whereas a high number of partly worked and unworked material was revealed in another borrow pit, Pit 214 (Pappa and Veropoulidou, 2011, p. 114).

As results of all these studies, authors suggest that kinds of objects were deposited in pit within a period of several months or a few years (ibid., p. 21 – 22). This large –

scale feasting periods with large number of ground stone objects and high standard and various vessels used for cooking, serving and consuming possibly represents an activity creating and maintaining collective identity in the communal and inter-communal level (Tsoraki, 2007, p. 290; Pappa et al., 2004). On the other hand, highly individualized small cups were interpreted as there was an "intra-communal competition" (Pappa et al., 2013, p. 84).

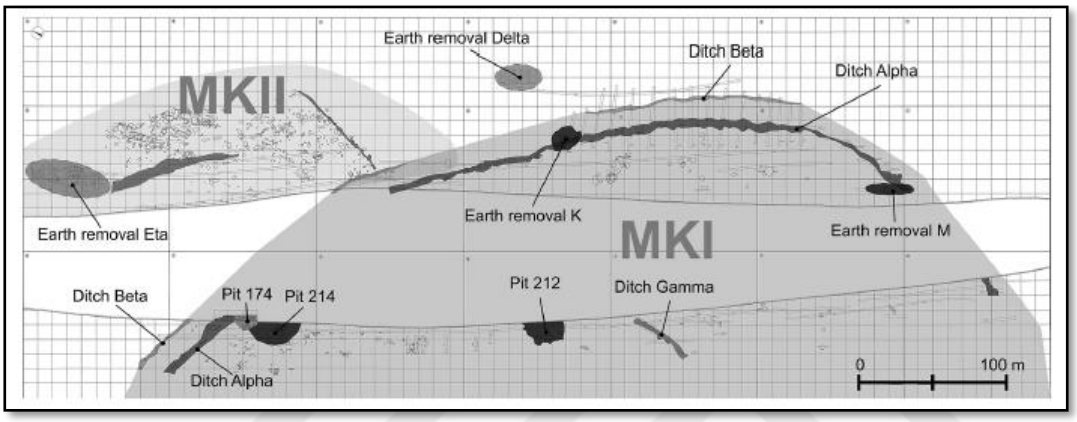


Figure 3. Site of Neolithic Makriyalos (After Pappa et al., 2013: Fig. 1)

The settlement of Kremasti is situated 15 km northeast of the town of Kozani, in northern Greece (Hondroyianni-Metoki, 2010, p. 60 – 61). At the end of the examinations, a great number of archaeological finds including ditches, pits, cremation burials and a large amount of small finds potteries, figurines, stone tools, faunal remains, and human bones dated to the Late Neolithic period, *c.* 5340 – 4900 / 4800 BC (Fig. 4, ibid., p. 148). 462 pits were unearthed in the site of Kremasti. The pits having circular, elliptical, or irregular plans are in between 0.30 – 4.25 m in diameter and in between 0.10 and 2.90 m deep. From their dimensions it is interpreted as that there is a gradual decline in depth and a conforming increase in the area of pits from earlier periods to later ones (Hondroyianni-Metoki 2010, p. 156 – 166).

In terms of construction characteristics of pits, their shapes are understood from the profile view. The major forms are bell – shaped or honeycomb, hemispherical, oval, cylindrical, conical and convexo – plane. And, bell – shaped and hemispherical shapes

were mostly encountered. Bell – shaped and oval pits are the deepest whereas hemispherical pits cover the largest area (ibid., p. 166 – 188). It was observed that first forms of the majority of pits changed at Kremasti. This modification might be intentionally performed by re-dug or by disturbing of later pit. Hence, the case of re-dig and re-use earlier pits asserts the continuity of the space usage. Also, analysis of pit bottoms in terms of form and composition shows that flat bottoms are common for all phases (ibid.). Moreover, no evidence for plastering inside of pits has been interpreted that these pits are not suitable for storage (Stroulia and Chondrou, 2013, p. 111).

Studies on stratigraphy inside pits indicate that the episodes of use show differences for pits. Pits for single use, pits for two uses and pits for many uses have been determined in the site. Majority of them are pits for single use. More than 65 % of these pits were not sealed. Pits having two or more use were distributed in each layer. These pits were sealed with a different backfill after each use (Hondroyianni-Metoki 2010, p. 188 – 213). Most artifacts of Kremasti has been obtained from the pits (Stroulia and Chondrou, 2013, p. 109). The head of excavation does not see the pits as refuse because an intentional and patterned activity can be seen clearly as evidence of structured deposition (ibid., p. 112). This case was supported by analyzing ground stones. Analysis shows that fragments of tools deliberately broken were found in different pits. The spatial distribution analyses of these fragments indicate that this activity is not most probably random or accidental (Stroulia and Chondrou, 2013, p. 124)

Remains of fired clay coming from the superstructures and floors of constructions are not usually found inside pits (Hondroyianni-Metoki 2010, p. 213 – 244). Ceramics are the greatest artifact group among the assemblage. Hondroyianni-Metoki states that content or use episode of each pit was constructed with a different event in a different period. Also, due to the lack of ceramics found outside of pits, this case is interpreted that ceramics were made and then transferred from another location of the site (ibid.). Zooarchaeological remains represent the other largest group of the assemblage while

the archaeobotanical remains are rarely encountered (ibid.). Stroulia and Chondrou mentioned that all cremation burials of Kremasti are secondary burials. Followed by the individual was burnt in somewhere out of the settlement, burial was then brought to its final location (2013, p. 113; Hondroyianni-Metoki, 2010, p. 306 - 316, 627-630). One of the interpretations about possible ideology of the Neolithic Kremasti is that the concepts of fertility with the dead were connected. This case leads to attempts of saving food. According to another assumption, the use of the phial in the open form in cremation burials may suggest a kind of change in burial practices together with the objects that had symbolic meanings. These objects can be understood as a symbol of rebirth (Hondroyianni-Metoki, 2010).

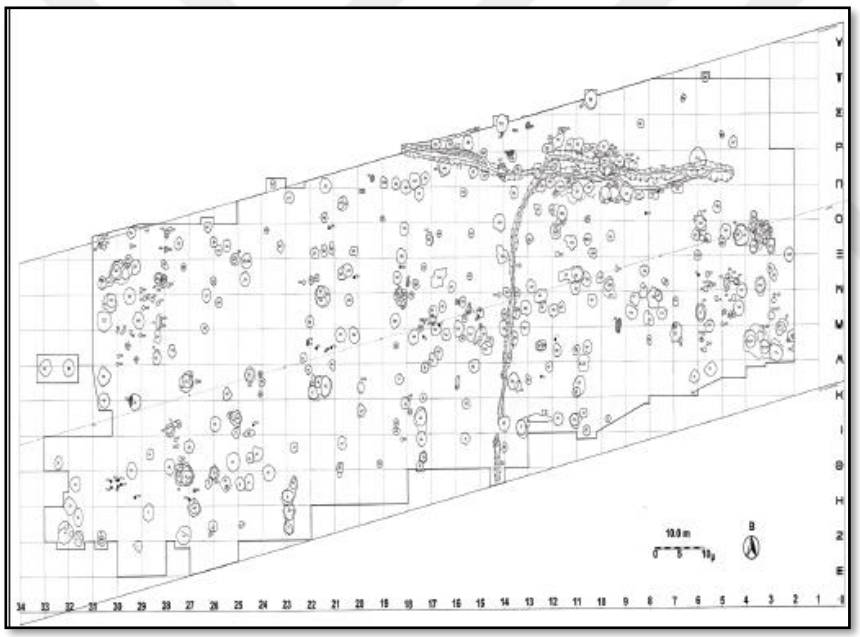


Figure 4. The excavated area at Kremasti (After Stroulia & Chondrou, 2013: Fig.2)

Kapitan Dimitrievo, known as Banyata tell in the literature, is situated 1,5 km west of village of Kapitan Dimitrievo. The site in 13 m height and 140 m diameter is located on a terrace on the east slope of the low natural hill (Nikolov, 2000, p. 51). Nikolov excavated a big burnt building dated to the transition from the end of the 7th to the beginning of the 6th millennium BC (Fig. 5). The building which has a floor made of pebbles and clay was built in rectangular shape with three rooms. A large pit was found

and located between the two pillars supporting the roof. Fragments of bins and plaster from the walls were found in the pit.

According to the examinations, this pit was contemporarily constructed with the floor of the building (Nikolov, 2006, p. VIII). This central pit was formed from oval to trapezoid in three steps during three sub – phases of Early Neolithic period. In the first step, pit was oval with narrow side to the east while the context was shaped up to north – northwestward with different depths in the second step. In the third step, the area moved to the direction of west – southwest. Also, the flat bottom of pit was plastered with greenish clay having waterproof feature. Then, this plaster on the floor was covered with white plaster whereas walls of pit were not plastered (ibid., p. IX). Nikolov points out that these three pits had specific functions because they have been constructed in relation to some architectural structures. Also, these pits have been related with the idea of Mother Goddess because the locations of pits could have reminded the shape of Mother Goddess womb. Moreover, the case there is no any artifact in these "house ritual pits" has been interpreted that pits were probably cleaned regularly for the next time (ibid., p. IX – X).

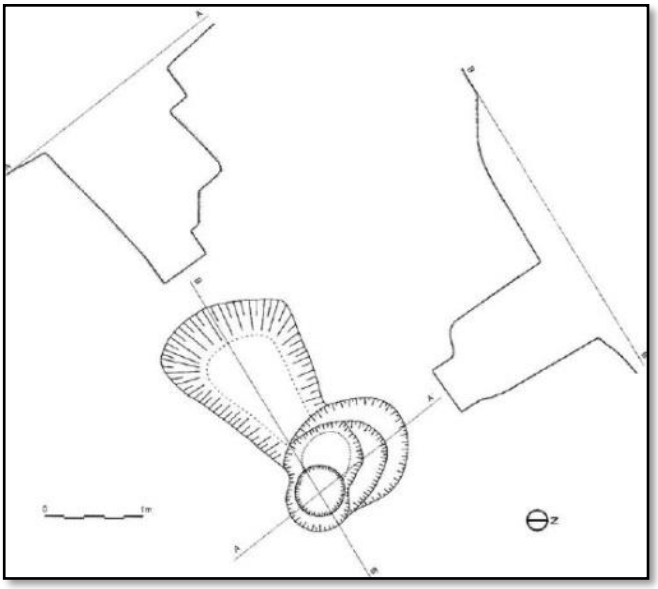


Figure 5. Ritual pit from the Early Neolithic house, Kapitan Dimitrievo (Nikolov, 2006: Fig. 5)

Kapitan Andreevo located on the border between Turkey and Bulgaria is in Svilengrad region. Excavations revealed a large area about 600 m in diameter and were limited by two parallel ditches 10 – 12 m dated to the last stage of the Late Neolithic, Karanovo IV. This big site was considered as a ritual center or sanctuary rather than a settlement. This sacred area was used from 5200 BC to 4850 BC. Remains of ritualistic activities which were performed next to the sanctuary construction were deposited in deep or shallow pits whose number is probably more than 260 (Nikolov, 2015, p. 21 – 22).

Some of these pits were filled with burnt rubble of constructions with fragmented anthropomorphic vessels and other artifacts. Pottery sherds, broken anthropomorphic figurines, vessels along with Spondylus pendants and kinds of tools made of stone, bone and flint were found in pits. Fragments of ground stone were always found in pits when upper grinding stones were sometimes revealed in these pits (ibid., p. 21).

Nikolov mentions that anthropomorphic type of vessels newly unearthed at Kapitan Andreevo are one of the most impressive finds. Also, most of pits contained these special vessels. These anthropomorphic vessels have a biconical body and a stylized anthropomorphic head. In addition, incised decoration was applied on both the head and the upper half of its body. These vessels are measured usually shorter 70 cm in height (ibid., p. 21 – 22). A zoomorphic vessel one of the most interesting artifacts in the site was found with an anthropomorphic figurine. In addition, the skeleton of a 3 or 4-year-old child in the hocker position was revealed in one pit. Also, archaeobotanical remains like wild cherry, plums, raspberry / blackberry and grape have been found in two pits (ibid.).

In addition to these sites, several pit sites called as 'pit sanctuary' dated between 5500 and 5000 BC have been revealed in Bulgaria (Nikolov, 2011). Lyubimets – Dana Bunar 2, Sarnevo, Devetak and Ohoden are some of these special places in which pit practice is observed during the Late Neolithic. Pit area at Lyubimets – Dana bunar 2 is dated 5400-5000 BC. A central pit is situated in the central of the site. This plastered pit was filled with soil mixed with charcoal and ash, pot sherds and animal bones. Also, a great

number of flint, 'cult-table', awls and pieces of grinding stones were also revealed. Likewisely, similar objects with anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figurines and broken pots were also found in other pits. It is claimed that the pit had a central role for rituals with fire and votive food in the 'cult of the Mother-Goddess' (Nikolov, 2011, p. 92-94). More than 70 pits dated 5400-5200 BC were unearthed at Sarnevo. Numerous fragmented grinding stones, animal bones and potteries were found in small and large pits (ibid., p. 94-95). A number of pits in the cylindrical form dated 5200-5000 BC were discovered at Devetak. Soil which was mixed with a great amount of pot sherds, broken burnt daub, charcoal, animal bones and awls were found within the fill inside pits (ibid., p.96).

Another site having several pits is Ohoden. It is mentioned that there was no settlement in this area. Because pits were just discovered, it is thought that this area was used for ritual practices at Ohoden during the Early Neolithic. There are large number of fragments of vessels, burnt daub, animal bones from sheep, goat, cattle, pig and wild boar, charcoal, flint artifacts, awls as well as legs of figurines and 'cult-tables' in pits. Moreover, some post-holes which were used as roof supports were founed in the pit area. Graves in small numbers were also revealed in this site. The form of pit area was looked like the female genital tract. In this direction, the pit ritual and this area were interpretaed as Mother-Goddess' womb and fertility (ibid., p. 97-102).

In the beginning of the 1990s, in order to understand the relationships *between* 'built environment' which can be both a kind of reflection of social action and symbolic signification of social practices negotiations and authority structures involving and canalizing practices of material cultural *and* notions of gender, culture, space and place, Tringham has adopted approaches of feminist and post-processualist archaeology and used on archaeological records at Opovo. Refuses of feasting activity were deposited in 'special' pits (Tringham, 2000, p.343). Opovo is situated on a small hill in the lower valley of the Timis River in Serbia. This Late Neolithic settlement was occupied between 4700 - 4500 BC belonging to the Vinča - Pločnik culture (Tringham et al., 1992, p. 351). Stylistic features and production technologies of artifacts are mostly

similar with Vinča culture in the middle Danube basin. Nevertheless, a critical difference is observed in terms of lithic raw material and subsistence strategy. Authors mention that all stone tools at Opovo could have been transported from a distance to the site in finished or semi-finished form. Subsistence strategy at Opovo was based on wild resources. According to these arguments, Opovo could have been either a permanent or a short-term seasonal site or a combination of hunting and gathering as subsistence strategy (Tringham et al., 1992, p. 352 – 353).

Some pits were sealed by unfired clay. Layers consisting of ash, pottery sherds, bones along with carbonized organic materials were revealed. Majority of pits were filled with burned clay rubble from buildings (Tringham, 1992, p. 365). Also, lots of chipped stone artifacts and fragments of ground stones were obtained from pits (ibid., p. 377). The disposal of debris from burned architectural structures in garbage pits can be more meaningful than the 'rational' function of getting rid of unwanted mess or of filling-in pits. Studies on pits at Opovo demonstrated that the refuse of feasting was deposited in special pits while ash was separated from other kitchen refuse. The disposal of debris from burned architectural structures were immediately deposited in garbage pits (Tringham, 2000, p. 343 – 344). Tringham mentions that there is a correspondent relation between burning of houses and placing of a new house within the scope of social action. The rubble deposit in garbage pits may be related with the part of the 'burial rites' of the dead house to supply the continuity of the place (2000, p. 346; Tringham *et al.,* 1992, p.382; Guzman, 2004, p.75-76).

When coming to the context of Anatolia and Near East from Balkans and Greece, it seems that the pit practice needs to be examined in a broader context because pit – digging is closely related to the “skull cult” as a ritual practice routinely observed in Mesopotamia during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic, especially in MPPNB. The transformation to the sedentary life during the beginning of the Neolithic period caused some critical chages, such as increasing of population and raw material exploitation, spreading of plant and animal domestication, and rising of of the ritual and symbolism. Because all of these increased the complexity between communities, their

environments and materials, new social norms were required to govern the interactions with families, neighborhoods and other surrounding items (Kuijt 2000, 2008).

It can be said that implementing of these norms evokes the ritual. According to Firth's definition, ritual is considered to be "a kind of patterned activity oriented towards the control of human affairs, primarily symbolic in character with a non-empirical referent, and as a rule socially sanctioned" (Firth, 1951; quoted in Verhoeven, 2002, p. 234). In other words, emotional and psychological context is generated with various symbolic actions within the scope of ritual practices. At the same time, they create a mechanism justifying the social orders and rules that are necessary for the coalescence in society (Turner, 1969; Atakuman, 2014).

Especially mortuary practices including removal, manipulation and circulation of human skulls were related to the construction and continuation of social memory, identity and relations (Kuijt, 2000, 2008). Memory is associated with meanings and experiences including the repetitive events, such as reiteration of words, actions and interactions. Because these repetitions make the "event" understandable and meaningful for people, they are the key aspect for the memory (Kuijt, 2008, p. 173). On the other hand, because memory is dynamic, time-sensitive and having multiscalar aspects, meaning and memory can be created at multiple levels including the process of remembering and forgetting (ibid., p. 174). In this context, for 'skull cult' practice, after a pit was firstly dug into the floor inside of the building, dead was buried. This pit may have been filled and then the location of the skull may have been marked for its removal. When the skulls were removed from the bodies, they may have been related to the specific individuals and households. Following to generations with several manipulations of skulls, memories, identities and relations were transformed from experiential, i.e. named persons to abstract, i.e. symbolic collective ones (Fig. 6; ibid., p. 177-178).

Followed by this explanation, Kuijt has added that founding of large agricultural villages may have caused some chages for mortuary practices and household ritual. According to this picture, firstly, the secondary mortuary practices spreaded with the

reuse of skulls. Secondly, the naturalistic plaster skulls, human statues and busts appeared. Small seated figurines made of stone and clay, thirdly, became widespread. There are also examples of small painted heads represented on the ends of animal bones. In addition, he mentioned that the removal of heads of figurines and the secondary removal of human skulls from their bodies may be considered as parts of a common ritual practice (ibid.). In brief, practices within the tradition of 'skull cult' emphasize cycles of the commemoration. Members of the society were cyclically integrated in life and death during this process. Mortuary practices as communal actions served to memorialize the personal identity of dead and also, they were medium for collective memory and reiteration of community membership (Kuijt, 2000, 2008).

At the end of the PPNB, it can be observed that the main idea of “skull cult” was transferred to the monumental buildings in the Central Anatolia. The place-making with shared system of symbols is similar to a 'social contract' constructing the social order and rules governing all reletionships within the society (Rappaport, 1999; Atakuman, 2014). That is, symbolic construction of the place may be considered as a medium to give the meaning in their wolrd.

Çatalhöyük may be the best example to observe this situation. The socioeconomic organization was based on the corporate kingroups at Çatalhöyük during the PPNB. These kin relations may have been continued by repeatedly rebuilding of houses in the same place in which many burials under the floors of buildings occurred (Hodder, 2016). Specific buildings and their locations must have been important for these people (During, 2001). Thus, the connection with the past was highlighted by the way of building continuity.

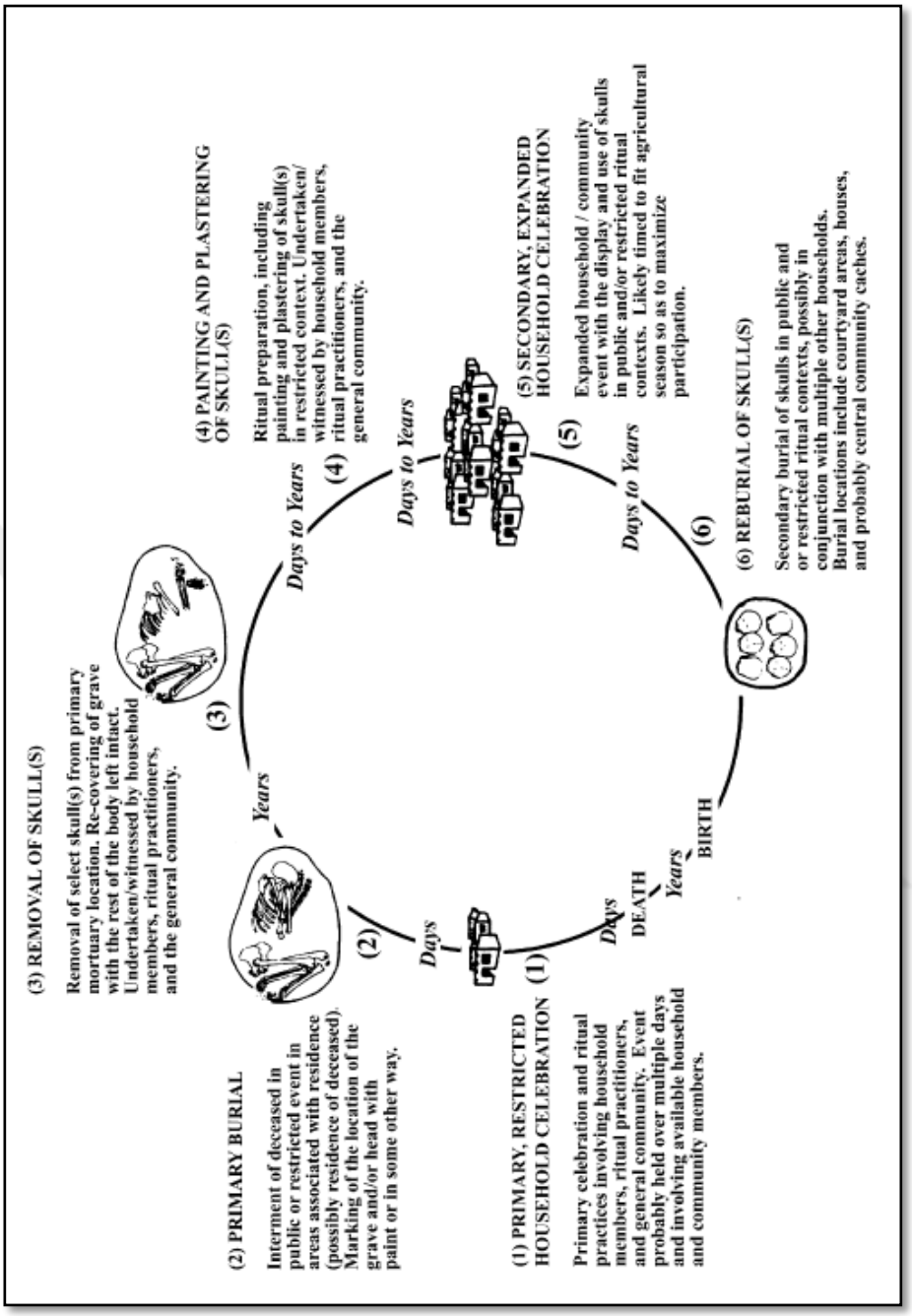


Figure 6. "Ritual actions following a death in the MPPNB" (After Kuijt, 2008: Fig. 2)

Mellaart discovered some buildings containing great quantities of bucrania installations embedding in walls or platforms and elaborate paintings on certain walls. These buildings also contain a higher quantity of human burials. Because he considered that these structures housed some public ritual activities, they were mentioned as "shrines" (Mellaart, 1962).

However, the micromorphological studies on these shrines evaluated once again by Hodder and his team indicated that the various domestic activities, such as food preparation, consumption and tool production were continuously performed in these buildings alongside ritual actions at certain times. It can be said that buildings were used as domestic contexts with varying degrees of symbolism (Matthews, 1996; Hodder & Cessford, 2004). Therefore, it is agreed that the distinction between shrine and house is highly difficult.

Within the scope of searches examining the variation between more and less elaborate buildings, some buildings having much more burials, wall paintings and installations were termed as “Ritually Elaborate Buildings” by Düring (2001). Also, they were investigated with the name of “History Houses” by Hodder and Pels (2010).

It has been confirmed that these "History Houses" or REBs were rebuilt more frequently than less elaborated ones. They also contained more burials (Hodder & Pels, 2010). New buildings were forged the layout of the previous building. That is, locations of walls, the hearth, platforms, burials, floor plasterings and types of plaster used for special areas were repeated throughout the centuries (Hodder & Cessford, 2004). Interestingly, building continuity observed from Level VIII was abandoned in the settlement in Level V. This case has been interpreated that more independent households may have caused this change (Düring, 2001; Hodder, 2006).

According to the general picture of the contunity of architectural and symbolic practices at Çatalhöyük, every rebuilding, every floor or wall plastering are considered as a maintenance of the past in the present (Düring, 2001). Furthermore, the reproduction of elders or lineage heads at Çatalhöyük was linked to construction of physical or bodily routines repeated in dailylife practices during days, months, years and even millennia, rather than impositions of central authorities. It seems that the house was in the central position for the construction of the social memory (Hodder & Cessford, 2004, p.22, 35).

When looked at pit studies in Anatolia, there are limited number of pit studies having durable methodological base absorbing the theories and approaches mentioned above. One of these qualified pit studies in Anatolia belongs to Domuztepe. In contrast to the prevalent estimation, such as rubbish, food storage, cooking item and box in Near Eastern Archaeology, Atakuman and Erdem (2015), who studied on the Late Neolithic contexts at Domuztepe in South East Anatolia, approached to the pits from the social and symbolic perspectives. Domuztepe is on 30 km southeast of Kahramanmaraş at about 20 ha (Fig. 7). Domuztepe, one of the biggest settlements of 6th millennium BC, is a concurrent settlement with the period of pit practice at Uğurlu. The site was discovered during the Kahramanmaraş Survey Project. The major strata of Domuztepe is dated 6100 – 5300 BC (Carter at all., 2003, p 177 – 193; Carter and Campell, 2007, p. 123; Erdem, 2013; Atakuman & Erdem, 2015). The associated architectural features of the Red Terrace, the Ditch, the Death Pit and the Burnt Structure were identified as a ritual complex where pit digging, and artifact disposal activities were encountered.

The Red Terrace is about 100 m in the direction of east – west in the northern part of Operation I (Campbell et all., 2014, p. 38). After the filling consisting of "an almost artifact-free white lime plaster and reddish clay matrix" at the earliest level was formed as terrace, this practice has been maintained repeatedly during 6100 BC to 5500 BC (Erdem, 2013, p. 33 – 36; Campbell et all., 1999, p. 395-418). According to Campbell et al., Red Terrace was used as a border between different activity zones, such as water or feasting activities (2014, p. 38). Other important constructions in Domuztepe are Burnt House Area or Burnt Structure, Ditch and Death Pit. Burnt Structure dated c. 5600 – 5575 cal. BC consists of multiple areas and a courtyard. A large number of small finds consisting of beads, elaborated pot sherds, ceramic discs, pieces of stone vessels and stone axes were found in thie context (Atakuman and Erdem, 2015).
On the other hand, lots of shallow intercutting pits were found in an area surrounded by Red Terrace. This area has been termed as Ditch. Because these pits, unlike Red Terrace, have archaeological finds in large quantity, an intentional depositional practice of refuse including animal bones probably related with the feasting activity has been mentioned by researchers. For Ditch, authors suggest:

> The food preparation and feasting must have been highly structured, made up of ritualized steps that explicitly referenced the many times the same actions had been carried out in the past (Campbell et all., 2014, p. 38 – 44).

The activity of Death Pit consisting of a pit has been taken place in a short time, such as a few months or weeks. The filling of Death Pit including almost 40 disarticulated individuals has several phases. In addition, some stone tools, bone tools, stamp seals made of black colored metaphoric stones, figurine and round pot sherds were found in this context. After the usage of Death Pit was finished at a phase, the surface of the filling was covered with laminar ash. And this were repeated for the end of each phase (Erdem, 2013, p. 40 – 44). Moreover, the certain time period of the year was preferred for this activity based on animal remains (Atakuman and Erdem, 2015; Kansa et all., 2009, p. 159 – 172).

In the light of various analyses of relationships between artifacts and contexts, it is suggested for Domuztepe that Red Terrace and Ditch were places of the public rituals that are highly visible and participated. These rituals are also interpreated as being part of the seasonal regeneration rituals (Atakuman & Erdem, 2015). The ritual activity was made daily item of socioeconomic order by the connection between the cycle of Red Terrace rituals and the construction of settlement. In the same time, these rituals highlighted these places as being important contexts affirming identity and community membership (ibid.).

Figure 7. Pits from the Red Terrace (After Erdem, 2013: Fig.16)

The other pit study in Anatolia is performed in Laodikeia based on a multilayered methodological approach. Laodikeia situated 6 km north of city center of Denizli is located in the middle of a productive plain of Lykos Valley (Oğuzhanoğlu Akay, 2015, p. 21). Followed by several pottery dated the Early Bronze Age was unearthed during the examinations dated to the Roman – Byzantine period, in the direction of soundings, excavations termed as "Laodikeia-Kandilkırı Yerleşmesi ve Mezarlık Alanı" were started in a new trench in 2012 (ibid., p. 22). And then, an area of 680 sq. m was excavated in 2012 – 2014 (ibid., p. 23). Five main layers have been determined. Periods of Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine were found in the first layer. Architectural remains dated to the Early Bronze Age III mainly represent the second layer. Pits are in the lead role in the third layer dated 2400 – 2300 BC. Five rubbish pits and a few remains of the floor were unearthed in the excavations. An area consisting of graves, pits and anthropomorphic vessels were revealed in the fourth layer dated 2750 – 2500 BC at the site. One pit in which there are painted pottery

sherds dated the Early Chalcolithic period was uncovered in the fifth layer (ibid., p. 24 – 25).

The construction techniques of pits in the third layer are completely different from the techniques used in second and fourth layers. After pits were filled in the third layer, the top of pit was covered with a thick clay layer (Fig. 8). Pit is sealed at the end of this process. Two pieces of one spindle whorl were found in two separate pits. Likewise, two pieces of a bowl were thrown in two distinct pits. This case has been interpreted that some pits were dug in the certain area in the same time. Majority of pits has single use episode because of the sealing with clay in particular. Assemblages inside pits indicate that animal bones in high density, carbonized remains, pottery sherds and pieces of adobe were deposited together. In terms of dimensions, diameters range between 1 – 2 m while depths are in between 0.70 – 1.50 m for pits in the third layer (ibid., 32).

12 graves consisting of pithos, soil and stone composite and several pits were revealed in the fourth layer (ibid., p. 33). One pit adjacent to a grave was uncovered in this layer. It is 0.80 m in diameter and 0.80 m in depth. There is a burnt layer in 0.20 m thickness at the bottom of the pit. Above it, a layer of hard and grey clay is encountered. Decorated pots, chipped stone tool and a spindle whorl were revealed in the middle part. The mouth of pit was sealed with clay and lime. The relationship between grave and pit has been interpreted that this pit may have been a gift for the grave (ibid., p. 36). A number of pits were unearthed outside of the graves. Anthropomorphic vessels were found in some pits whereas some pits are almost empty (ibid., p. 38).

When the state in third and fourth layers is considered with all studies, author mentions that the practice of covering with clay for pits may have gone beyond its functionality including keeping clean or protecting the grain. According to several researchers, there is a symbolic relation between burials in pithos, pits, anthropomorphic vessels, clay, femininity, fertility, birth, creation, and death. Thus, these pits may have been related with rebirth or expectation of rebirth. Also, it has been deduced that these pits may

signalize some rituals spread out over a longer period (Oğuzhanoğlu, 2014, p. 430).

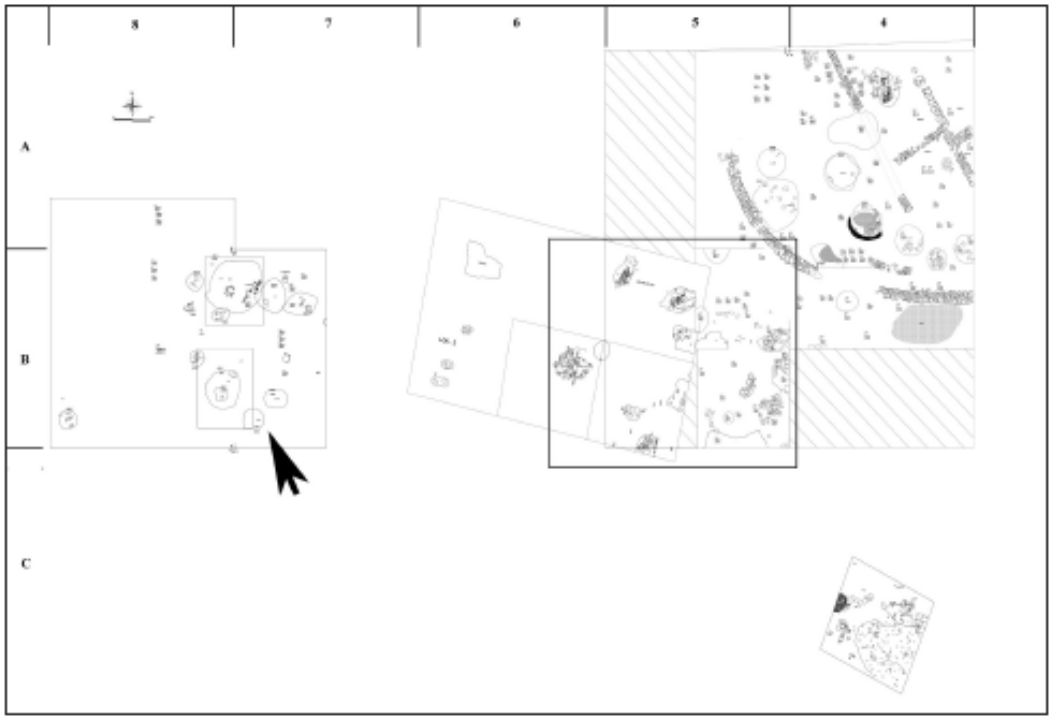


Figure 8. Excavation plan of Laodikeia at the end of 2013. (Pits are signed with arrow mark; after Oğuzhanoğlu, 2015: Res. 1)

In addition to Domuztepe and Laodikeia, other several pit studies in Anatolia have been examined in order to create a suitable methodology for this thesis. For Höyücek, where a pit formation is observed, it can be said that the more specific settlement is different from the normal residences (Duru, 2012, p.8). The researches at the mound demonstrate that the cultural layer above the phase of the Early Settlements Period becomes different in terms of every aspect. This phase was named as Shrine Phase (SP) approximately dated 6445 – 6100 BC (Duru, 2012, p. 8-9; Yakar, 2011 p. 64).

Reports of the excavation presented that there are lots of fixed items inside Building – 4 in the Shrine Phase divided into two main spaces (Duru, 2012, p. 9). Mud boxes used for storage are in the southern part of the building. On the other hand, supplement storage area is in the northern part of the building which was disconnected from the

main section with a wall. A miniature staircase with six steps was situated next to this wall. Lots of animal bones, marble bowls and potteries were unearthed inside the area. During the excavation, lots of flint blades were found inside the pit under the floor behind the staircase (Çilingiroğlu, 2009, p. 296). In addition to thousands of flint blades, fragments of deer antlers were found in this pit (Duru, 1991, p. 156). Duru thinks that when portable and non-portable items in the Building – 4 are taken into account, it can be said that this structure has a strong relationship with ritual practices, so-called Most Sacred Place (Adyton) of the Shrine. A physical connection with the Shrine was also discovered during the excavations (2012, p.10).

Çukuriçi is another site having pit study. Çukuriçi on the center of the Anatolian Aegean Coast is on the Küçük Menderes Plain (Horejs, 2016, p. 143). Following to the site was discovered by archaeologists from Efes Museum in 1995, Barbara Horejs, who is head of Austrian team, systematically maintains excavations since 2007. In terms of geomorphology, the coastal line was closer to the site in ancient times (Çilingiroğlu, 2009, p. 241). Also, the location of the site was important to link Aegean and Anatolian. As a tell, Çukuriçi consists of six different settlement phases involving Pottery Neolithic, Late Chalcolithic and periods of Early Bronze Age (Fig. 9; Horejs, 2016, p. 143 – 144). Çukuriçi during 7th millennium BC has complex networks in both intraregional and interregional levels in terms of technology, style and use of material culture and subsistence strategies. The "Anatolian Aegean Coastal Group" integrated into the Levant having Neolithic symbolic systems as the interregional network. Author suggests, "with the adaptation of Neolithic symbolism in a regional context with red-plastered floors, sealing systems and others, also the ritual role of leopards have been adopted and transformed by the local communities" (Horejs, 2016, p. 159 – 160).

Horejs mentions that interregional symbolic connectivity of the special ritual of leopard hunting has been observed in the light of the recent researches at Yeşilova and Çukuriçi. A femur fragment of a leopard was uncovered in a pit at Çukuriçi dated Phase VIII late 7th millennium BC (Fig. 5; 2016, p. 158; Galik *et al*., 2012). Pottery,

fragments of a spoon, fragments of a stone axe, a clay sling ball, obsidian blades and burnt animal bones and seeds were found with this bone in the pit. In terms of physical structure, flat stones were floored on the ground of pit. Also, inner surface of pit was partially plastered with lime. The remains inside pit and condition of pit have been interpreted that this activity was related with a feasting ritual. With specific treatment and remains of feasting ritual in the pit, deposition with bone of leopard probably dangerous and taboo animal in Neolithic societies of Neolithic Anatolia and Levant potentially had significant ritual role in these communities as a symbol of the wild dangerous outside (Horejs, 2016, p. 158 – 159).

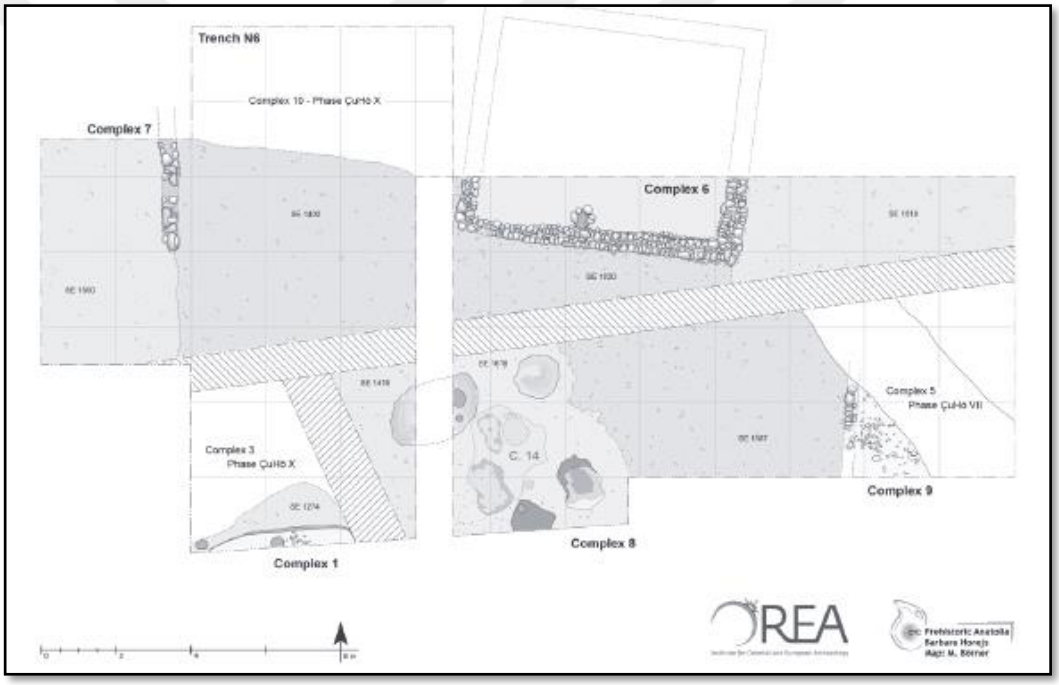


Figure 9. Architecture and activity zones of settlement phase IX at Çukuriçi Höyük (After Horejs, 2016: Fig. 7.5)

Gülpınar is in the borders of Apollon Smintheion in the south-western part of the Troad. Large number of small finds and archaeological structures were revealed from three levels at Gülpınar. Level II of Gülpınar are dated 5320 BC to 4940 BC. Architectural remains show that buildings in this level were made of stone. Several grinding slabs and hand-stones were revealed in the context of Building A. Also, remains of ovens

were found outside of the building. These inside and outside activities were considered as indicators of food production and consumption.

Building B from Level II has stone – paved floor. Likewise, grinding slabs were uncovered on the stone platform. Traces of post holes supporting roof were revealed in the middle of the floor. Author mentions that Building K which were rested on bedrock is the most specifical construction in the other part of the site. There is an oven near the back wall of building. And, a pit was dug near the doorway of the building. Also, Building K is different from other ones in terms of wall technique used for this structure. This phase is different from others in terms of ceramics. Ceramic objects have high craftsmanship. Colors of fine and burnished wares range from black to brown and orange. In terms of vessel forms, horn – handled, four – footed with incision – decoration bowls are mostly observed (Takaoğlu, 2015, p. 144, 146).

Other archaeological structure in this sector of the site is pit. Up to now 17 pits have been revealed in a specific open area in Level II of Gülpınar (Fig. 10). This area is the highest location in the settlement (Özdemir, 2017, p. 90, 159). Diameters of circular pits range from 70 to 90 cm while their depth are between 40 – 120 cm. Some pits have traces of plastering made of clay on the inner surface. These pits have been interpreted that these pits were cut into the bedrock so that perishables could be protected inside pits as a storage. Furthermore, many postholes were discovered around pits. These holes were considered as parts of roof. Afterwards, these storage pits were used as rubbish pits. Followed by pottery sherds, bones, seashells, broken or whole ground stones and clay figurines were deposited in these pits, they were sealed with stones on top (ibid., p. 95; Takaoğlu, 2015, p. 145 – 146).

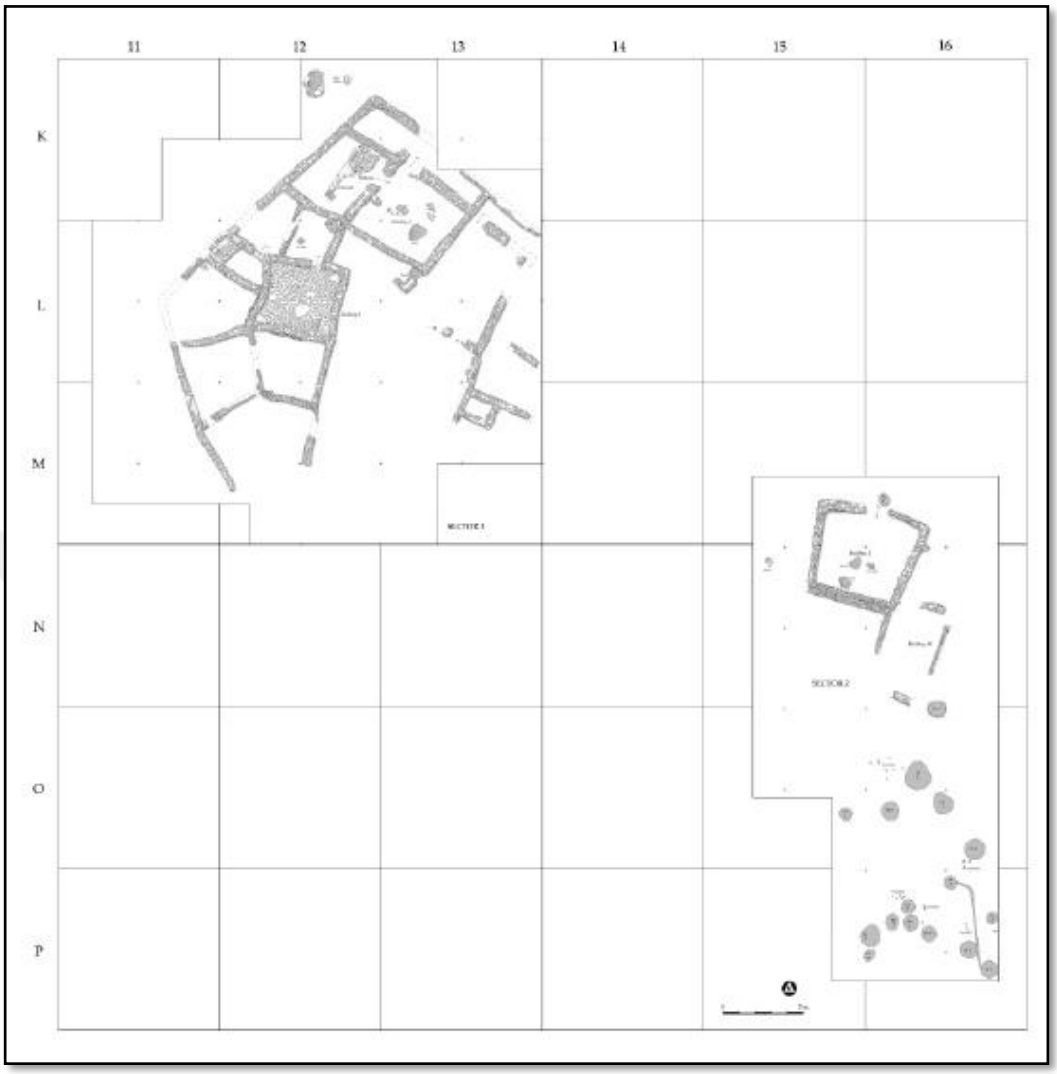


Figure 10. Plan of Level II at Gülpınar (After Takaoğlu, 2015: Fig. 5)

Aktopraklık**,** located at about 25 km west of Bursa on the eastern side of Ulubat Lake, is situated between two river beds (Fig. 11, Karul and Avcı, 2011, p. 1 – 2). A ditch around 8 – 11 m thick and 2,5 m deep was unearthed during excavations in Aktopraklık B (ibid., Karul, 2006, p. 481). Karul has observed that the edges of ditch have been renewed several times with plaster made of limestone in the first three layers of the wall of ditch and then green – colored clay. Also, the direction of the edge of ditch was formed with two stone rows (2013, p. 44 – 45). In terms of pottery, Çilingiroğlu mentions that little correlation between material obtained from houses and material coming from the ditch has been observed (2009, p. 378).

Pits consisting of broken grounding stones and potteries dark – color burnished wares dated Chalcolithic period, second half of 6th millennium BC. It has been interpreted that these pits were used as votive plaque (Karul, 2009, p. 5; Karul, 2013, p. 45). On the other hand, excavations in Aktopraklık C has revealed some large pits 1,5 m in diameter in the area of buildings. In the light of studies, following to these pits were filled with a great amount of animal bones from cattle and deer, they were covered with stones. These evidences have been interpreted that "collective butchering and consumption at regular intervals next to daily food consumption at the level of single home economics" may be performed in these pits termed as trash (Karul and Avcı, 2011, p. 3).

Figure 11. Excavation plan of Aktopraklık B (After Karul, 2013: Res. 7)

Aşağı Pınar is in the northern edge of the central basin of Turkish Thrace. Nine occupational layers determined from the Early Neolithic to the Late Neolithic have been revealed until recently (Özdoğan, 2011, p. 213). A ditch made of 1 m deep and plastered floors have been discovered in Level 7 of Aşağı Pınar. Although its purpose

is not yet clear, this construction has an important role because of the continuity between Level 7 and Level 6 (Özdoğan et al., 2008, p. 237). 'Adjacent rectilinear wattle-and-daub structures' are known as the characteristic feature for Level 6 at Aşağı Pınar. In the light of the evidence of burnt deposition of Level 6, it was observed that houses had ground made of wooden beams (Çilingiroğlu, 2009, p. 400; Özdoğan, 2007, p. 418). Some column – like features made of daub were uncovered in a room of a structure. One feature was found *in situ* on the floor while two columnar mud brick objects were found in a 'pit – like depression' in the room (Özdoğan, 2011, p. 217).

During excavations, huge animal bones were uncovered in the area in which there are broad and shallow pits dated to the passing from Level 6 Neolithic period to Level 5 Chalcolithic period. These pits having fill which was consisted of mixture of ash and lime were merely found as the architectural structure in Aşağı Pınar in this phase. These pits were interpreted as temporary habitations (Özdoğan, 2008, p. 238 – 239).

2.2 Applied Methodology in Uğurlu

When looked at the large picture, it can be said for pit practice that it is associated with ritual activities especially during the Late Neolithic to Early Chalcolithic periods. In the same time, pit practice is considered as a continuation of 'skull cult' and also part of the social regeneration. In this sense, this thesis will try to understand the function of pits and discuss whether pit practice is a ritual or not. For this, the methodology followed in this study has been developed on the basis of the literature review. The historical process of landscape, material culture items and the movement of pits and related structures throughout time and space should be mainly understood. A proper methodology has been established in line with this purpose.

Firstly, pits will be examined in terms of their physical structures so that standardized or nonstandardized features of pit digging can be determined for pit practice at Uğurlu settlement. Then, a chronology in the macro level will be built for pits and other related

architectural structures at Uğurlu. The area consisting of trenches P5, P6, O5 and O6 where there are great majority of pits will be focused at this stage so that the historical development of this area can be understood with emergence of pits. For this, distributions of pits, buildings and special floors in the time context will be viewed in the upper scale.

Because artifacts which are components of social and economic life and give an idea about intra and interregional relations require to be understood, artifact categories will be described at the third stage of the methodology. Followed by pottery, flint, human bone, animal bone and botanical remains will be introduced, small finds will be mainly described in relation to their raw materials which are mainly clay, shell, animal bone and stone.

In the next stage of the methodology, artifact distributions will be analyzed in time & space. In this direction, the numeric distributions of artifacts belonging to the different places in the time context will be studied for each phase. The varieties, amounts and changes of artifacts within the temporal context and the relations between particular artifacts and periods will be demonstrated. Afterwards, the numeric distributions of artifacts will be analyzed within the spatial context. It is assumed that this method will give opinions about: the varieties and densities of artifacts in special places, relationships between artifacts and places and the function of place.

Results of the chronological analysis of pits in the macro level will be subjected to multilayered micro level analyses within the other step of the methodology so that relationships and distances in the context of time between pits and pit groups can be analyzed for the practice of pit – digging during Phase IV to Phase III.

Analyses in the context of constructional features of pits will be made as another method in the study. This method will give opinions about: relation between structural properties of pits and their intended use and relations between pits having similar constructional features in terms of function or intended use. Findings of this method

will reinforce the assumption that physical properties of pits may have been related with their meanings and roles in this social activity.

The process of the emergence of the pit area in time & space will be constructed in the consequence of multiple analyses. Correlations between small finds, ceramics, animal & human bones, flint, structional features of pits and their temporal and spatial locations in the pit area will be examined in order to observe the general picture of this exclusive area in which pit – digging were performed throughout the centuries.

Followed by Uğurlu case is introduced, all these analyses will be applied respectively in the next chapter. Followed by the data analyses, findings of methods will be discussed and concluded in the last chapters.

CHAPTER 3

PREHISTORIC UĞURLU AND ITS PITS

Literature review showed that whereas the pit issue has been theoretically and methodologically strengthened especially during the last 20 – 25 years, this development hasn't manifested itself at the stage of interpretation of the studies belonging to Anatolia and near region. This situation in literature and practice, in this thesis, will be tried to fill through Uğurlu case containing Northern Aegean Neolithic process. In this chapter, therefore, Uğurlu pits and material are inclusively demonstrated. And also, methods mentioned in the Chapter 2 will be applied so that data can be processed and interpreted.

3.1 Prehistoric Uğurlu from 7th to 4th Millennium BC

Gökçeada (Imbros), located in the northern part of Aegean Sea, covers an area of 289.5 km^2 (Erdoğu, 2014a, p.158; 2014b). Followed by the island shaped around 14,000 years ago, today, it is 17 km west of the Gallipoli Peninsula and 25 km south of Samothrace (Erdoğu, Özbek and Yücel, 2014; Özbek and Erdoğu, 2015, p.98; Erdoğu and Yücel, 2013). The island with 28 km long axis and 12 km short axis is positioned in the direction of north–east to south–west. Gökçeada consists of volcanic rocks and undulates with the mountains of Karadoğan-Elias, Mutli, and Oğlak-Gurna. The northern coast of the island is made up cliffs. On the other hand, the southern coast has a long sandy beach and the Salt Lake (Harmankaya and Erdoğu, 2001; Harmankaya and Erdoğu, 2003, p. 460-461).

In consequence of two prehistoric surveys in 1997 and 1999 by Harmankaya and Erdoğu, researchers encountered 11 prehistoric sites including Aydıncık Cave, Vaniyeri, Kalamya, Eksino Sırtı, Kukuvaki, Peri Cave, Şırma, Üçburun, İncirlik

Kıyısı, Pirgos, and Uğurlu (Fig. 12; Harmankaya and Erdoğu, 2001, p. 28). Because most of these sites were covered with vegetation and thick shrubbery, this situation complicates detailed survey. Nevertheless, Uğurlu was the most suitable site for excavation since Neolithic material was comparable with Hoca Çeşme, Ulucak Höyük and Coşkuntepe in terms of styles (Harmankaya and Erdoğu, 2001; 2003, p. 461-464).

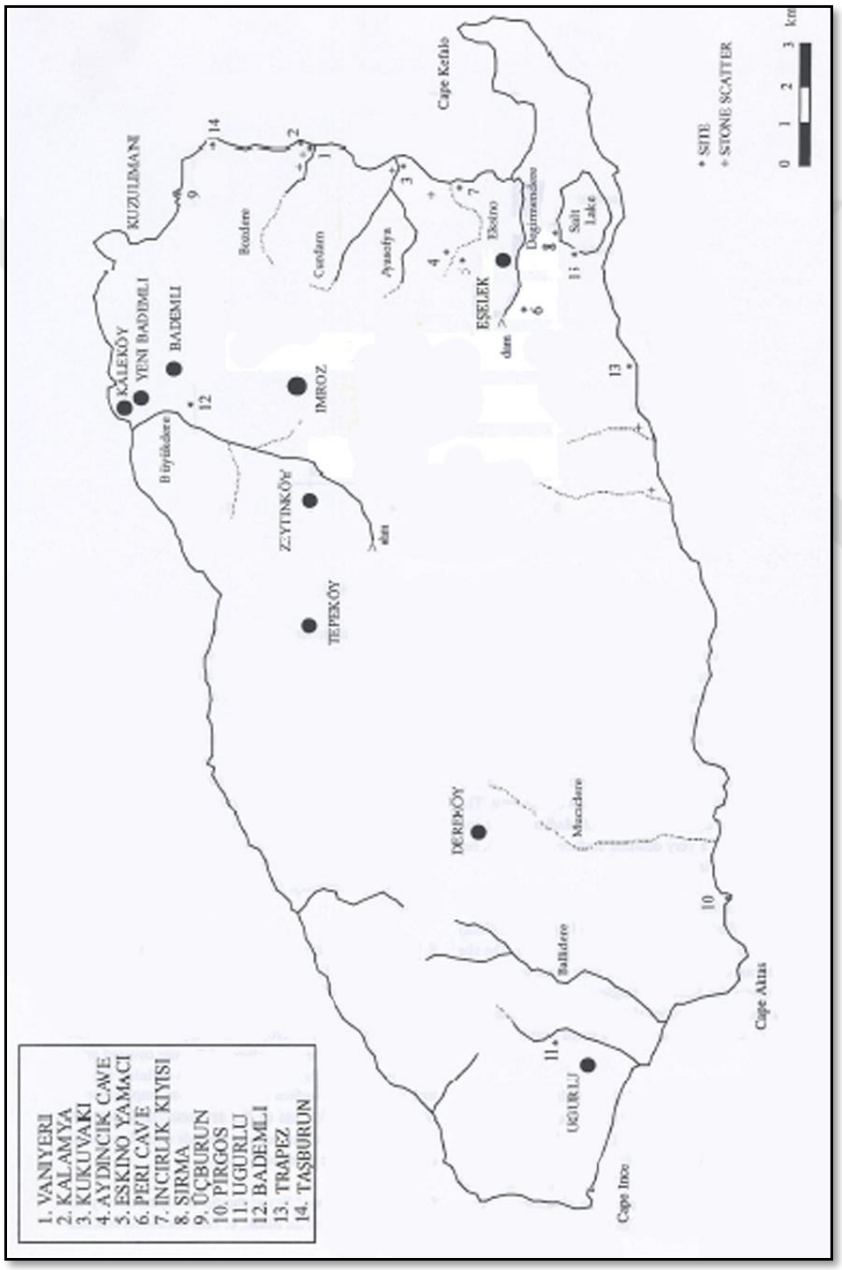


Figure 12. Map of the island of Gökçeada showing the location of Uğurlu (Harmankaya & Erdoğu, 2001: Fig. 1)

After around 10 years from this discovery, Burçin Erdoğu of University of Thrace started an excavation project in summer of 2009. The project has a crucial goal clarifying the debate about how farming spread from Anatolia and Near East to Europe via the Aegean Islands (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2012a, 2012b, 2013, 2014a, 2014b). The issue of the transition from foraging to farming in Southeastern Europe has divided archaeologies into two groups; first group asserting "demic diffusion" meaning the spread of Near Eastern farmers themselves and second group preferring "cultural diffusion" basing on the appropriation of the new method of food production by indigenous foragers. One of the key points enlightening the confusion about the diffusion is Aegean Islands. However, according to the point of view of some archaeologists working on Aegean Islands, early farming communities haven't been located in the eastern Aegean islands (Erdoğu, 2011b, p.46). Because Uğurlu, the only known early agricultural settlement in the eastern Aegean Islands, disproves this argument, it is so important in the science world.

Excavation has been started with the contour plan. Uğurlu site located at the base of the gentle slope at the eastern foot of Mount Isa known as Doğanlı covers 200x250 m area mainly dated Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods. Limited number of findings from Early Bronze and Medieval Age were found on the site surface. Materials were collected in 10 x 10 m grids. Then, they are recorded on the forms as being pottery, chipped stone, ground stone, shell, figurines and other clay objects. Erdoğu states that this systematic collection had two stages. The total number of artifacts for each period is recorded at the first stage because it supports the first opinion about the amount of dated material and the number of chronological periods. In terms of the second stage, the number of artifacts of each period within each grid is determined. In addition, a computer-generated grid-plan created for a visual assessment of both artifacts and a complex picture of the site (2011b, p.47). Data of artifact assemblages and physical features of pits, buildings and special floors could be broadly seen in Appendix A. During the 2017 season, excavations continued in western and eastern sections with two operations including trenches of CC19, CC20, DD19, DD20, CC/DD19, CC/DD20, BB20-21, O6, P6 and O/P6 in the settlement (Fig. 13, Table 1).

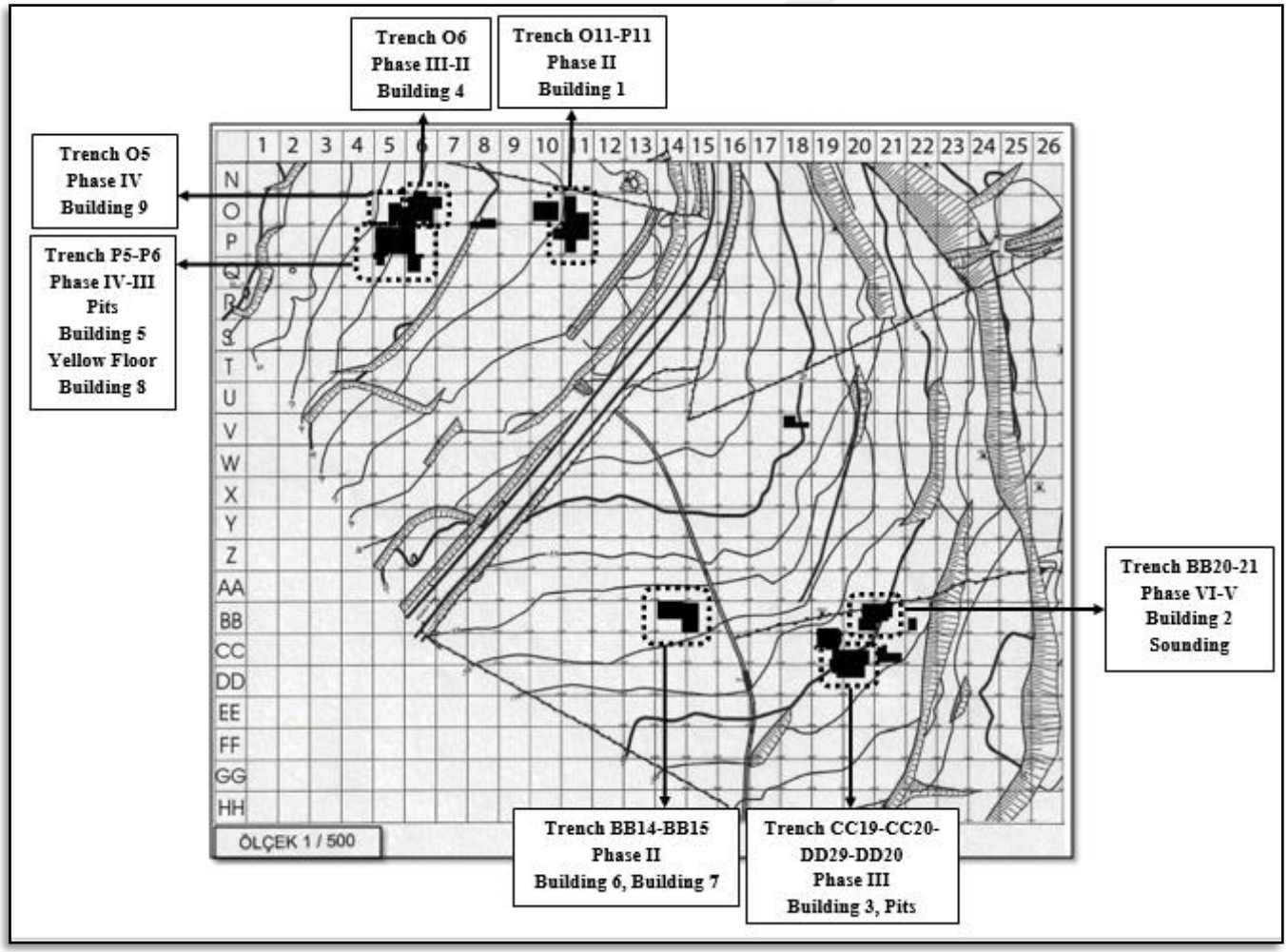


Figure 13. Topographic plan of the site and the excavation trenches (Modified after Erdoğu, 2014: Fig. 2)

Table 1. Chronology of Uğurlu site

PHASE	CHRONOLOGY (C14)
Phase I	Early Bronze Age and Medieval Times
Phase II	4500 – 4300 BC (dated from bone collagen in Building 1)
Phase III	5500 – 4900 BC (dated from bone collagen in pits of Ö25, Ö28, Ö122, Ö148, Ö188, Building 3 and Building 4)
Phase IV	5900 – 5500 BC (dated from bone collagen in Building 5)
Phase V	6500 – 5900 BC (dated from bone collagen in Building 2)
Phase VI	6800-6600 BC

In this section, a general overview of architectural features, found thorugh different phases of Uğurlu Höyük, will be introduced. Related artifactual assemblages, including pottery, lithics and small finds will be explained in the section 3.3. Six main cultural phases have been specified during the excavations at Uğurlu. They are named in the direction from the topmost to the deepest one.

Phase VI (from 6800 – 6600 cal. BC) the earliest occupation at Uğurlu was expored through a small sounding in the trenches BB 20-21, in the eastern part of the settlement. There are no ceramics or other artifacts associated with the building. On the other hand, red lime plaster pieces, possible figurine head, sea shell objects and bone objects were uncovered. In Phase VI, the pressure technique was frequently used for chipped stone tools (Erdoğu, personal communication, July 20, 2017).

Phase V (6500 – 5900 cal. BC) is best known from the trenches BB 20-21 in eastern sector of the settlement (see Appendix A). This phase has two possible occupational layers. There is no architectural construction in the former layer; here, a large quantity of animal bones belonging to domestic sheep, goat, pig and cattle, bones of wild red

deer, hare and fox were found in cluster which indicate hunting practices. In the later layer of Phase V, Building 2 which is a single room structure with stone foundations, earthen floor and mud walls has been revealed (Fig. 14). A large exterior buttress was attached to this structure. The combination of a small room, thick walls and exterior buttress is interpreted that there was an upper story in the building. A sherd having human motif in relief and an acrolithic figurine head made of animal bone were uncovered in the northwestern part of Building 2. Also, some broken bone tools and one stone axe were found *in situ* (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2013, 2015, personal communication, October 20, 2016).

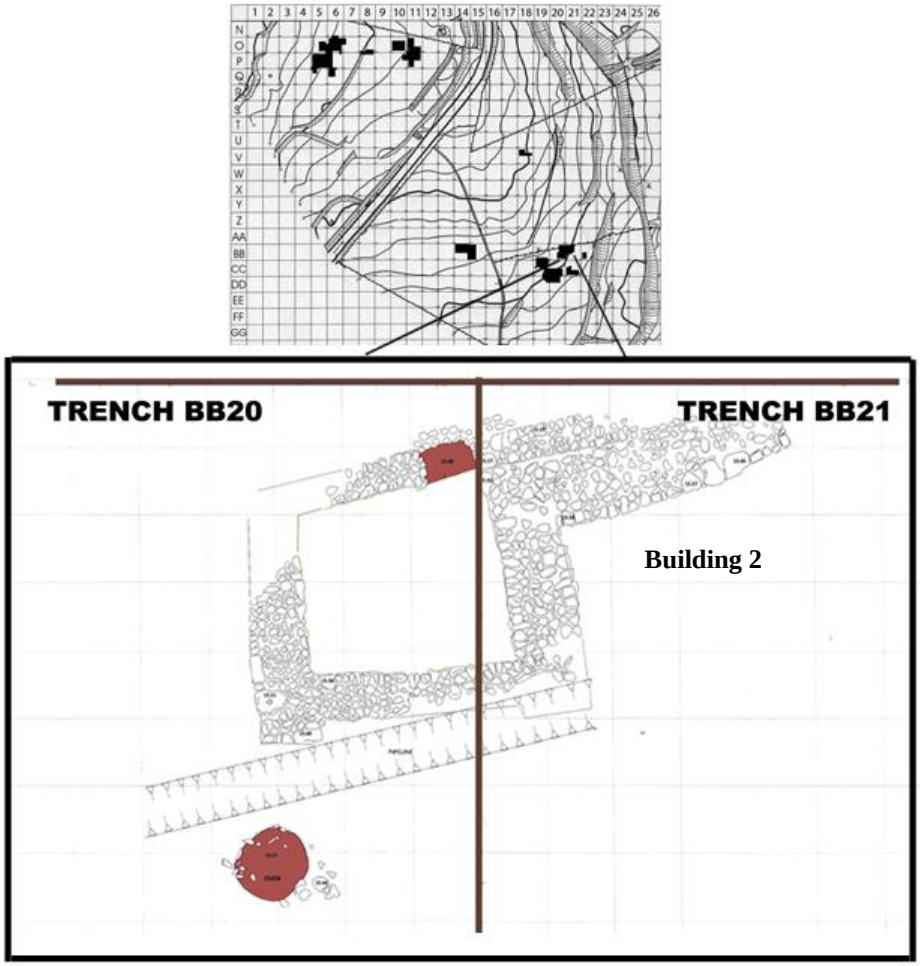


Figure 14. Architectural structure in Phase V (Modified after Erdoğu, 2014: Fig. 3)

Phase IV (from 5900 – 5500 cal. BC) is best known from the threnches P5-P6 in western part of the settlement. Three chronological layers have been identified in this phase (Fig. 15). Four layers are identified by the following structures from the earliest to the latest: Building 8, Yellow Floor, Building 5 in P5 and Building 9 in O5 (Erdoğu, 2013, 2015, personal communication, October 20, 2016; see Appendix A). Building 5 and Building 9 belong to the same layer. The last layer of Phase IV is identified with Ö52 which is a pit that involves a great number of extremely well-crafted awls that appear to have a symbolic purpose.

There are 3 pits (Ö142, Ö149, Ö52) in Phase IV (see Appendix A). All of them located in trench of P5 in close spatial relations with Building 5, Building 8 and Yellow Floor (Fig. 19). In terms of their physical properties, Phase IV pits are similar to those of Phase III (Table 9, 10, 11, 12). The inner walls and the bottom of pits were plastered with yellow colored clay and at the end of their use life, they were sealed with stones. However, the dimensions of the Phase IV pits are smaller than the pits of Phase III (Table 2); i.e. the pit diameters range between 0.66 m and 0.46 m. These pits are quite shallow with depths ranging between 0.16 m to 0.57 m. These pits yielded very material, mostly stone and bone artefacts and animal bones (Table 2).

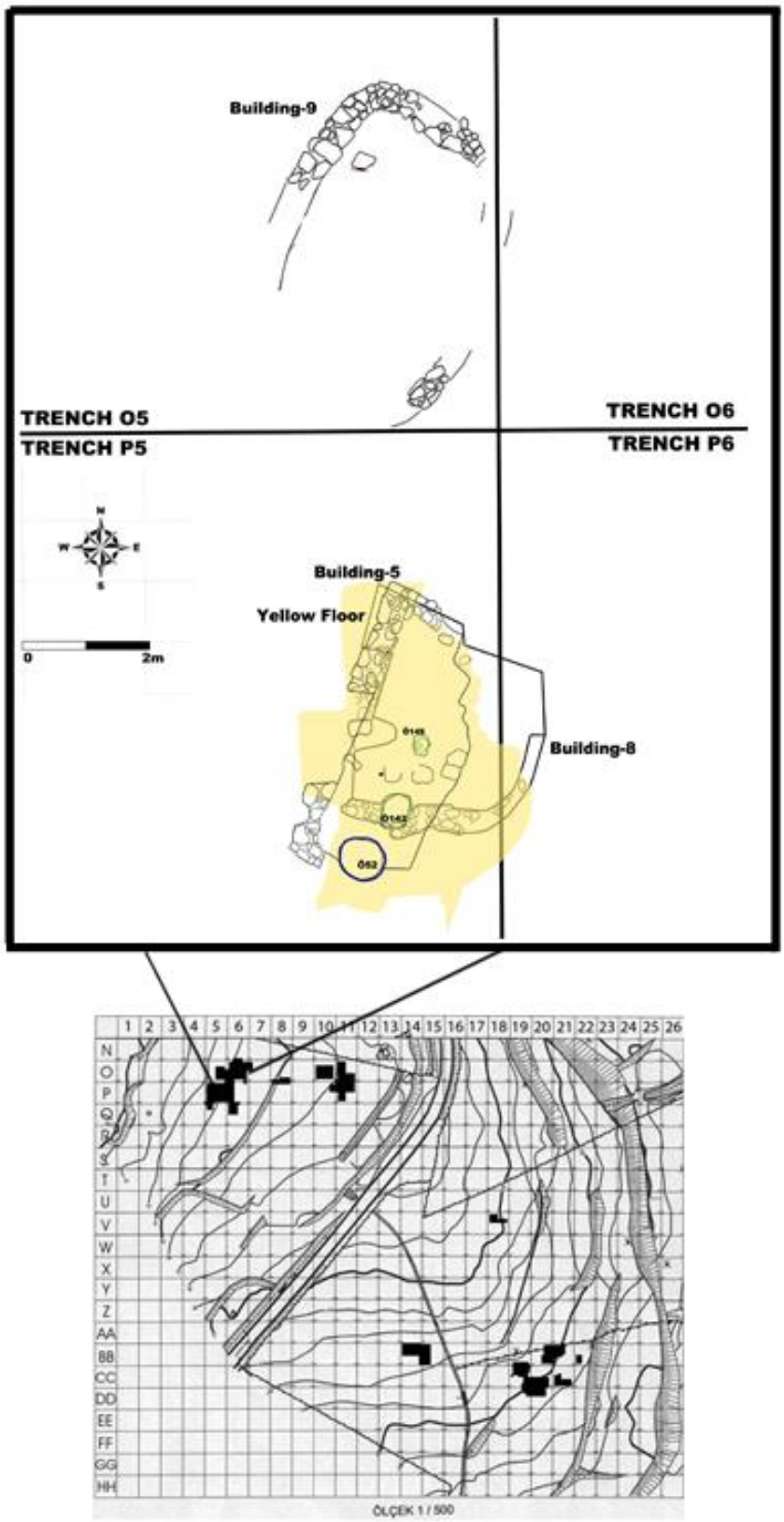


Figure 15. Architectural structures and pits in Phase IV

Table 2. Structural properties of pits in Phase IV

Pits (Feature Number)	Trench	Unit	Shape	Plastering	Color of Plaster	Thickness of Plaster	Closing with Stones	Depth (M)	Diameter (M)
Ö52	P5	91, 103	semi-circular	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	0,57	0,62
Ö142	P5	140	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,16	0,66
Ö149	P5	144	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,35	0,46

Phase III (from 5500 – 4900 cal. BC) is defined as the period of Neolithic – Chalcolithic transition. Two buildings and thirty – three pits dated to Phase III have been revealed in the excavations (Fig. 16). Building 3 exists in the eastern section of the settlement (see Appendix A). This large and multi-roomed structure about 11 x 11 m was built with drystone walls and plastered with yellow – colored clay for floors. Eight cell – like rooms have been determined until today. Lots of grinding stones, slabs, bone tools and any other stone tools with animal bones and shells indicating food preparation process have been unearthed as a result of the excavations. In the same part of the settlement, 20 x 5 m rectangular structure and likely multi – roomed buildings dated to Phase III have been discovered at the end of the magnetometry surveys (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2013, 2015, personal communication, July 25, 2016). These constructions haven't been excavated yet.

Building 4, the other structure dated to Phase III, is located in trenches CC19-DD20 in western sector (see Appendix A). This building has an area of about 7 x 6 m in size and built with stone walls. Several surface activities have damaged this building. The entrance of the building was centrally placed on the southern wall. A huge bull horn uncovered in this entrance has been probably hung on an interior wall. The floor of this building was plastered with burnt lime. Also, remains of red paint were found on some sections of the floor. In addition to the floor surface, these traces were discovered next to the entrance. Moreover, a "patio" exists in front of this entrance. Two clay figurines in broken condition were found near this area. Building 4 has been based on association with red plastered floors, animal horns, figurines and lack of domestic features (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2013, 2015, personal communication, May 25, 2016).

Other than buildings, two special floors were discovered in in trenches of P5 and P6 (Fig. 18). One of them is Ö191 is a floor about 3 x 4 m in size. This floor was plastered with yellow – colored clay (see Appendix A). Other one is Ö194 which is about 3 x 3 m in size and plastered with yellow clay. Both of these structures yielded a great number of small finds (Fig. 18, see Appendix A.).

Total of 34 pits have been excavated in Phase III; thirty – one of these pits are within trenches P5-P6 mostly located in front of Building 4 whereas two pits next to Building 3 in trenches CC19-DD20 (Table 3, see Appendix A). Cylindrical in shape, with sizes and diameters ranging between 1.28 m and 0.50 m, depth between 1.46 m and 0.02 m (Fig. 17). These pits were plastered with yellow color clay and thickness of this plaster usually ranges between 5 cm and 3 cm when small number of pits have thick plaster more than 5 cm (Fig. 19). Within most of the pits, large amount of pottery sherds, animal bones were discovered. Besides these large number of bone objects such as awls, smoothers, worked horns and teeth, stone objects such as grinding stones, chisels, axes and stone vessels, Spondylus objects such as rings and bracelets, figurines and special clay vessels such as eared pots, polypod vessels and decorated pots were also unearthed. Other than these artefacts found within the pits, the pit area itself is full of small finds, especially figurines, spondylus and bone objects as well as other small finds.

In three of these pits human skeleton remains were found (Ö25, Ö29, Ö188). Partial middle – aged man was found in association with red ochre in Ö25 pit which is one of the richest pits in terms of small finds. More interestingly, skeletal remains of at least thirteen individuals were found in Ö188. This pit is about 2 m in diameter and 2 m in dept and includes beads. Other Ö29 pit includes 2 human finger bones. Ö29 is the richest pit in terms of small finds and ceramics (Fig. 18).

All the pits were closed with large stones at the end of their use life. Some pits had flat stones laid in the the mid- depth which indicate multiple closing episodes during the use of a pit. Also, some pits, such as Ö126 on Ö31-32, Ö26 on Ö150, Ö178 on Ö48 and Ö25 and Ö29 on Ö58 were opened on top of a previously opened pit (Fig. 18, Fig. 20).

Due to the process of intensive pit digging and pit filling in P5-P6/O5-O6, it is difficult to assess the chronology of pits based on the pit-fill. Especiaaly, during the course of the pit digging, material from earlier phases were brought to the surface and mixed

with the materials of the pit digging phase. This mixed material was then used to fill the pits. During this process much of the earlier pit fills were disturbed and it is probable that the richness of small finds within the pit area as well as within the pits is due to this phenomenon.

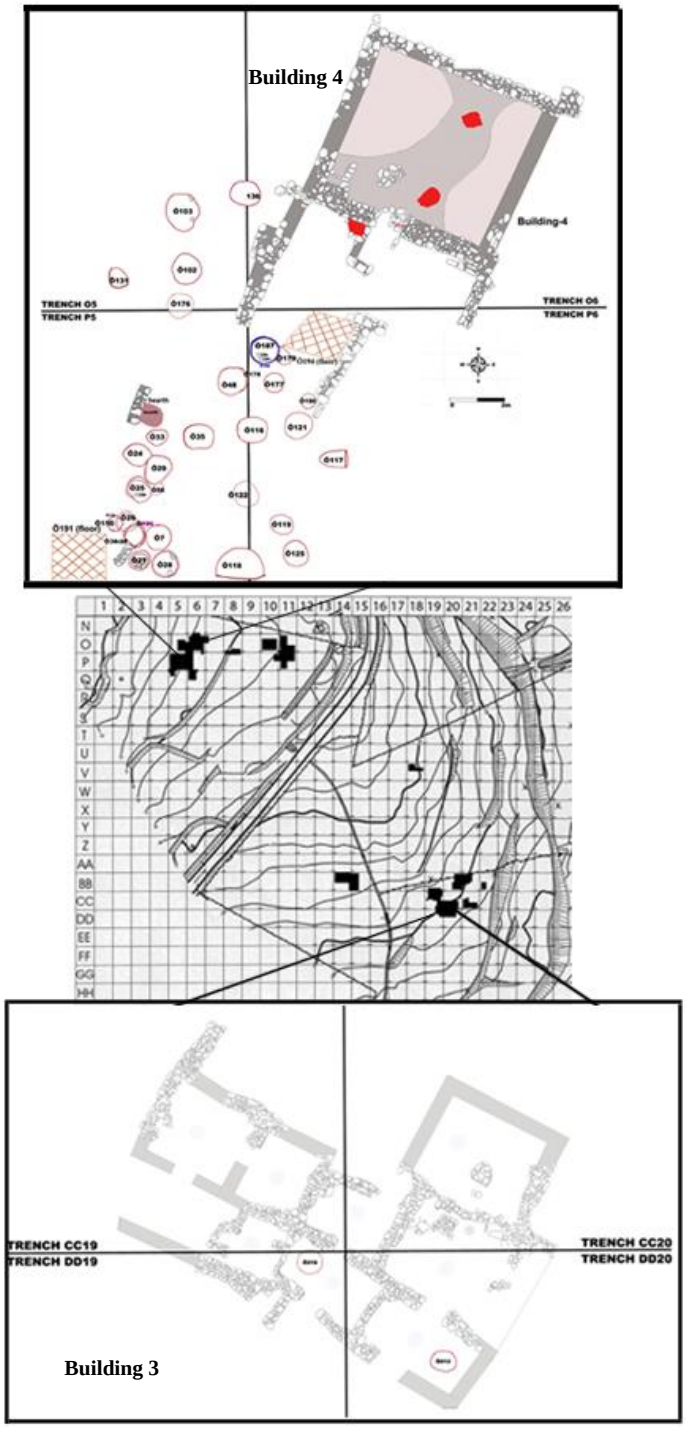


Figure 16. Architectural structures and pits in Phase III

Figure 17. Cylindirical form and big stones (From Uğurlu archive)

Figure 18. Surrounded with stones (From Uğurlu archive)

Figure 19. Pit plaster thickness (From Uğurlu archive)

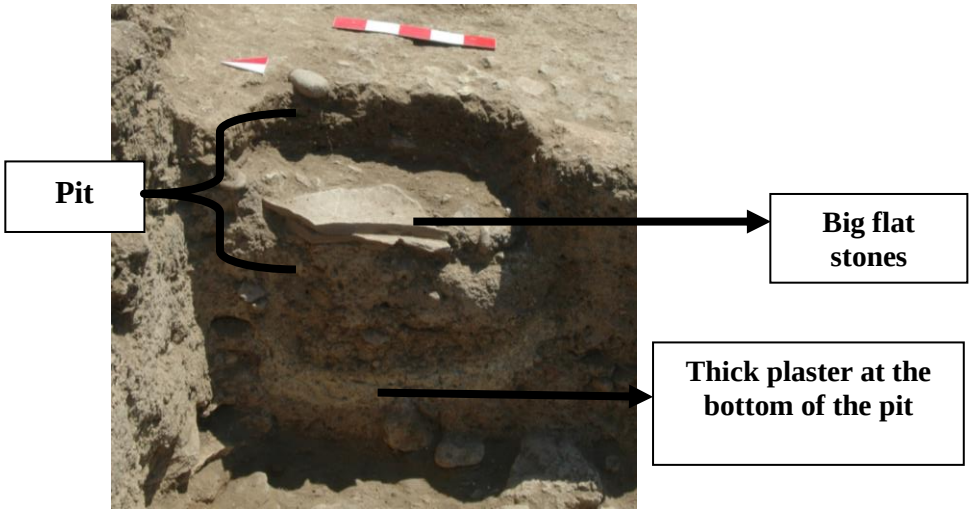


Figure 20. Semicircular form, thick plastering and flat stones (From Uğurlu archive)

Table 3. Structural properties of pits in Phase III

Pits (Feature Number)	Trench	Unit	Shape	Plastering	Color of Plaster	Thickness of Plaster	Closing with Stones	Depth (M)	Diameter (M)
Ö24	P5	44	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,08	1
Ö25	P5	45, 110	cylindrical	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	1,29	0,88
Ö26	P5	46	cylindrical	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	0,57	0,82
Ö27	P5	47, 131	cylindrical	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	1,12	0,72
Ö28	P5	48, 128	cylindrical	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	1,25	0,72
Ö29	P5	52	semi-circular	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	0,62	1,08
Ö31-32	P5	56	semi-circular	yes	yellow	> 5 cm	yes	0,33	0,78
Ö33	P5	62	semi-circular	yes	dark orange	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,19	0,88
Ö35	P5	63	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,15	1,06
Ö48	P5	89	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,32	1,1
	P6	72							
Ö58	P5	101	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,28	0,66
Ö7	P5	39	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,89	1,16
Ö126	P5	130	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,07	0,78

Table 3 (continued)

Pits (Feature Number)	Trench	Unit	Shape	Plastering	Color of Plaster	Thickness of Plaster	Closing with Stones	Depth (M)	Diameter (M)
Ö150	P5	139	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,1	0,5
Ö116	P6	4	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,5	1,28
Ö117	P6	8	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,04	0,88
Ö118	P6	9	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	1,08	1,2
Ö119	P6	10	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,68	0,98
Ö121	P6	16, 47	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	1,09	1,22
Ö122	P6	17	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,62	0,92
Ö125	P6	20	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,06	0,9
Ö177	P6	58	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,55	0,68
Ö178	P6	61	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,4	0,78
Ö179	P6	66	semi-circular	no	-		yes	0,35	0,82
Ö187	P6	70	cylindrical	no	-		yes	0,8	0,68
Ö190	P6	87	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,43	0,82
Ö102	O5	10, 34, 35	cylindrical	yes	yellow with red pigment	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,87	1,22

Table 3 (continued)

Pits (Feature Number)	Trench	Unit	Shape	Plastering	Color of Plaster	Thickness of Plaster	Closing with Stones	Depth (M)	Diameter (M)
Ö103	O5	11, 23	semi-circular	yes	yellow with red pigment	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,34	1,28
Ö131	O5	28	semi-circular		yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,02	0,76
Ö136	O5-6	5	semi-circular	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	0,38	1,18
Ö176	O/P5	3	semi-circular	no	-		yes	0,29	0,78
Ö213	DD20	15	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	1	0,84
Ö219	CC/DD19	13	cylindrical	yes	yellow	3 - 5 cm	yes	1,46	1
Ö188	P6	88	?	no	-	-	yes	?	0,98

Phase II (from 4500 – 4300 cal. BC) contains remains of the Western Anatolian Chalcolithic Kumtepe Ia-Beşik Sivritepe Culture. Three architectural structures are dated to this phase in the settlement. Building 1 having roughly trapezoidal shape measures ca. 5 x 5 m with stone walls. It was oriented to NE / SW (Fig. 21, see Appendix A). Following to a partial collapse, a wall and a stone buttress were added to the northern part of the building. There is a compact earthen floor but no any feature hearth or oven. It is stated that southwestern part of the building was used as storage facilities due to large storage vessels and lots of shells in there. A half – circular courtyard was also discovered in the western side of the building. A unique human-faced vessel was found in this courtyard (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2013, 2015).

Building 6 having compact earthen floor measures ca. 5 x 5 m with stone walls (see Appendix A). There are two bigger and one small grinding stones, varied grinding stones and sherds of a large storage vessel inside of the building around the platform (Erdoğu, 2011a, 2011b, 2013, 2015). Building 7 was built next to Building 6 in the settlement (Fig. 21, see Appendix A). It can be said that there are similarities between these two structures. There are grinding stones, pestles and storage boxes at the east part of the platform in Building 7. Also, a circular closed area used as a kind of storage facility was uncovered in the western side of the construction. Moreover, it is considered that Building 4 essentially used during Phase III were used for a while as being continuation of the previous phase in this phase (Erdoğu, personal communication, October 10, 2017).

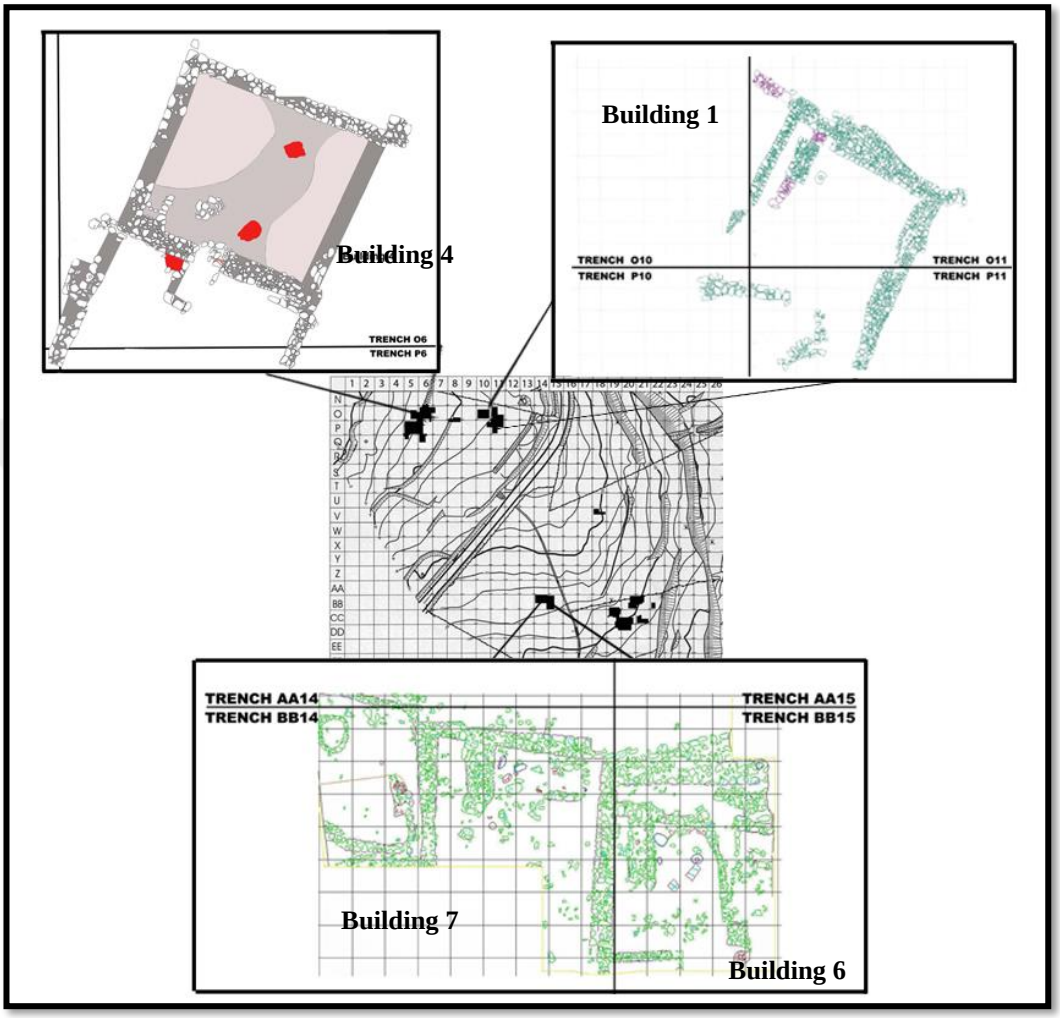


Figure 21. Architectural structures in Phase II

3.2 Proposed Chronology for Pits at Uğurlu

Up to now, because studies of Prehistoric Uğurlu have provided upper scale and general information about pits and related structures, comprehensive information of pit – practice and their importance for social dynamics of society cannot be attained. A synthesis process has been started in this direction. The scale of investigation has been narrowed and then intensified in this regard. Namely, pits and their related architectural structures sharing the same area and periods with pits have been focused though this synthesis. Due to this general picture, the area consisting of trenches P5, P6, O5 and O6 where there are great majority of pits will be focused at the first stage so that the historical development of this area of site can be understood with emergence of pits. For this, distributions of these specific places within time will be viewed in the macro level.

All pits except for two which are dated between ca. 5900 BC and 4900 BC have been determined in trenches of P5, P6, O5 and O6 in order to tell the history of this special area in terms of pit evolution. Also, other architectural structures have been found both in the same area and in the same period of time. According to the general information obtained from Erdoğu's articles and interviews, pits and related architectural structures dated to Phase IV have been chronologically located in space. Building 8 and one pit entitled as Ö142 are found in the earliest stage of Phase IV. Later, there are Yellow Floor and one pit called as Ö149 in the second layer from bottom. Building 5 is located upstair of this layer. These three buildings had been superimposed with pits in the same area during Phase IV. One pit called as Ö52 is found in the same area in the later of Phase IV. Building 9 probably located on the end of Phase IV or beginning of Phase III is in the same specific area. However, its position is not directly on previous structures. This building is in the north of the core area.

Dominant construction is pits in pivotal area during Phase III. They are sporadically found in trenches of P5, P6, and O5. Also, two special floors are located in both east and west side of the same area. One of them is on the southwestern corner of whole

pits when other one is on the northeastern corner of the same area. The other architectural structure in the same region is Building 4 known as communal building of Uğurlu. This building on the northeastern corner of core area in the field of the research had been used during Phase III to Phase II. Its location is next to the area where pits come together. Also, its entrance looks at this pit area. This picture can be seen in the drawings in Fig. 22 made of side view involving several layers, and Fig. 23 consisting of air view as one single platform.

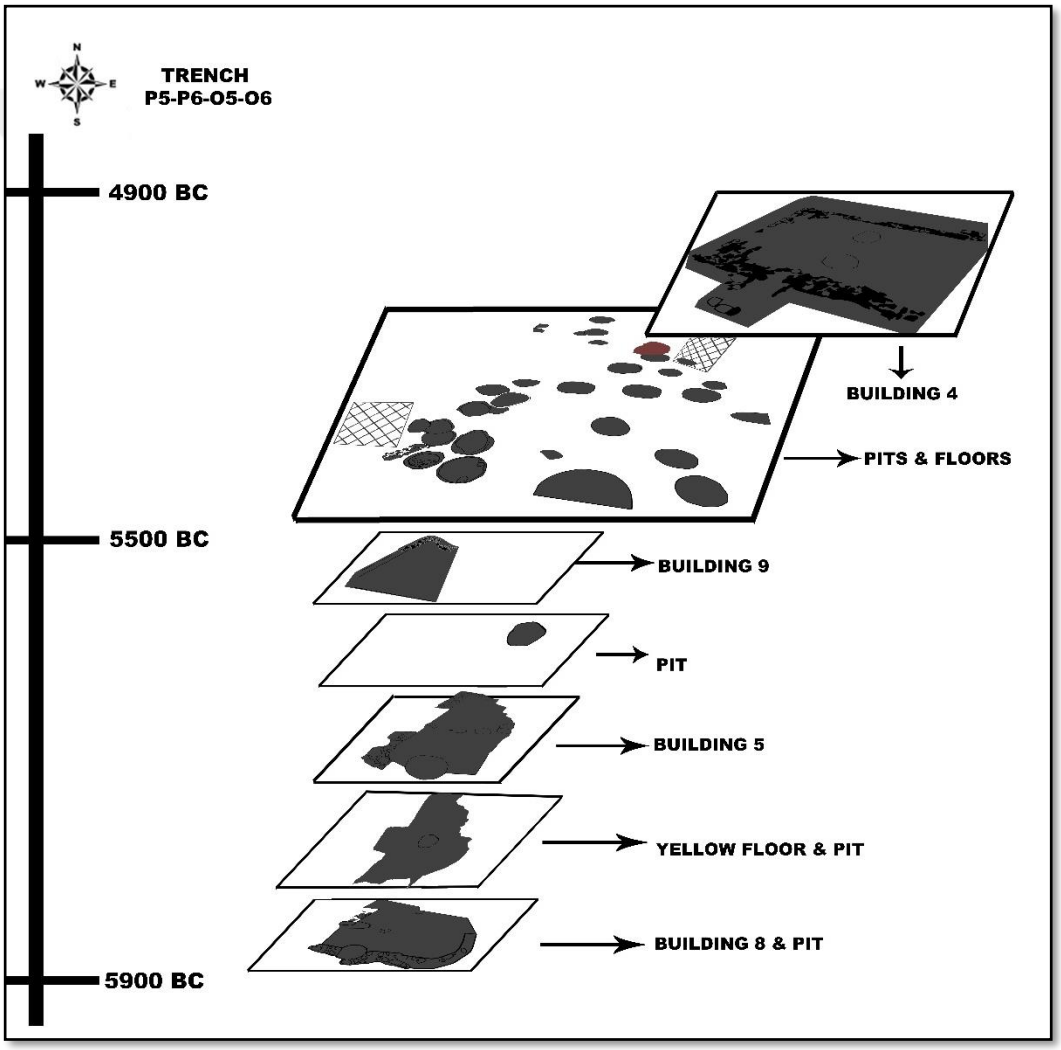


Figure 22. Historical development of Trench P5-P6-O5-O6 through time

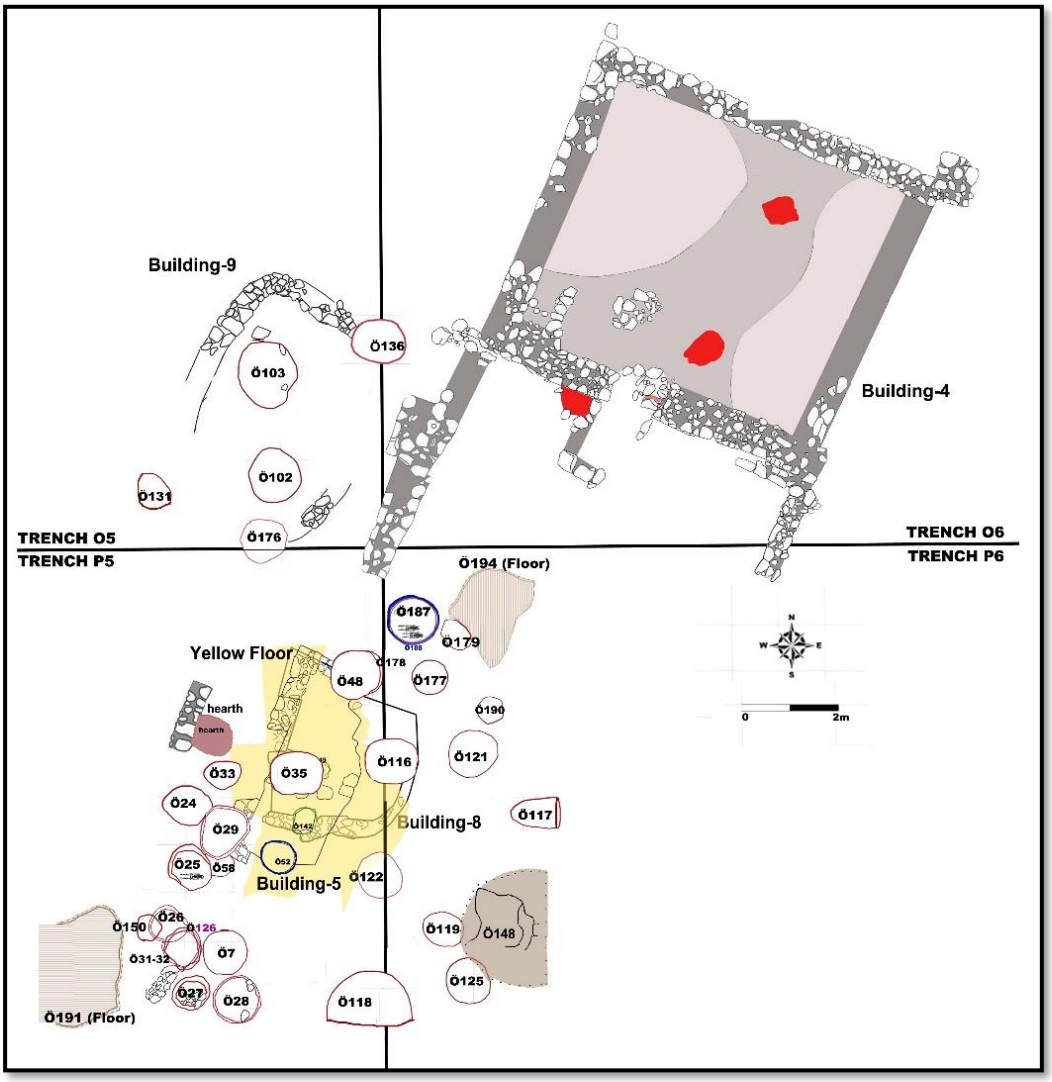


Figure 23. Pits, Buildings and Special Floors in Trenches P5-P6-O5-O6 through time

Whereas pits can be located in between the big periods of time, temporal positioning and relations within one certain period cannot be understandable apart from pits of Phase IV. Except for 4 pits from Phase III, individually temporal locations of others with dating of C14 are not known: Ö28 from these four pits is dated to 5260 cal. BC, Ö25 including parts of human skeleton is dated to 5010 cal. BC, Ö122 is dated to 5480 cal. BC and Ö188, death pit, is dated to 5363 – 5302 cal. BC. Because Phase III covering approximately 600 years is a very long period of time, these 4 dates from 34 pits are not enough to understand the relations in the context of time.

At this point, the information about usage time of each pit gains importance. Because chronological relations with before and after or which pits were dug in the same period of time couldn't be seen, data of opening and closing elevations for each pit has been collected in the first stage. Opening value represents the elevation of horizontal plane where pit was dug while closing value is elevation of bottom of pit. Difference between values of opening and closing equals to depth of pit (Fig. 24). Numbers on the left side of the chart represent depth values of the soil. These numbers grow in the negative direction due to increase in depth from top to bottom. There are names of pits on the top of the chart. After pits, also, names of special floors and buildings and their elevations are located on the other side.

This chart can be accepted as a view from profile of the site. Pits, special floors and buildings whose opening values are in the lower part of the chart were chronologically dug earlier. In the circumstances, the end of the phase is reached by going from bottom to top. According to this table, not only temporal locations of pits relative to each other but also temporal relationships between pits and other architectural structures can be analyzed within both the same phase and different phases.

According to the chart, temporal sequence between Ö142 and Ö149 from Phase IV can be determined with this chart: After Ö142 was dug, Ö149 was dug in the area. This supports the previous data. Also, Ö213 found next to Building 3 in the western part of the settlement during Phase III was probably dug immediately before the construction of this building whereas Ö219, other pit in this area, was dug when Building 3 was being used in the same period.

Furthermore, it can be considered that because the opening points have the biggest elevations, Ö116 and Ö176 were probably last pits for Phase III. In addition to this inference, ceramic analyses that will be performed in the further sections have confirmed the state of these two pits. When opening values of pits are looked in the horizontal axis, a number of pits sharing the same elevation have been noticed on the graph. This case has been interpreted that these pits were stratigraphically used in the

same time interval. Moreover, some essential chronological differences between pits of Phase III have been determined according to this graph: whereas some pits share the close locations, they don't share the same time interval; some pits located closely were dug in the same time. In the context of time, it seems that special floors that don't have any C14 dating were used in the last period of pit – practice or after this event. Detailed chronology table for Uğurlu has been generated with the combination of the basic data and these new inferences about temporal positioning of pits and other related structures (Table 4).

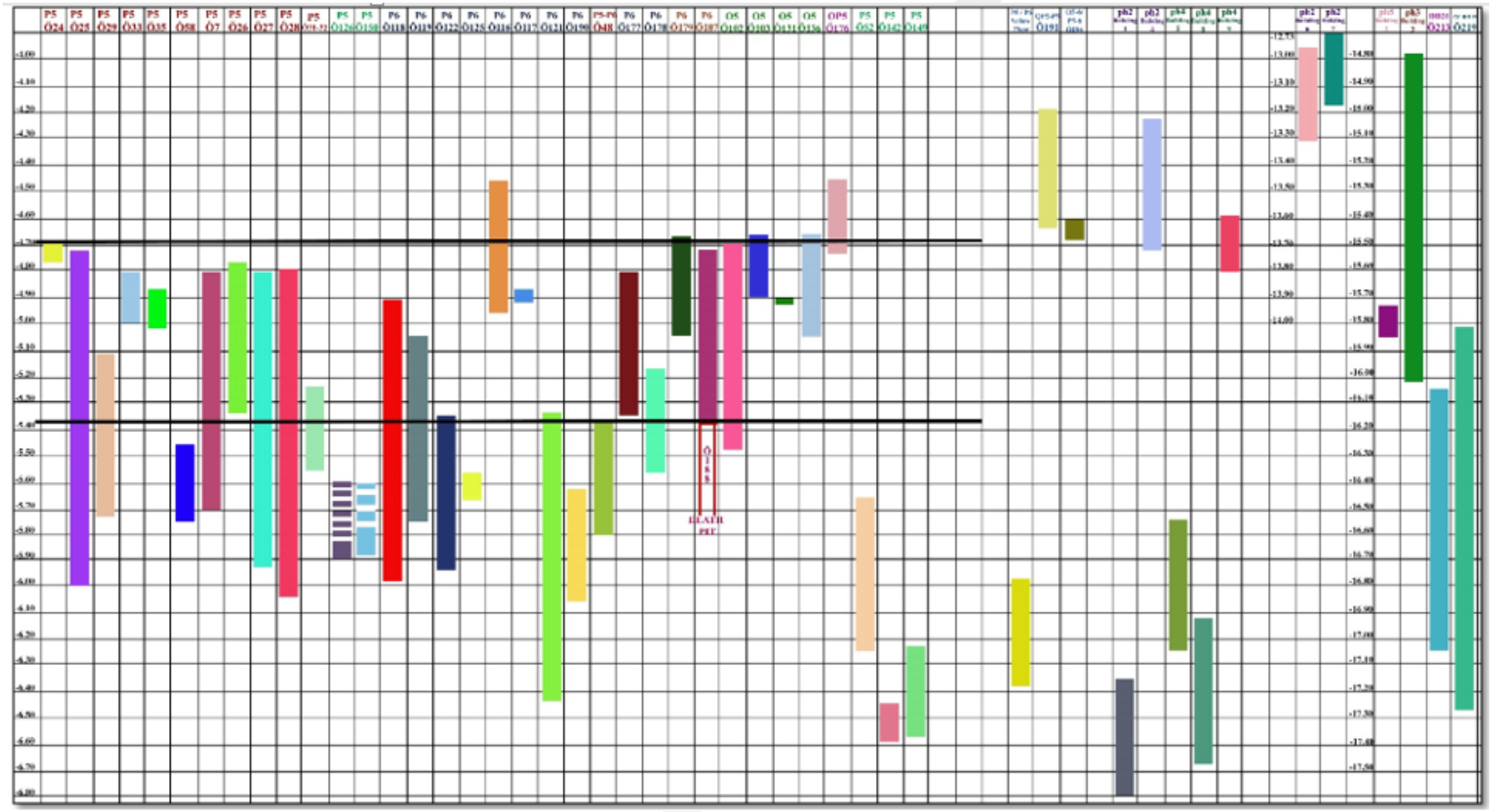


Figure 24. Chronological relations among all constructions at Uğurlu through time

Table 4. Final Chronology for Buildings, Pits and Floors at Uğurlu

	BUILDINGS	**PITS**	**FLOOR (PLATFORM)**
PHASE II (4500-4300 BC)	**BUILDING-1**: O11 B4,5,14 P11 B4,5,8,9 O-P11 B4,8,9 **BUILDING -6**: BB14-15 B5,9,10 BB15 B8,7,5,12,13 **BUILDING -7**: BB14 B2,3,4 5		
PHASE III (5500/5400-4900 BC)	**BUILDING-4**: O6 B3,4,5,6,7,9,13,14 O6-7 B4 N/O6 B4 **BUILDING -3**: DD20 B11,13,10,4 CC/DD19 B7,9 DD19 B3 DD19/20 B3 CC19 B31 CC20 B4,7,9,14,16,17,18 CC19-20 B3,7	**PITS of Trench-P5:** Ö24(B.44), Ö25(B.45,110), Ö26(B.46), Ö27(B.47,131), Ö28(B.48,128), Ö29(B.52), Ö31-32(B.56), Ö33(B.62), Ö35(B.63), Ö58(B.101), Ö48(B.89), Ö7(B.39), Ö126(B.130), Ö150(B.139) **PITS of Trench-P6:** Ö48(B.72), Ö116(B.4), Ö117(B.8), Ö118(B.9), Ö119(B.10), Ö121(B.16,47), Ö122(B.17), Ö125(B.20), Ö177(B.58), Ö178(B.61), Ö179(B.66), Ö187(B.70), Ö190(B.87), Ö188(B.88; human burials) **PITS of Trench-O5:** Ö 102(B.10, 34, 35), Ö103(11,23), Ö131(B.28)	**FLOOR of Trench-QP5:** Ö191(B.3) **FLOOR of Trench-P5:** Ö191(B.161)

Table 4 (continued)

PHASE III (5500/5400-4900 BC)		**PITS of Trench-O5-6:** Ö136(B.5) **PITS of Trench-OP5:** Ö176(B.3) **PITS of Trench-CC/DD19:** Ö219(B.13) **PITS of Trench-DD20:** Ö213 (B.15)	**FLOOR of Trench O5-6/P5-6:** Ö194(B.10)
PHASE IV (5900-5500 BC)	**BUILDING -9**: O5 B25,33,36,38 O5-6 B9	**PITS of Trench-P5:** Ö52(B.91,103)	
	BUILDING -5: P5 P5 B 104,106, 107, 108		
		PITS of Trench-P5: Ö149(B.144)	**FLOOR of Trench-P5-P6:** **YELLOW FLOOR** P5 B113,115, 118,121,122, 137,138 P6 B39
	BUILDING -8: P5 B146,149,150,152	**PITS of Trench-P5:** Ö142(B.140)	
PHASE V (6600-5900 BC)	**BUILDING -2**: BB20-21 B31, 35, 36		
PHASE VI (6800-6600 BC)	**Sounding**		

3.3 Descriptions of Artifact Categories Found at Uğurlu

In this section, the artefacts found at different phases of Uğurlu Höyük will be presented followed by analyses of artefact distributions in space and time. At the end of 2017 field season, total 3.419 small finds have been obtained from excavations of Uğurlu (Table 5, Table 6). All small finds obtained from excavation database have been standardized to be convenient for analyses of this thesis. For this, synonym labels of a certain find have been determined and then these groups were gathered as a single category. Thus, the number of categories of small finds was assigned as 27 (Table 5). Pottery sherds, lithics, human bone, animal bones and botanical remains have also been included in the analyses as distinct categories (Table 5). Based on their raw materials, there are eight main categories of small finds. Clay objects consist of spindle whorsl, decorated pots, eared pots, polypod vessels, miniature vessels, face decorated vessels, ceramic dissc and other clay objects. Bone objects consist of awls, muller-spatula, spatula, worked bone, worked horn, worked tooth and fishhooks. Ground stone objects include sling balls, grinding stones, stone axes, stone chisels, stone vessels and other worked stone pieces. Remaining small find categories are spondylus and other sea shell objects, obsidian, figurine, bead, metal objects.

Table 5. Artifact Categories

Pottery					
Flint					
Human Bone					
Animal Bone					
Botanical Remains					
[redacted]					
1	Obsidian	10	Ceramic disc	19	Worked tooth
2	Figurine	11	Clay object	20	Fishhook
3	Bead	12	Spondylus object	21	Sling ball
4	Spindle whorl	13	Seashell object	22	Ground stone
5	Decorated pot	14	Awl	23	Stone axe
6	Eared pots	15	Muller-Spatula	24	Stone chisel
7	Polypod vessel	16	Spatula	25	Stone vessel
8	Miniature vessel	17	Worked bone	26	Worked stone
9	Face decorated vessel	18	Worked horn	27	Metal object

Fortunately, the best studied trenches efficiently showing the patterns of continuity and change over time have been found from all excavated areas. These are trenches of P5 and P6 in the western part of the settlement and trenches of BB14, BB15 and BB20-21 in the eastern part of the site. Fills of these trenches play host to one or more phases. Therefore, in this thesis it is assumed that certain sections of fills of these certain trenches can give a reference or a big picture about artifact distributions during a specific phase. In other words, artifact distributions through time have been examined with analyses of these fills. This assumption is accepted for analyses of each phase. Due to this approach, numbers in Table 6 doesn't match with sum of numbers in other tables showing artifact distributions through time.

In the direction mentioned above, trenches of P5, BB14 and BB15 have been used so that distributions of small finds can be seen during Phase II. Although Phase II can be observed in fills of other trenches of excavation site, trenches of P5, BB14 and BB15 have been preferred because these three trenches successfully reflect patterns of continuity and change over time for this phase. Followed by related units in matrix of trenches of P5, BB14 and BB15 have been determined for numeric distributions of artifacts during Phase II, all small finds coming from units of this phase have been gathered and then counted. According to this table, bone objects are found in high quantity during Phase II. The number of special potteries and figurines, on the other hand, is less (Table 7).

To cope with this limitation mentioned above, trenches of P5 and P6 have been selected because these two trenches have a successful continuity for examination of artifact distributions during Phase III. And then, reliable numbers were obtained from these contexts. Amall finds of Phase III encountered through matrix of trenches of P5 and P6 have been gathered and counted for distribution analyses of artifacts (Table 8). It can be said that Phase III is substantial in terms of amount and variety of small finds. When quantities in this phase are compared with other phases, the most figurines are found in Phase III. Also, this phase is the richest period in terms of special potteries, such as decorated pots, eared pots and polypod vessels. A large number of bone and

shell objects, similarly, abound in this phase as to other phases. In addition, all members of stone objects are found in this phase. On the contrary to this abundance, the amount of bead decreases to a large extent.

Although Phase IV can be also seen in several areas of the site, trenches of P5 and P6 have been used for distribution analyses of small finds during Phase IV because these trenches have been studied extensively and have the longest life cycle for this phase. Related units of trenches of P5 and P6 which are the best worked areas and have high continuity in the settlement have been used for determination of numeric distributions of small finds during Phase IV. The dominant group is bone objects in this phase. Comparisons of quantity of bone objects of Phase IV with prior phases show that the amount in this group raised high. Similar situation is also true for stone objects. Moreover, the amount of bead is more than the next phase. Interestingly, limited number of eared pots main characteristic for Phase III are found in small quantities in Phase IV (Table 9).

BB20-21 is the best observable trench for Phase V due to its continuity for material culture. After related units in matrix of trench BB20-21 that represents Phase V in the best way have been determined for numeric distributions of small finds during Phase V, all small finds have been counted and analyzed (Table 10). Rates of small finds during this phase indicate that the amount of shell objects is too little whereas bone objects are dominant among artifacts. Also, beads and stone objects are comparatively found in high quantity in Phase V.

Trench BB20-21 has been also preferred for artifact analyses of this phase because it is the best observable trench with its processed data. Phase VI has been reached in only one area within whole excavation site. Small finds have been identified from units in earlier layers of trench BB20-21 and then counted (Table 11). According to the chart, bead and bone objects are found dominantly. However, there is no any pottery in this phase.

In the following pages, these artefact categories will be described and their distributions in time and space will be shown on graphs. Small finds will be presented in relation to their raw materials which are mainly clay, shell, animal bone and stone. However, figurines and beads are separately introduced, because these artefacts can be made of clay, shell, animal bone and stone.

Table 6. Numeric Distribution of All Small Finds

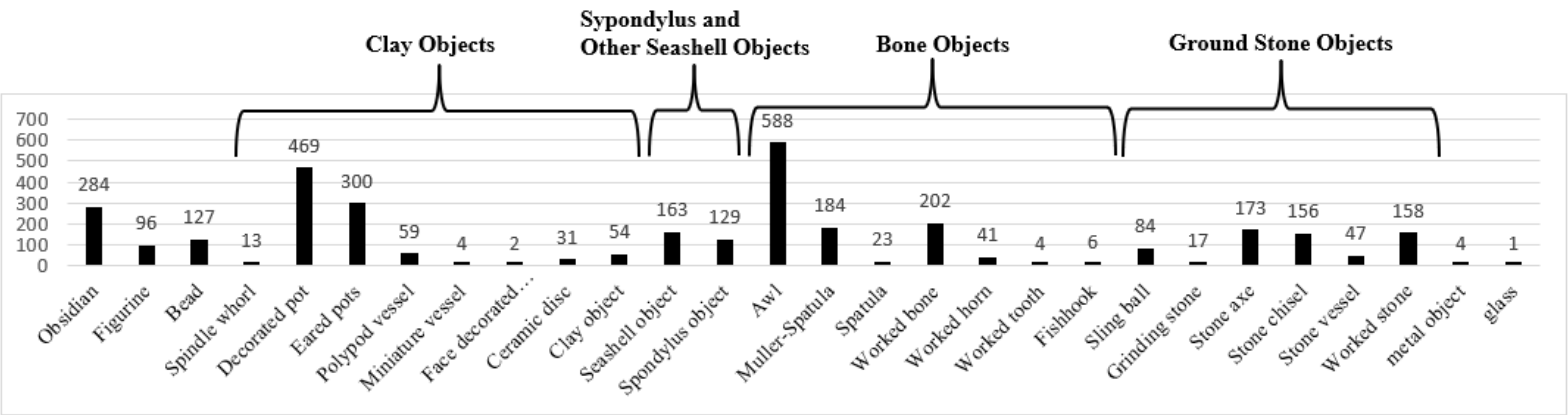


Table 7. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase II (Within trenches P5-BB14-BB15; including Building 6, Building 7 and fill, excluding Building 1)

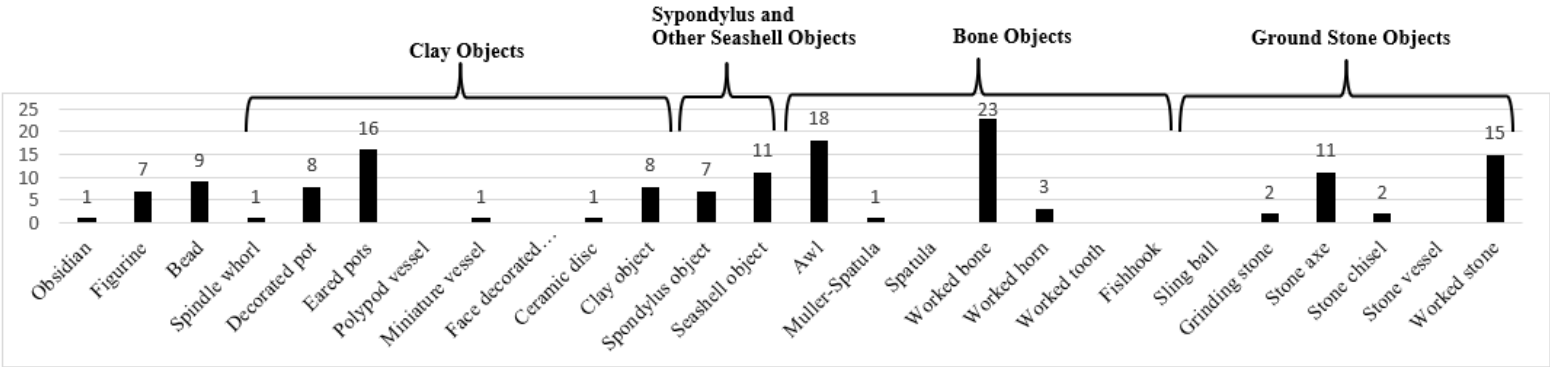


Table 8. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase III

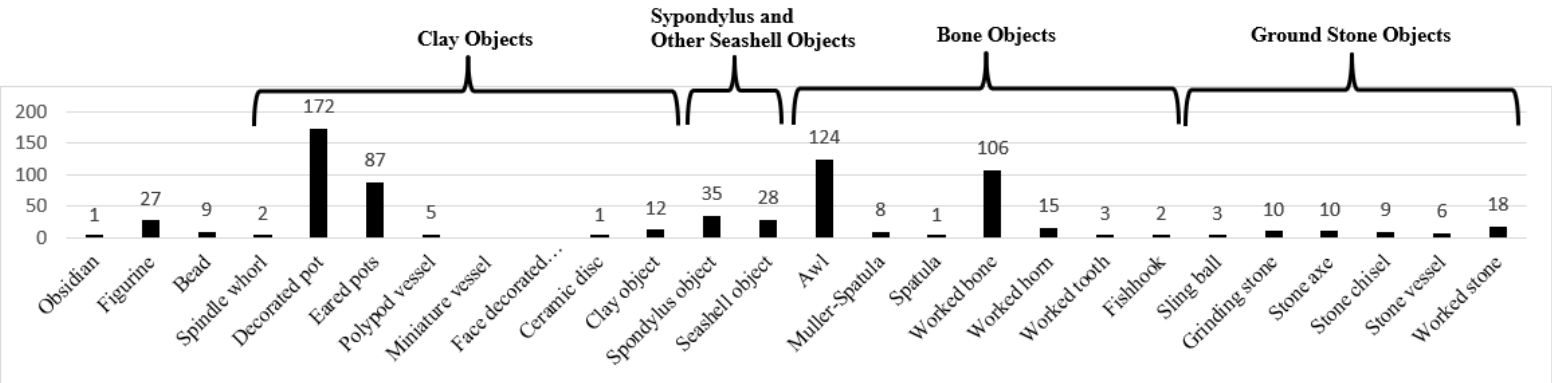


Table 9. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase IV

(Within trenches P5-P6; including Building 5, Building 8, Yellow Floor, 2 pits and fill, excluding Building 9)

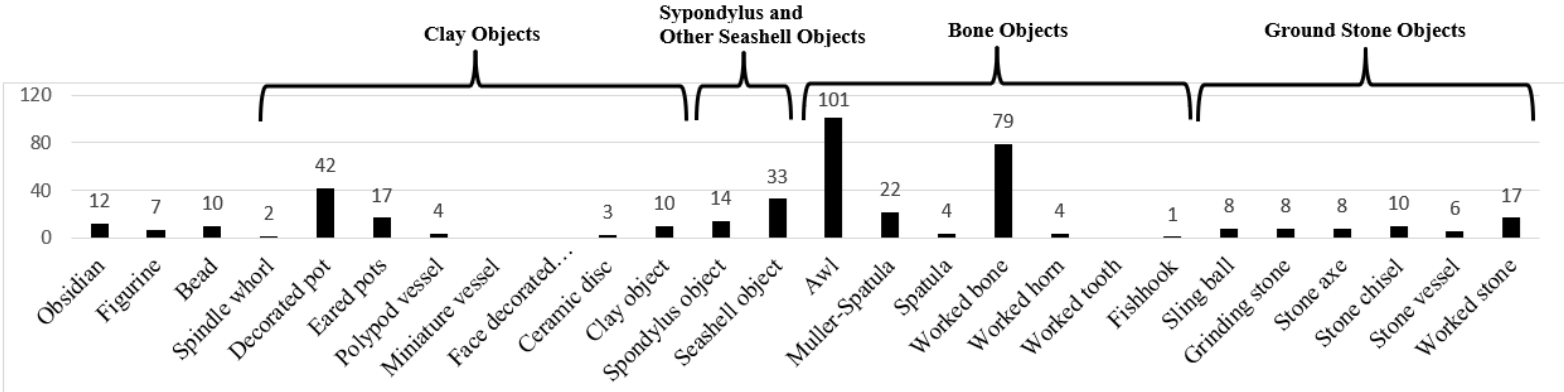


Table 10. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase V (Within Trench BB20-21; including Building 2 and fill)

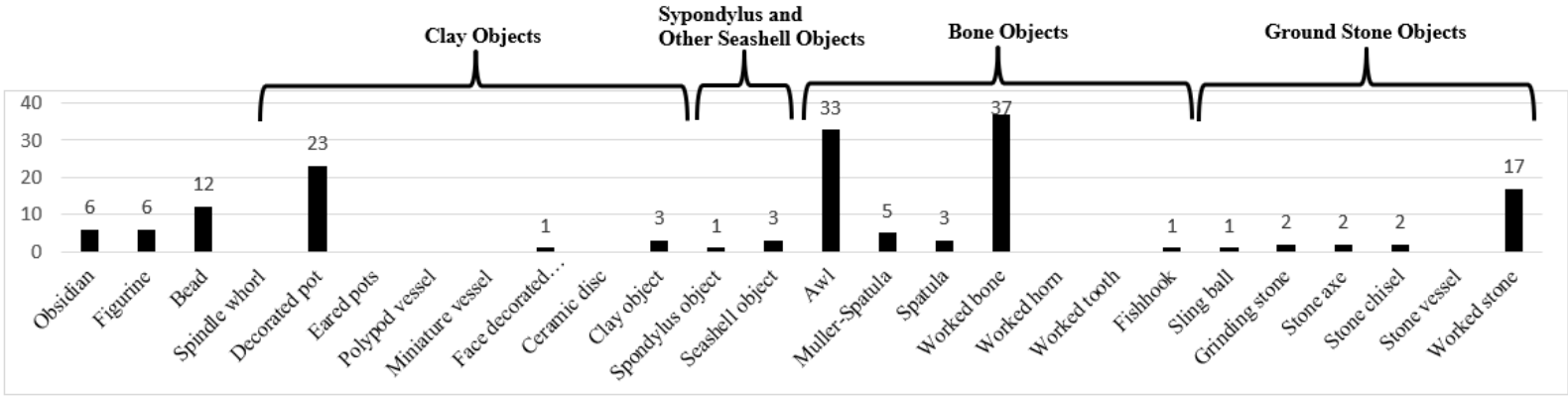


Table 11. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds in Phase VI (Within trench BB20-21; fill)

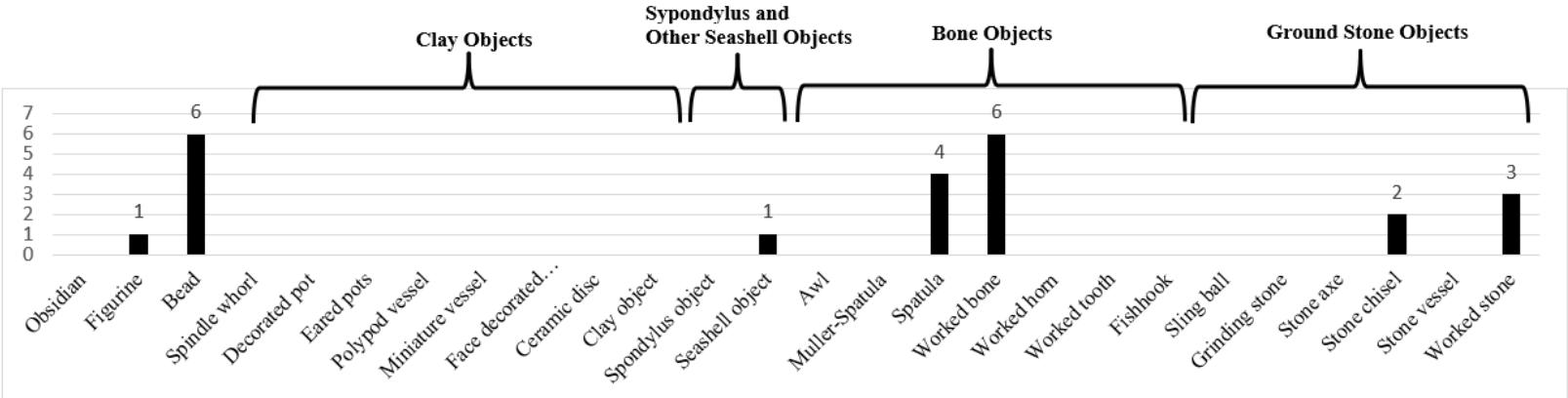


Table 12. Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts

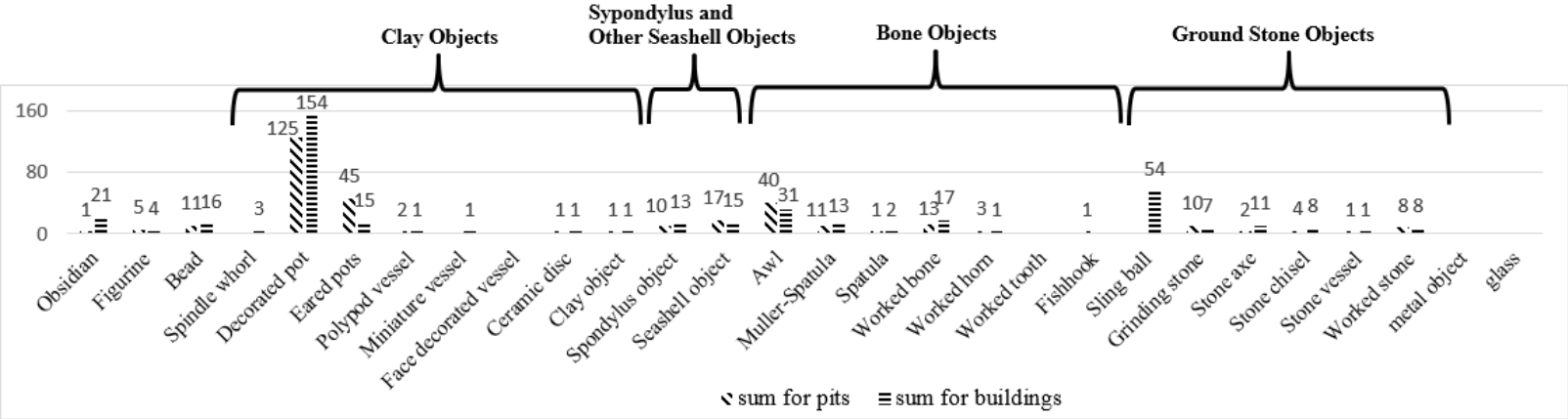


Table 13. Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts in Phase III

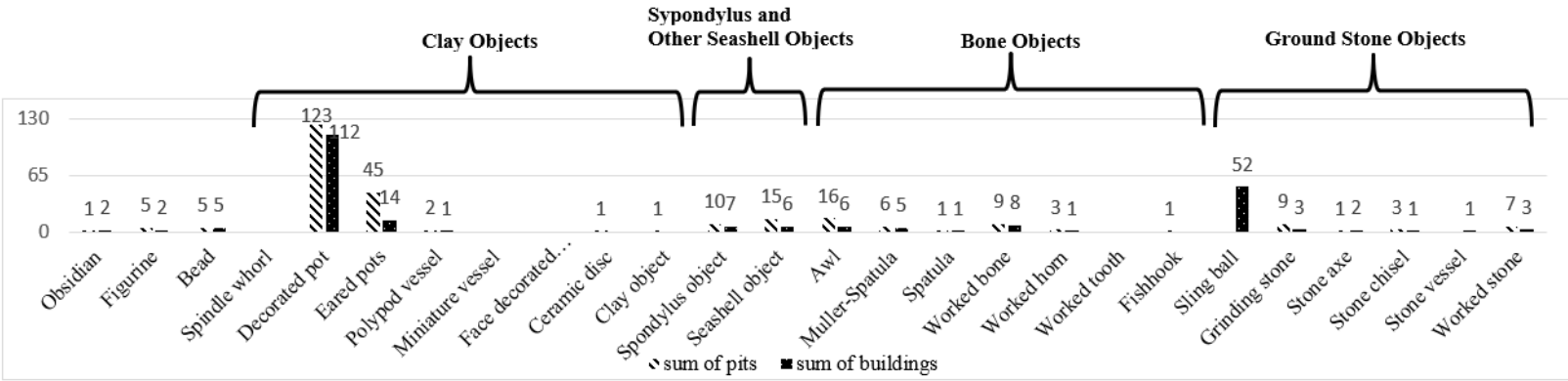


Table 14. Numeric Distributions of Small Finds in Building vs. Pit Contexts in Phase IV

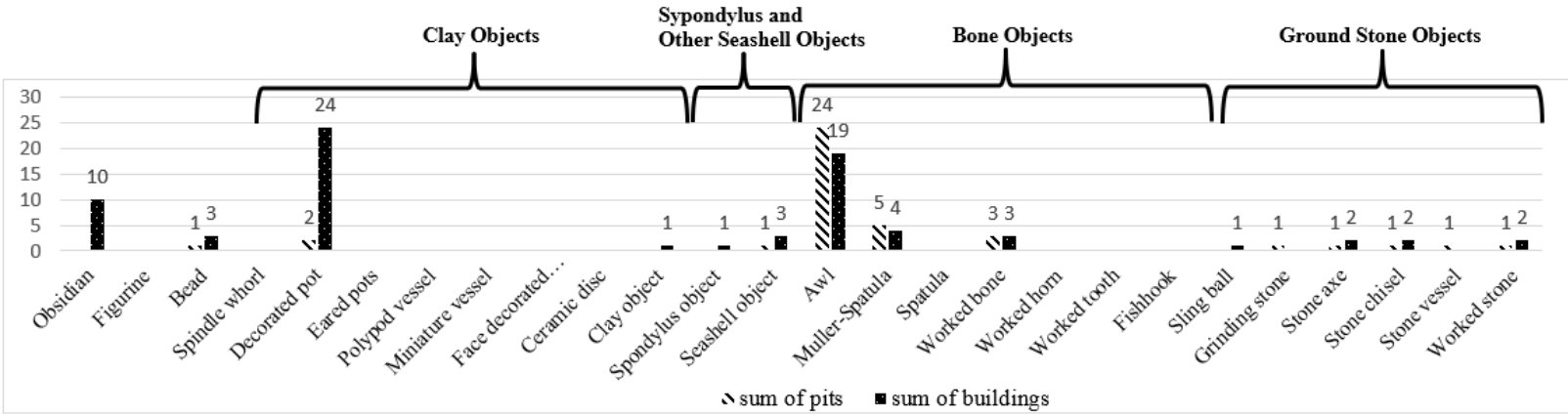


Table 15. Total numbers of assemblage from buildings, pits, special floors and fill for each phase

PHASES	BUILDINGS	PITS	SPECIAL FLOORS	FILL
Phase-II	Building-1 (trench O11-P11) Sum=39	-	-	Sum of trench P5= 106
	Building-6 (trench BB14-15, BB15) Sum=19			Sum of trench BB14-BB15= 39
	Building-7 (trench BB14) Sum=12			
Phase-III	Building-3 (trench CC19-DD20) Sum=36	All pits (trench P5-P6-O5-CC19-DD20) Sum=271	Ö191 (trench P5) Sum=28	Sum of trench P5=288
	Building-4 (trench O6) Sum=144		Ö194 (trench O5-O6) Sum=1	Sum of trench P6=194
Phase-IV	Building-5 (trench P5) Sum=35	All pits (trench P5) Sum=41	Yellow Floor (trench P5-P6) Sum=12	Sum of trench P5=199
	Building-8 (trench P5) Sum=17			Sum of trench P6=110
	Building-9 (trench O5) Sum=23			
Phase-V	Building-2 (trench BB20-21) Sum=20	-	-	Sum of trench BB20-21=135
Phase-VI	-	-	-	Sum of trench BB20-21=23

Pottery

The most prevalent group of artefacts is represented by pottery that utilizes the local clay sources close to Uğurlu (Erdoğu, 2014, p.161; 2013). For the purposes of this thesis, decorated pot sherds, eared pot sherds, polypod vessels, miniature vessels, and other clay objects have been counted and recorded separately as small finds, each of which will be explained in the upcoming pages. Here, a general overview of the ceramic assemblages through time will be introduced.

In the earliest phase with pottery in the site, Phase V, majority consists of red slipped and burnished pottery handmade and thin walled while black sherds are rare. And, this pottery has characteristic lugs that are placed vertically and tubular. In addition, deep bowls with 'S' profile and hole – mouth vessels are common for this period (Fig. 25). Similarities of pottery in Phase V are seen at sites from Western Anatolian, Turkish Thrace and Marmara region (Erdoğu, 2014, p.160).

At Uğurlu of Phase IV, handmade, reddish, burnished and thin walled pottery is prevalent and represents a continuity from Phase V. In terms of techniques and colors a variety can be noticed. Specifically, the color spectrum of black burnished series has various hues. Besides, vertically placed long, tube-like seen from previous phase began to be manufactured through different techniques. Deep bowls with 'S' shaped profiles and bead rims are found widely (Fig. 25). Although decoration is seen rarely, some of the most common decorations are impresso and incised lines with dot impressions. Very few painted sherds have been encountered and some of these show similarities to Karanovo I examples. Pottery types during Phase IV are similar to contemporary sites in the Aegean rather than Anatolia (Erdoğu, 2014).

Although some features of the pottery reflect continuity in phase III, in this phase a number of stylistic elements that were unseen before began to be introduced. According to the typological studies on pottery sherds, surfaces of potteries are coated with some color combinations in different ratios of red, brown and black which are simple red, reddish brown, reddish black, simple brown, blackish brown, blackish

purple, simple black and their different densities. According to the graph indicating color changing of sherds through time based on relative values, the color spectrum for potteries of Phase III having mostly mottled surfaces is extensive rather than previous phases (Table 16, Table 17). Also, decorations of burnished channeling, impression and incision and horned handles appeared with eared pots. With similar decorations, polypod vessels with large lids, button-like or horned handles are another essential pottery group in Uğurlu. In terms of form, potteries in Phase III bear traces from Karanovo III-IV, Boian and Vinca whereas eared pots, polypod vessels and figurines have local and distinctive stylistic features for Phase III (Fig. 25; 2014, p.164).

In terms of decoration, there are pattern burnished, channeling, incised decorations with horned and wish-bone handles during Phase II. The range of pottery – color was explicitly decreased in this period (Table 17). Burnished black, gray, red and buff colored and coarse wares are mainly seen according to the characteristics of the pottery in Phase II. (Erdoğu, 2014a, 2014b, 2016). Distribution of thin wall sherds through time based on relative values presents that coarse wares are larger than fine wares during Phase II while the ratios of thin wall sherds are high towards the earlier periods at Uğurlu (Table 18).

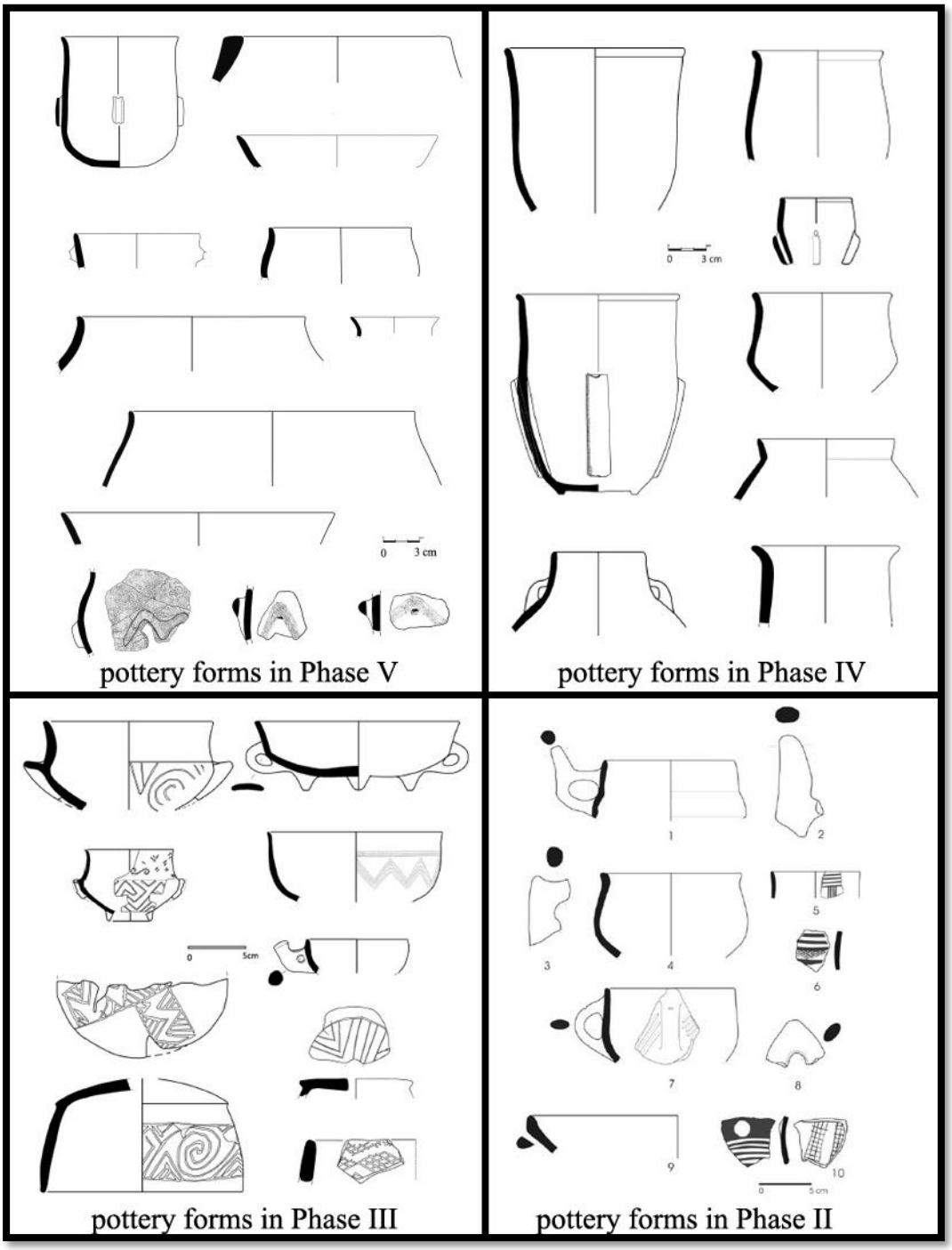


Figure 25. Varieties of pottery forms of Uğurlu through time
(After Erdoğu, 2014a: Fig. 11, 12, 13, 19, 20; Erdoğu, 2011b: Fig. 6)

Table 16. Distribution of pottery sherds through time (total numbers from buildings and pits excluding fills defined in Table 15)

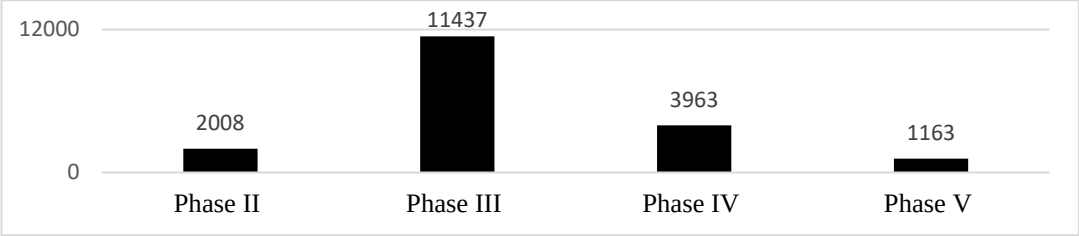


Table 17. Distribution of pottery colors through time

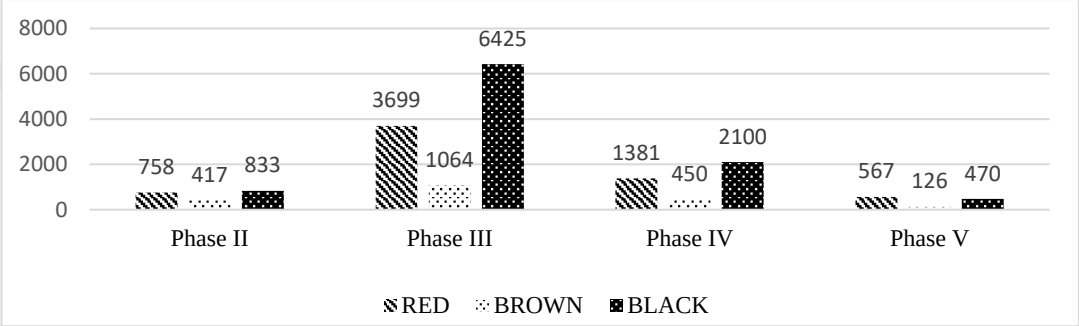
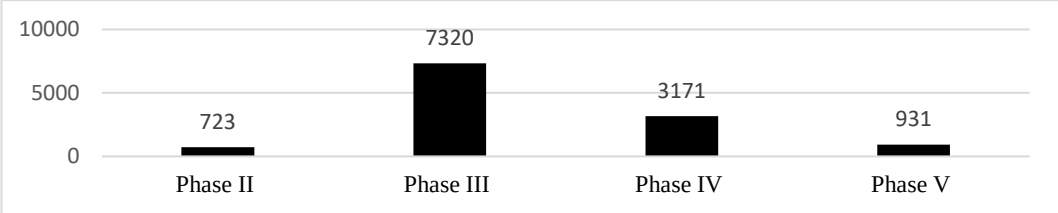


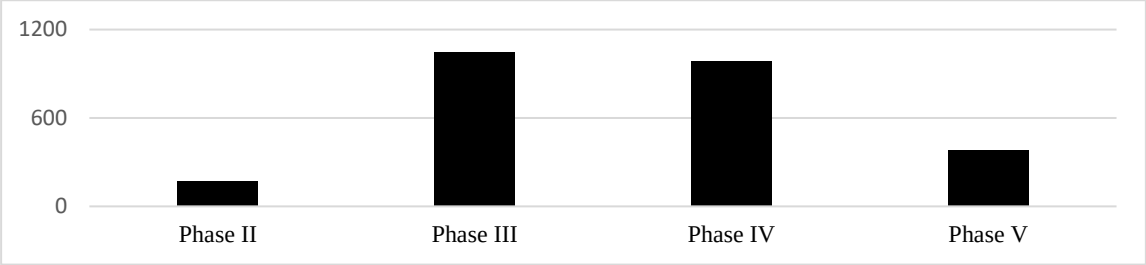
Table 18. Distribution of thin walled sherds through time



Flints

About 18.778 flints were studied until now (Fig. 32, Table 6). Local flint resource was frequently preferred at Neolithic Uğurlu. Unlike flakes, blades made by 'the pressure technique' are rare in both Phase V and Phase IV. Flint macro blades so-called "Balkan Flint" is the most remarkable artifact group in Phase IV. It can be also said that local flint source was mostly preferred for Phase III and Phase II (Erdoğu, 2014; Atakuman et al., 2017). The graph of distribution of flints through time based on relative values obtained from some certain spatial contexts shows that amounts of flint in Phase IV and Phase III are close and much more than other phases (Table 19).

Table 19. Distribution of relative numbers of flint through time (total numbers from buildings, pits and special floors excluding fills defined in Table 15)



Human Bones

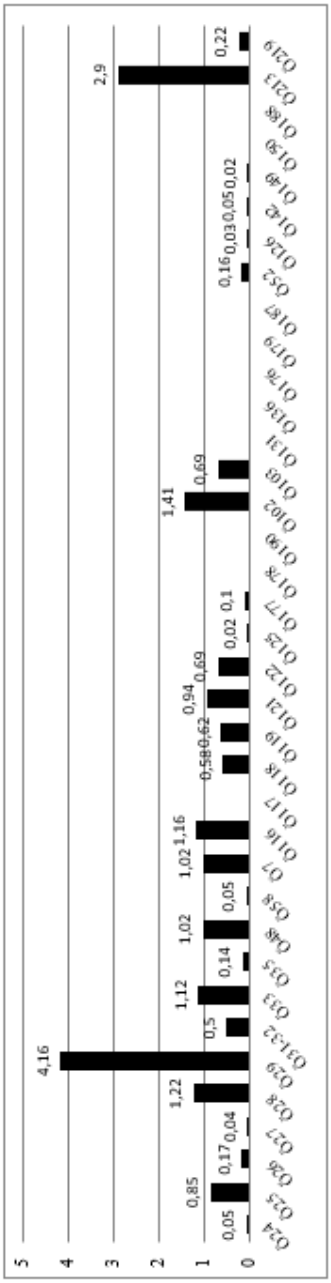
Human skeleton remains have been discovered from three different contexts and their analyses are continuing by Başak Boz in Universtiy of Thrace. As explained in section 3.1 of this thesis, these remains have been recovered from pits in Phase III, namely Ö25, Ö29 and Ö188.

Animal Bones

Because the specialist analyses of animal bones continue by Levent Atıcı, a species-based articulation and counting of animal bones has not been possible in this thesis. However, animal bones that come from the pit contexts have been weighed and recorded (Table 20).

According to Atıcı, in addition to domestic animals such as sheep, goat and cattle, wild animal bones, such as boar, red deer, hare and fox are among the species encountered at Uğurlu (Atıcı et al., 2017, p.21-22, Erdoğu, 2014, p.158). Ratios of these animals change throughout the phases, however the caprines seem to be the focus of animal exploitation throughout the phases. The shifts in ratios may be related to the effects of environmental limitations and resource management on the island, such as mobility, accessibility and availability of pastures and water (Atıcı et al., 2017, p.21).

Table 20. Total of animal bones (kg) in pits



Botanical Remains

Soultana Valamoti's continuing analyses of botanical remains from the site indicate that "domestic cereals including einkorn wheat (*Triticum monococcum*), six-rowed barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), naked barley (*Hordeum vulgare var. nudum*) and *pea* (*Pisum sativum L.*)" are among the species encountered at Uğurlu (Erdoğu, 2014, p.159). Furthermore, a new wheat species (Triticum timopheevi which is Caucasian

wheat), one species of barley (Hordeum sp.) and one species of lentil (Lens sp.) were detected in Phase III. Also, fig (Ficus carica) and peanut (Pistacia sp.) were also found among the residues (Erdoğu, 2015, p. 198).

Clay Objects

This group is one of the greatest small find groups at Uğurlu. It can be said that the most dominant characters in the group of clay objects are decorated pots, eared pots and polypod vessels.

Decorated sherds were counted as 469 pieces totally (Table 6). Those sherds were decorated with various techniques of incision, impression, channeling and painting. Such decorative techniques can also be encountered on polypod vessels and eared pots, however the items referred as "decorated pots" in this study are those pots that have not been identified as polypod or eared pot pieces.

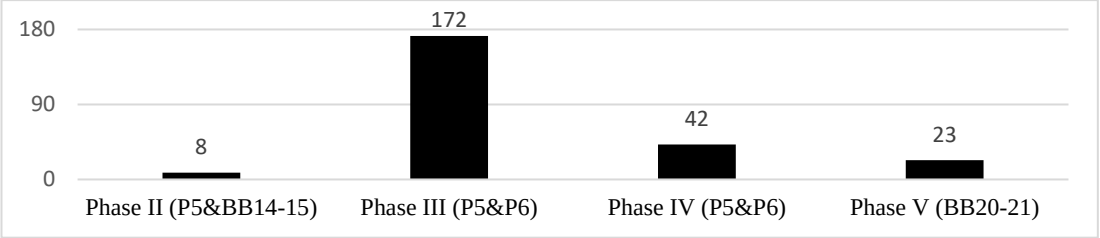
In addition to this graph, one more table was created to present the numeric changes of artifacts through time (Table 27). This table shows situations of continuity, increase or decrease for a certain trend of its previous phase for each phase. According to the state of the former one, expected state was compared with the real numbers in actual phase. One of three situations was encountered to the result of comparion. This table supports inferences of Table 21.

In terms of places, Building 4 has a great amount of decorated pots. Actually, although pits have much more decorated pots than building, the context of building is seen richer as to total numbers (Table 12, Table 13). Its reason is Building 4 because in contrast to all other buildings, one and only this construction has decorated pots in the extreme. In other words, apart from Building 4, there are few decorated pots in context of other buildings. As decoration, relief decorations on some sherds are found in Phase V (Fig. 26). Whereas there is little trace of decoration on potteries in Phase IV, impresso and incised lines with dot impressions are seen as typical decoration techniques (Fig. 26). Almost all decoration styles can be found in Phase III while there are pattern

burnished, channeling and incised decorations in Phase II (Fig. 26; Erdoğu, 2014, p.164).

Figure 26. Varieties of decoration on ceramics from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

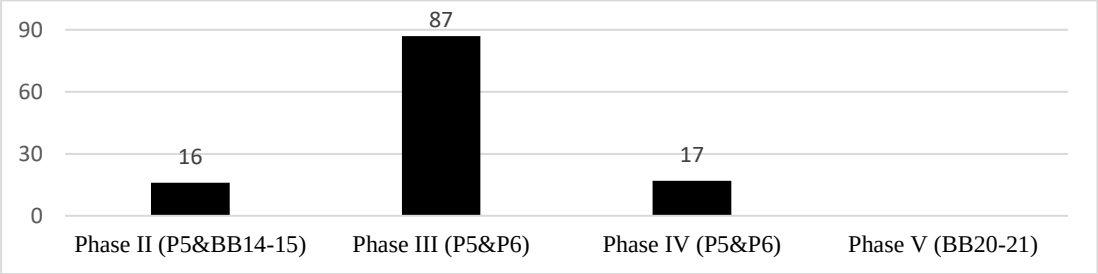
Table 21. Distribution of decorated pots through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Eared pot or 'four-footed bowl with ear-like handles' is another most dominant pottery group encountered specifically in Phase III (Fig. 27, Table 22, Table 27; Erdoğu, 2014, p.163). Totally 300 eared pot pieces were revealed from excavations (Table 6). Eared pots have mainly designs of cross and crooked cross, parallel lines, spirals and zig – zag by means of several decoration techniques, such as impression, incision and channeling (Fig. 27; ibid.). Interestingly, the total number of eared pots recovered from the pits of phase III are three times more than those found in buildings of the same phase (Table 12, Table 13).

Figure 27. Samples and decorations of eared pots from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

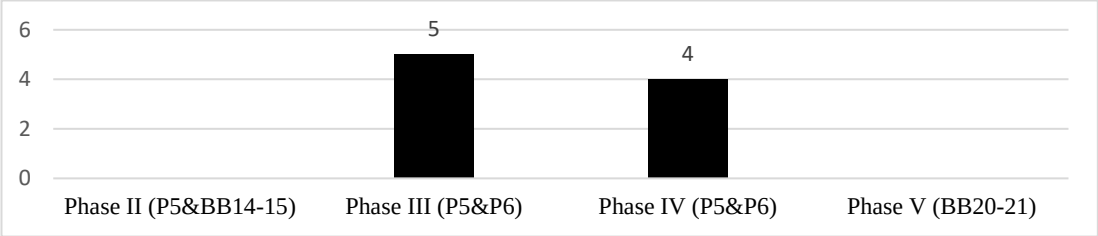
Table 22. Distribution of eared pots through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Box or polypod vessel is a special form of pottery that has a rectangular of triangular form that stands on four of three feet. 59 pieces have been countered in the site (Fig. 28, Table 6, Erdoğu, 2014, p.163). They are often decorated with crosses, parallel lines, spirals and zig – zag with some decoration techniques, such as impression, incision and channeling. Large quantity of polypod vessels were obtained from the pit area of phase III and a few from the Phase IV (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14, Table 23, Table 27).

Figure 28. Samples and decorations of polypod vessels from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

Table 23. Distribution of polypod vessel through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Sypondylus and Other Seashell Objects

At Uğurlu, there are various kinds of shells mainly consisting Spondylus, Glycymeris, Nassarius, Cerastoderma, Venerupis and Patella within the big group of shells (Erdoğu & Yücel, 2013, p. 190). Totally 292 items from this group were found at Uğurlu at the end of 2017 field season (Table 6, Fig. 29, 30). It is known for a long time that seashells transported long distances were used to produce personal ornaments, such as bracelets, pendants and beads. And, Baysal and Erdoğu state that seashells especially Spondylus and Glycymeris were used in a broad area containing Aegean, Balkans and central Europe during the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods (2014, p.366; Bajnóczi et al., 2013, p. 875). On the other hand, although shell products were utilized for the

manufacturing and recycling, there are few evidences about their consumption (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p.374).

Spondylus which is highly valuable is considered as one of the most important signs of both long – distance trade network and socio – symbolic prehistoric life (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p.366; Erdoğu, 2014, p.163). According to measurement results of Spondylus bracelets, their diameters are not suitable for adults. Therefore, authors mention that these bracelets may only have been produced for children or infants (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p. 366-367).

Beads which are other production of Spondylus (Fig. 29). Uğurlu beads were manufactured mostly in the form of disc. But, any standardization for diameter or thickness are not observed. Also, no certain evidence for the secondary use of bracelet fragments for the manufacture of beads has been found as results of shell works (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p. 368).

Because there are a large number of complete shells at Uğurlu assemblage, it is considered that the artefacts made of various kinds of shell were not reached in final form on the island (ibid., p. 368). For Spondylus objects, after this process started in a place close to the source of the material, reprocessing and adaptation were taken place in the site. Authors state that "shell working on Gökçeada should predominantly be primary manufacture, probably intended for redistribution" (ibid., p. 370). In general, authors mention about the production of shell object at Uğurlu during the different phases that this state and this continuity are most probably related with the location of site due to the activities of passing seafarers (ibid., p. 375).

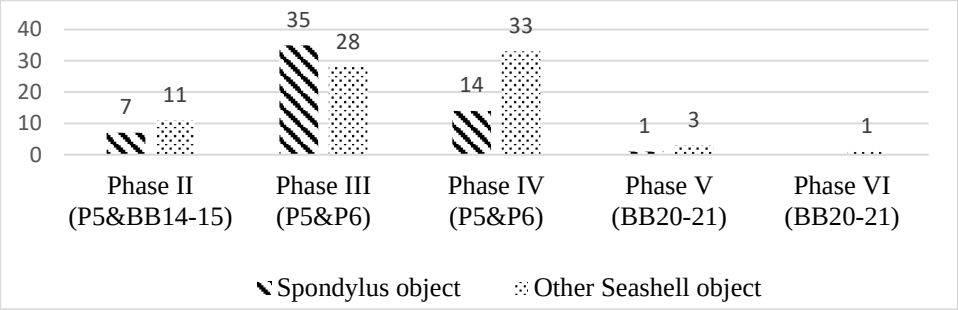
In the spatial context, at Uğurlu, 7 of 37 pits and 5 of 9 buildings have Spondylus and other seashell objects in different quantities (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). According to both the graph based on relative values and a table showing trends by comparing expected state with the real numbers, it can be said that usage density of these objects in Phase III nearly shows parallelism with previous phase (Table 24, Table 27). A large

number of seashell objects, especially Spondylus, are found in Phase III. In fact, the fill of pit area during Phase III is very rich as to Spondylus products that are a great number of samples worked or ready to process. Due to this situation, researchers are compelled to think about opinion that there may be a workshop in the settlement (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p. 367; Erdoğu & Yücel, 2016, p. 197). Interestingly, it can be mentioned about distributions of beads as being another shell object through time that this number decreases especially in Phase III when the ratio of manufacture of Spondylus and other seashell objects is very high (Baysal & Erdoğu, 2014, p. 368).

Figure 29. Samples of spondylus objects from all phases at Uğurlu site
(From Uğurlu archive; Modified after Erdoğu, 2014a: Fig. 10)

Figure 30. Samples of other seashell objects from all phases at Uğurlu site
(From Uğurlu archive; Modified after Erdoğu, 2014a: Fig. 10)

Table 24. Distribution of Sypondylus and other seashell objects through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Bone Objects

Another most common small find group at Uğurlu is bone objects. Total 1.049 bone objects were unearthed from excavations (Table 6). The main ones are awls, spatulas, smoothers and worked bones whose function is not clear. Bone hooks are also significant artifacts (Fig. 31, 32; Erdoğu, 2014, p.159). According to the results of analyses on bone objects, there are traces of controlled firing strengthening the structure and also needing experted knowledge. Some decorations, moreover, can be seen on the bone object (Paul, 2016, p.77-78; Paul & Erdoğu, 2017). In terms of numeric distributions of bone objects in pits, buildings and special floors, pits are richer by a narrow margin (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). When looked in the context of time, it is observed that following to amount of bone objects gradually increases from Phase VI to Phase III at Uğurlu, a big fall is seen in Phase II (Table 25, Table 27).

Figure 31. Samples of awl from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

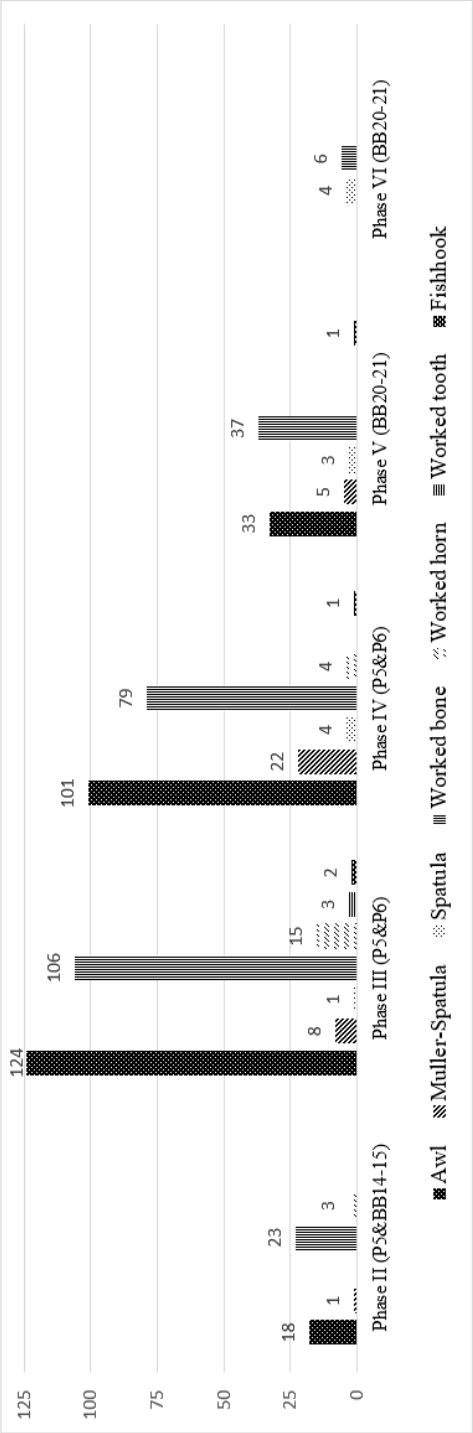
Figure 32. Samples of other bone objects from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

The most prevalent bone objects among small find assemblage of Uğurlu is 'awl' or 'point' that were mainly used for daily needs (Table 6). "Points were also required in ceramic decoration and textile manufacture to manipulate the visual form of an item" (Paul, 2016, p.74). There is an interesting worked bone group within awls. These bone objects have rounded heads which might have been represented human being as 'idols' for symbolic activities (Fig. 30; Erdoğu, 2014, p.159). In the spatial context, awl in the highest quantity is found in pits rather than buildings or particular floors (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). The wealthiest pit between all pits is pit Ö52 with 22 awls. In the context of time, the number of awl leaped forward in Phase IV and especially Phase III when this number is compared with former and later phases (Table 25). Like Spondylus object, it can be observed that there is much more awl in the fill of pit area than pits during Phase IV and Phase III.

The next common item from bone objects at Uğurlu belongs to 'smoother' coming to mean 'mablak' in Turkish (Table 6, Fig. 31). Paul mentions that smoothers made of long bones have "a long-curved shaft and a smooth surface and glossy finish". This object would have been used to polish other surface or to remove fat from animal hide. 'Spatula' looking like smoother in terms of morphological aspect is associated with pottery production by removing extra material on the surface (2016, p.86-87). In the discussion part, smoother and spatula will be examined as being one artifact group. Pit

Ö52 from pits and Building 4 among all buildings have higher number of smoother in the spatial context. In terms of its numeric distributions in different phases, Phase IV has highest number (Table 25).

Table 25. Distribution of bone objects through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Ground Stone Objects

Total 637 ground stone objects, such as sling balls, grinding stones, stone axes, stone chisels, stones vessels and worked stones were uncovered from Uğurlu (Table 6, Fig. 33). A large quantity of stone axes and chisels made of quartz and few serpentines were found at the excavation site (Table 6, Erdoğu, 2014, p.159). Also, the most common volcanic rock is andesitic for grinding stones (Erdoğu, 2013, p.169). In the spatial context, apart from stone axe and chisel, other stone objects show a like distribution for the quantity of objects in contexts of pits and buildings (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). Majority of stone axe and chisel are found in buildings while the number of ground stone is much more in pits (Table 12). In addition to source of stone objects, while marble does not naturally occur on the island, only marble objects are found in phase IV (Özbek & Erdoğu, 2015, p.119).

Figure 33. Samples from ground stone objects, flint and obsidian from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

In the context of time, a rise is observed from earliest phase to Phase IV as to total number of ground stone objects in graph based on relative values whereas this affluence in Phase III decreases in actual fact. The situation was confirmed with a table showing trends by comparing expected state with the real numbers to straighten this relative perception. At the end, the number of ground stone objects decreases in Phase III (Table 27). In addition, the higher ratios of stone axe, stone chisel and grinding stone including pestles and mortars are found in Phase VI and Phase IV (Table 26).

Table 26. Distribution of ground stone objects through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)

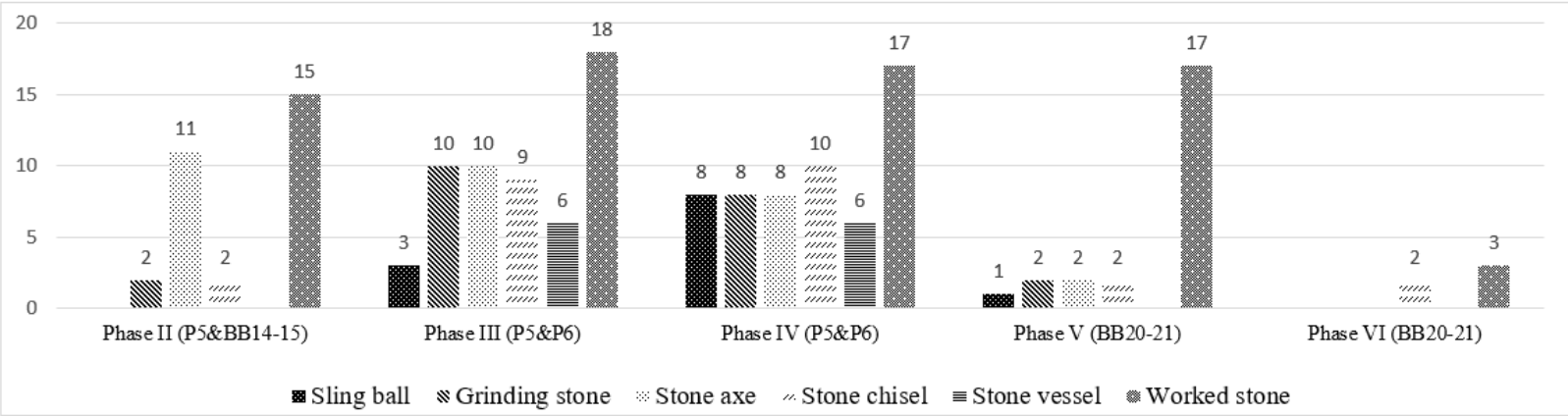


Table 27. Changes in the quantity of artifact groups at Uğurlu through time
(These markers show proportionately quantitative trends of artifacts through time)

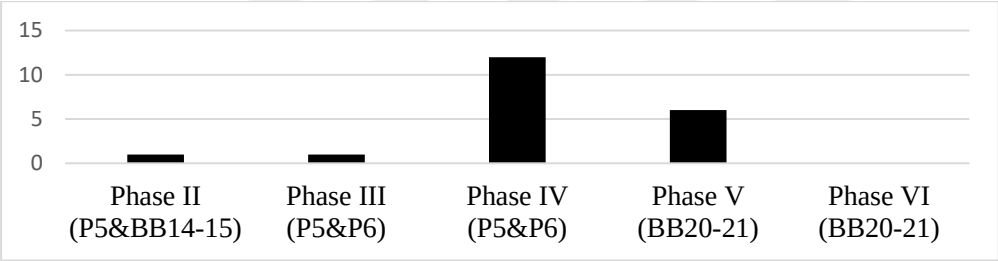
	Phase VI	Phase V	Phase IV	Phase III	Phase II
Obsidian	-	6	12	1	1
Figurine	1	4	7	27	7
Bead	6	12	10	9	9
Clay objects	-	27	78	279	35
Bone objects	10	79	211	259	45
Shell objects	1	4	47	63	18
Ground stone objects	5	23	57	56	30
Total	23	158	422	694	145

means no change	means almost the same with little decrease	means decrease	means increase

Obsidian

Totally 284 obsidians were studied until now (Fig. 33, Table 6). In terms of spatial context, the only one pit called as Ö116 has obsidian while Building 2 and Building 8 have the greatest number for obsidian. Distribution of Obsidian through time based on relative values shows that the most intensive usage is seen in especially Phase IV (Table 28, Table 27). According to the results of the analysis of obsidian pieces from site, obsidian was brought from both Central Anatolia and Melos during Phase IV. Anatolia is not seen among obsidian sources for Phase III. Also, similar case is true for Phase II in terms of source of obsidian (Erdoğu, 2014, p.161; Atakuman et al., 2017).

Table 28. Distribution of Obsidian through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



Figurines

Totally 96 figurines have been obtained at Uğurlu from 2009 – 2017 field seasons (Table 6, Fig. 34). Apart from one which is a zoomorphic figurine, all figurines have anthropomorphic attribute (Atakuman et al., 2017). Although their raw material is mostly clay, there are a considerable number of figurines which were made of bone, shell and stone. According to studies on figurines, all clay figurines are found brokenly in the archaeological contexts. But, it has been observed that they have a kind of breakage pattern (Fig. 35). Interestingly, matching is out for broken pieces of figurines. Moreover, figurines were produced piece by piece so that they can be broken easily. According to this production technique, after legs were shaped separately, they were bonded with upper body part with thin organic laths (Fig. 35). For their heads, it is said that most of figurines have inserted heads which were probably made of bone or stone

while there are figurines don't have any hole for inserted head. When clay is still wet, surface was ornamented with some patterns. Then, these clay figurines were fired between 400 and 700 centigrade degree. On the other hand, figurines made of marble were produced from a monoblock stone in contrast to production technique of piece by piece.

Figure 34. Samples of figurines from all phases at Uğurlu site (From Uğurlu archive)

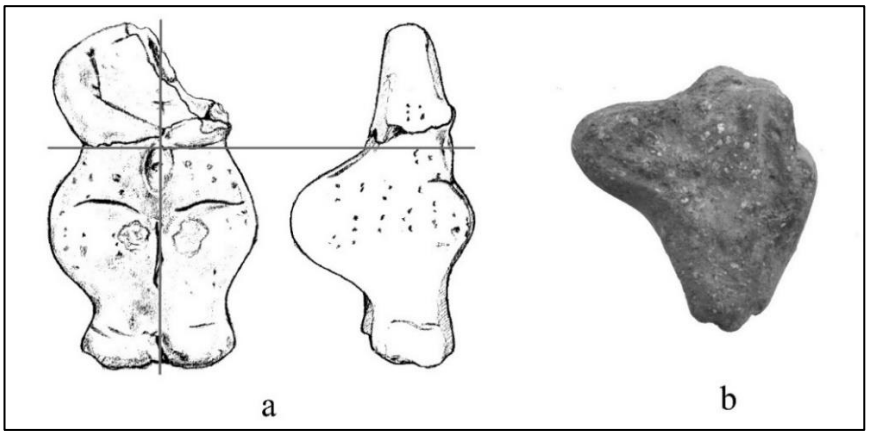
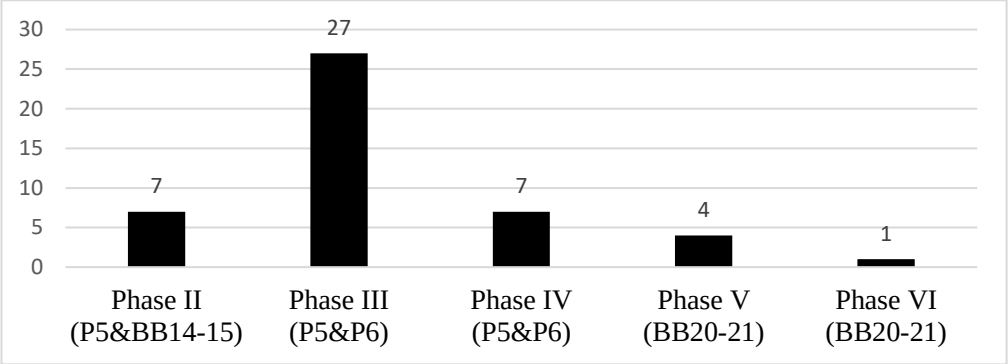


Figure 35. Features of production and breakage for figurines in Phase IV and Phase III. a) standard breaking axes b) A sample figurine having traces of lath combining all parts of a figurine on fracture surface (drawing by Emine Arslan)

According to distributions of figurines based on relative values in the context of time, it is seen that majority of figurines are found in Phase IV and especially Phase III (Table 29, Table 27). Atakuman et al. state that similarities of sack-shaped and bone inserted head figurines at Uğurlu site are found in Höyücek (Duru, 1991, p.160). Also, the likes of a pyramid – shaped object made of seashell and a clay figurine head of Uğurlu are again found in Hacılar, Bademağacı and Höyücek in Lake District (2017; Duru, 2008, p. 93-94; Mellaart, 1970, p.484; Kulaçoğlu, 1992, p.64). After Phase V, figurines in Phase IV and Phase III have some differences whereas they show some parallelism with previous phase. Atakuman et al. mention that in terms of form, figurines look like some cultures in Southwestern Asia from the mid of 7th millennium BC. Wide hips, fat bodies and folded arms are main characteristics of anthropomorphic figurines (2017; Erdoğu, 2014, p.163). The first examples of this form of figurines are seen in small quantity in Phase IV. Then, the number of figurines shows increase in Phase III. Clay figurines have several decorations involving geometric patterns with incised lines on their surfaces (Fig. 34). Also, marble figurines are very rare, and they are found in Phase III for the first time (2017).

In terms of general forms, Atakuman et al. point out that figurines of Uğurlu in Phase IV and Phase III show parallelism with some contemporary sites, such as Karanovo, (Bacvarov, 2002, p. 129; Mikov, 1959, p. 93), Hoca Çeşme (Özdoğan, 1999, p. 186), Aşağıpınar (Özdoğan, 2013, p. 257-266), Ulucak (Çilingiroğlu et al., 2004), Barcın (Gerritsen, Özbal and Thissen, 2013, p. 112). In addition, the closest settlements in terms of both form and decoration for figurines are in a region containing Dikilitaş, Makri (Hansen, 2007, p. 199), Makriyalos (Hansen, 2007, p. 200), Sitagroi (Gimbutas, 1986, p. 229-232-235). However, it should be specified that ceramic repertoire of figurines of Uğurlu is typical. It is observed that some attributes have been lost during the transition from Phase III to Phase II at Uğurlu and their number fallen into a decline (2017).

Table 29. Distribution of figurines through time (total numbers from buildings and pits including fills defined in Table 15)



3.4 Analyses of Artifact Distributions in Time & Space

Based on the analysis of artifacts defined in Table 15, in this section, phase by phase distribution of artefacts will be examined in terms of their numeric values for each analysed context. It is assumed that this method will give opinions about: the varieties and densities of artifacts in special places, relationships between artifacts and places and the function of place.

3.4.1 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase II

As mentioned in the introductory part of the previous section, although Phase II can be observed in fills of a number of trenches in excavation site, only trenches of P5, BB14 and BB15 have been preferred because these three trenches successfully reflect patterns of continuity and change over time for this phase. After all small finds coming from units of this phase have been gathered and then counted, it has been appeared depending on relative values that bone objects are found in high quantity during Phase II. The number of special potteries and figurines is less (Table 7).

In addition to distributions in the context of time, artifacts of Phase II according to the spatial context have been examined in this section. These spatial contexts consist of three buildings Building 1, Building 6 and Building 7. 2 obsidians that are supposed as critical artifact groups were found in Building 1. This context, also, is the wealthiest building in terms of the number of stone objects. Special ceramics, bone and seashell objects represent the equal distributions (Fig. 36, Table 30). Special ceramic objects, such as decorated pots, spindle whorl and ceramic disc and stone objects, such as ground stone, stone axes and worked stones were found in Building 6 (Fig. 37, Table 30). There are special ceramic objects, bone objects and stone objects evenly in Building 7 (Fig. 38, Table 30).

According to the chart of numeric distributions of total ceramic in the spatial contexts during Phase II of Uğurlu, Building 1 has the highest number of pottery sherds (Table 31). About ratios of wall thinness of pottery for Phase II, if at least 50 percent of all pottery sherds consists of fine wares in only one context, these ceramics are accepted as fine or thin. The opposite situation demonstrates thick wares. Analyses show that roughly only 35 % of sherds for Phase II have fine wares having thin – walled pottery sherds. In other words, majority of sherds are coarse wares (Table 32). According to the distributions of colors of pottery sherds, ratios of red and black are very close during Phase II (Table 33). However, it can be said for this case that the number of red sherds has increased to the previous phase. Lastly, in terms of amount of flint, especially Building 1 keeps ahead than other buildings in this period (Table 31).

Table 30. Numeric Distributions of Artifacts in Spatial Contexts during Phase II

SMALL FINDS	BUILDING -1	BUILDING -6	BUILDING -7
Obsidian	2	1	
Figurine			
Bead	1	3	3
Spindle whorl	2	1	
Decorated pot	5	6	2
Eared pots	1		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			1
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc		1	
Clay object			
Spondylus object	4		1
Seashell object	5		1
Awl	4		
Muller-Spatula	2		1
Spatula			
Worked bone	3	1	
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball	1		
Grinding stone	2	1	1
Stone axe	3	3	1
Stone chisel	3		1
Stone vessel			
Worked stone	1	2	

Table 31. Numeric Distributions of pot sherds, flint, human bone and animal bones in Each Spatial Context during Phase II

	BUILDING -1	BUILDING -6	BUILDING -7
Total number of pot sherds	1060	504	444
Total number of flint	95	51	24
Total of human bones	0	0	0
Total of animal bones (kg)	-	-	-

Table 32. Numeric Distributions of Total Thin Wall Sherds in Each Spatial Context during Phase II

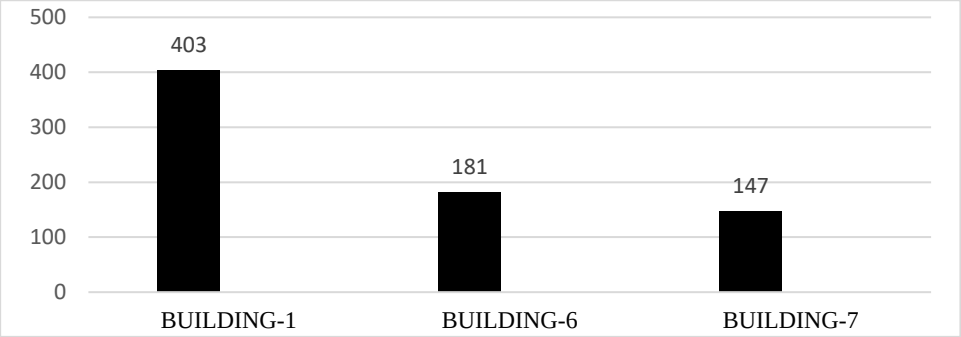


Table 33. Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in Each Spatial Context during Phase II

	RED	**BROWN**	**BLACK**
BUILDING-1	446	157	457
BUILDING-6	148	160	196
BUILDING-7	163	100	180

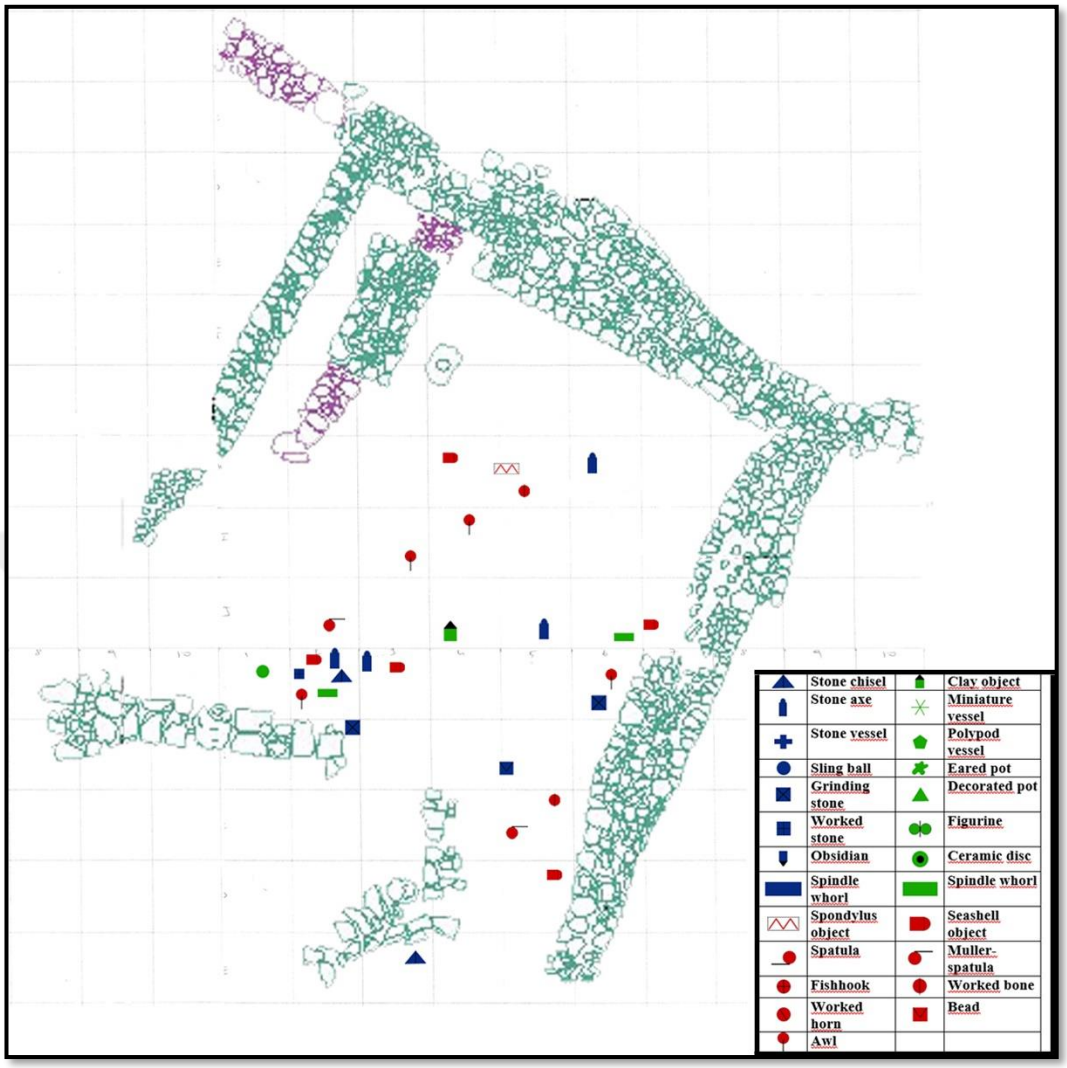


Figure 36. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 1 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

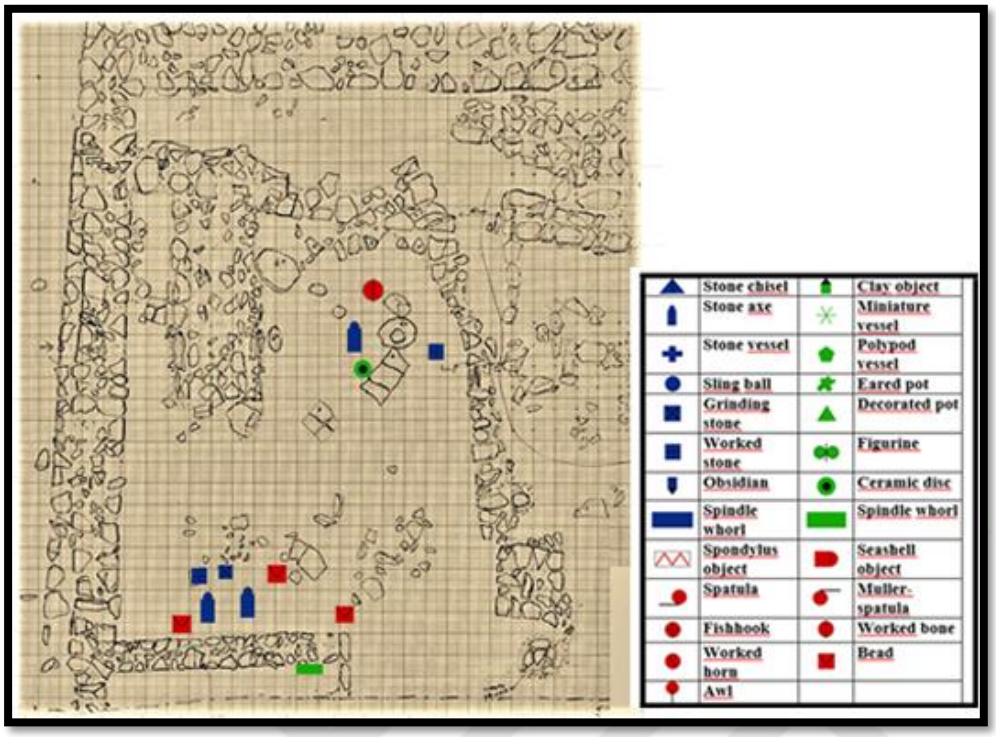


Figure 37. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 6 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

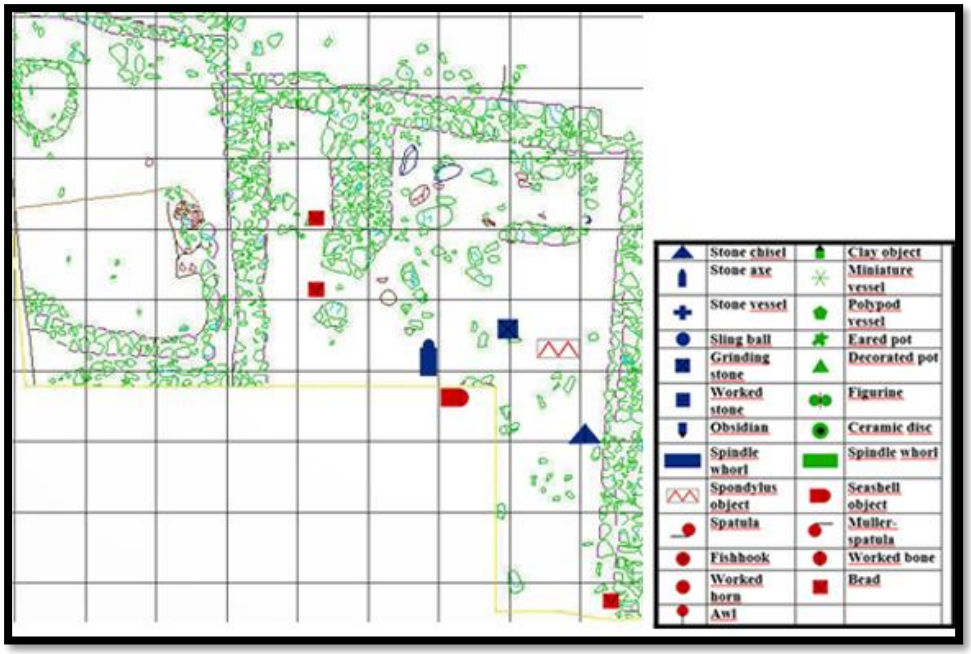


Figure 38. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 7 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

3.4.2 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase III

Trenches of P5 and P6 have been selected to indicate the general picture of artifact distributions based on relative ratios during Phase III because these two trenches studied successfully reflect the patterns of the continuity and change over time for this phase. Followed by small finds of Phase III have been gathered and counted for distribution analyses of artifacts, it can be said that Phase III is very rich in terms of amount and variety for artifatcs. Like bone and shell objects, there are large quantities of figurines and some clay objects, such as decorated pots, eared pots and polypod vessels. However, the number of bead declines to a large extent. (Table 8).

According to the numeric distributions of artifacts in the spatial contexts (Table 34): Interestingly, obsidian is found in only Ö116 pit when there is one each obsidian in both two buildings of Phase III. The figurine was determined in only 4 of 34 pits. Building 4 as being building of this phase and Ö191 as a special floor have a number of figurines (Fig. 40, Fig. 41.). The max bead is found in Ö188 pit between all pits of Phase III. Moreover, the most sling ball were revealed in Building 4 with 52 artifacts.

The most decorated pot which is frequently found within all architectural contractions was uncovered in Ö177 pit with 19 artifacts among Uğurlu pits and also in Building 4 with 108 artifacts between buildings. The most eared pot was determined in Building 4 with 13 artifacts among all buildings. Ö177 and Ö116 among all pits have the highest number of eared pots with 6 artifacts. Also, there are 6 eared pots in Ö191 from special floors. The polypod vessel is found in only two pits, such as Ö29 pit and Ö33 pit. In addition, this symbolic object was also determined in Building 4 and in Ö191.

When all architectural structures are compared, it seems that Building 3 has high number of Spondylus and seashell objects (Fig. 39). On the other hand, it can be said that these artifacts are two of the most common finds found in pits. The most awl that is another group of the most popular artifacts for this phase can be seen in Ö29 pit among pits and in Building 3 with 4 artifacts. In terms of the muller-spatula, Building

4 makes difference with 5 artifacts between all constructions. Building 3 from two buildings of this phase, Ö29 pit between all Phase III pits and Ö191 from special floors attract attention in the quantity of worked bone. Also, worked horn that is other possible symbolic bone object was identified in 1 building and 3 pits in Phase III. Fishhook one of the most interesting objects is found in only Ö28 pit.

Although stone objects are not common artifacts in pits, there are a number of ground stones and worked stones. Also, it cannot be said that the amount of stone object is dominant in terms of buildings. However, the stone vessel which is accepted as a symbolic object is only found in Building 3 in Phase III. In addition to these small finds, if required, distributions of other artifacts can be found in the appendices section of the thesis.

Human remains as bone and skeleton were encountered in only three pits which are Ö188 pit including 13 individuals and Ö25 and Ö29 pits involving a number of human bones (Table 35). In terms of numeric distributions of pottery sherds, Ö29 from all pits has the highest amount of pottery sherds with 1303 pieces. Building 4 among all buildings at the site has the most pottery sherds with 2613 pieces (Table 35).

Table 34. Numeric Distributions of Artifacts in Each Spatial Context during Phase III

Small Finds	Ö24	Ö25	Ö26	Ö27	Ö28	Ö29	Ö31-32	Ö33	Ö35	Ö48	Ö58	Ö7	Ö102	Ö103	Ö116	Ö117	Ö118	Ö119	Ö121	Ö122	Ö125	Ö126	Ö131	Ö136	Ö150	Ö176	Ö177	Ö178	Ö179	Ö187	Ö190	Ö213	Ö219	Ö188	BUILD-3	BUILD-4	Ö191	Ö194
Obsidian															1																				1	1		
Figurine					1													1	2												1					2	3	
Bead	1					1								1	1																	1		5	4	1		
Spindle whorl																																						
Decorated pot		9	2	3	11	8	3	1	4	3		3	15	1	9		1	6	3	3				8			19		1	1		3	6		4	108	12	1
Eared pots		4			5	3	2	1	3			4	5		6				2	1	1					1	6		1						1	13	6	
Polypod vessel						1		1																												1	1	
Miniature vessel																																						
Face decorated vessel																																						
Ceramic disc			1																																			
Clay object						1																															1	
Spondylus object		1			2	2			2				1						1	1															4	3		
Seashell object		1			5	1			1	1	1		1		1															1			2	1	5	1	1	
Awl		2			2	4	1					1					1		1					1							1	2			4	2	2	
Muller-Spatula		1			1						2						1													1						5		
Spatula																		1																	1			
Worked bone						2							1	1	1				1	1				1			1							1	5	3	2	

Table 34 (continued)

Small Finds	Ö24	Ö25	Ö26	Ö27	Ö28	Ö29	Ö31 -32	Ö33	Ö35	Ö48	Ö58	Ö7	Öl102	Öl103	Öl116	Öl117	Öl118	Öl119	Öl121	Öl122	Öl125	Öl126	Öl131	Öl136	Öl150	Öl176	Öl177	Öl178	Öl179	Öl187	Öl190	Ö213	Ö219	Öl188	BUILD -3	BUILD -4	Öl191	Öl194
Worked horn						1						1	1																						1			
Worked tooth																																						
Fishhook					1																																	
Sling ball																																				52		
Grinding stone		2	2															1	2														2		3			
Stone axe																								1											2			
Stone chisel		1												1		1																				1		
Stone vessel																																			1			
Worked stone		2															1									1				1		1	1			3		

Table 35. Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in Each Spatial Context during Phase III

(Human remains in Ö188 are individual skeletons)

	Total number of pot sherds	Total of Thin Wall Pottery Sherds	Total number of flint	Total of human bones	Total of animal bones (kg)
Ö24	8	5	7		0,05
Ö25	485	340	62	7	0,85
Ö26	102	64	8		0,17
Ö27	166	100	11		0,04
Ö28	402	217	16		1,22
Ö29	1303	1016	84	2	4,16
Ö31-32	194	105	14		0,5
Ö33	79	57	6		1,12
Ö35	158	87	12		0,14
Ö48	252	141	16		1,02
Ö58	29	23	7		0,05
Ö7	7	7	38		1,02
Ö102	558	357	23		1,41
Ö103	107	64	30		0,69
Ö116	654	445	37		1,16
Ö117			12		0
Ö118	1	1	16		0,58
Ö119	37	28	7		0,62
Ö121	259	166	26		0,94
Ö122	171	125	19		0,69
Ö125	151	103	2		0,02
Ö126	4	4			0,03
Ö131					0
Ö136	534	379	37		0
Ö150					0
Ö176	21	10	14		0
Ö177	284	40	22		**0,1**
Ö178	19	9			0
Ö179	20	10	3		0
Ö187	60	29	2		0
Ö190	9	6			0
Ö213	168	119	2		**2,9**
Ö219	356	278	18		**0,22**
Ö188				13*	0
BUILD-3	1102	551	153		-
BUILD-4	2613	1700	290		-
Ö191	1102	750	53		-
Ö194	22	15	1		-

Distributions of wall thinness of pottery sherds for pits, buildings and floors from Phase III have been examined with data of typology studies. As mentioned the earlier section, if at least 50 percent of all pottery sherds consists of fine wares for one pit, ceramics of this pit are accepted as mainly fine in this study. In the opposite situation, there are mainly thick wares in that pit. By starting from this point, about 65 percent of all sherds obtained from pits of Phase III is fine ware (Table 34). According to the chart of the ratio of thin wall sherds to total pottery sherds from two buildings, about 58 percent of all pottery sherds consists of fine wares (Table 34). It can be observed from the same chart that 67 percent of all sherds revealed in two special floors is fine ware (Table 34). At the same time, relevant analyses on ratios of wall thinness of pottery sherds for pits show that 26 of 31 pits including pottery sherds dominantly have thin – walled pottery sherds in the site during Phase III (Table 34).

In addition, pottery sherds have been analyzed in terms of distributions of color for sherds from pits, buildings and special floors. Followed by pottery sherds in different colors in contexts had been observed, color factor has been added to typological studies of pottery sherds. From the upper scale, when pits, buildings and floors are examined as separated groups, black color is dominant for pits and buildings whereas distributions of red and black colors are balanced for floors. On the other hand, from the subscale, firstly, all sherds in each pit have been divided into main color groups containing red, brown and black and then counted (Table 36).

However, because these main colors indicate some differences in itself, each main color has been subclassified. These subgroups are made of some combinations in different ratios of red, brown and black, such as simple red, reddish brown, reddish black, simple brown, blackish brown, blackish purple, simple black and their different densities. Then, these subgroups have been also counted (Table 37). This chart indicates that black and its tones are dominantly found within pottery sherds of pits. Red color sherds are extremely in only one pit, Ö116. Because it successfully demonstrates the color diversification of pottery sherds within pit context, this analysis is useful. Nevertheless, because the least common denominator should be found to

understand and interpret this case for several different places pits and related structures, color distributions have been generally studied on the basis of main three colors.

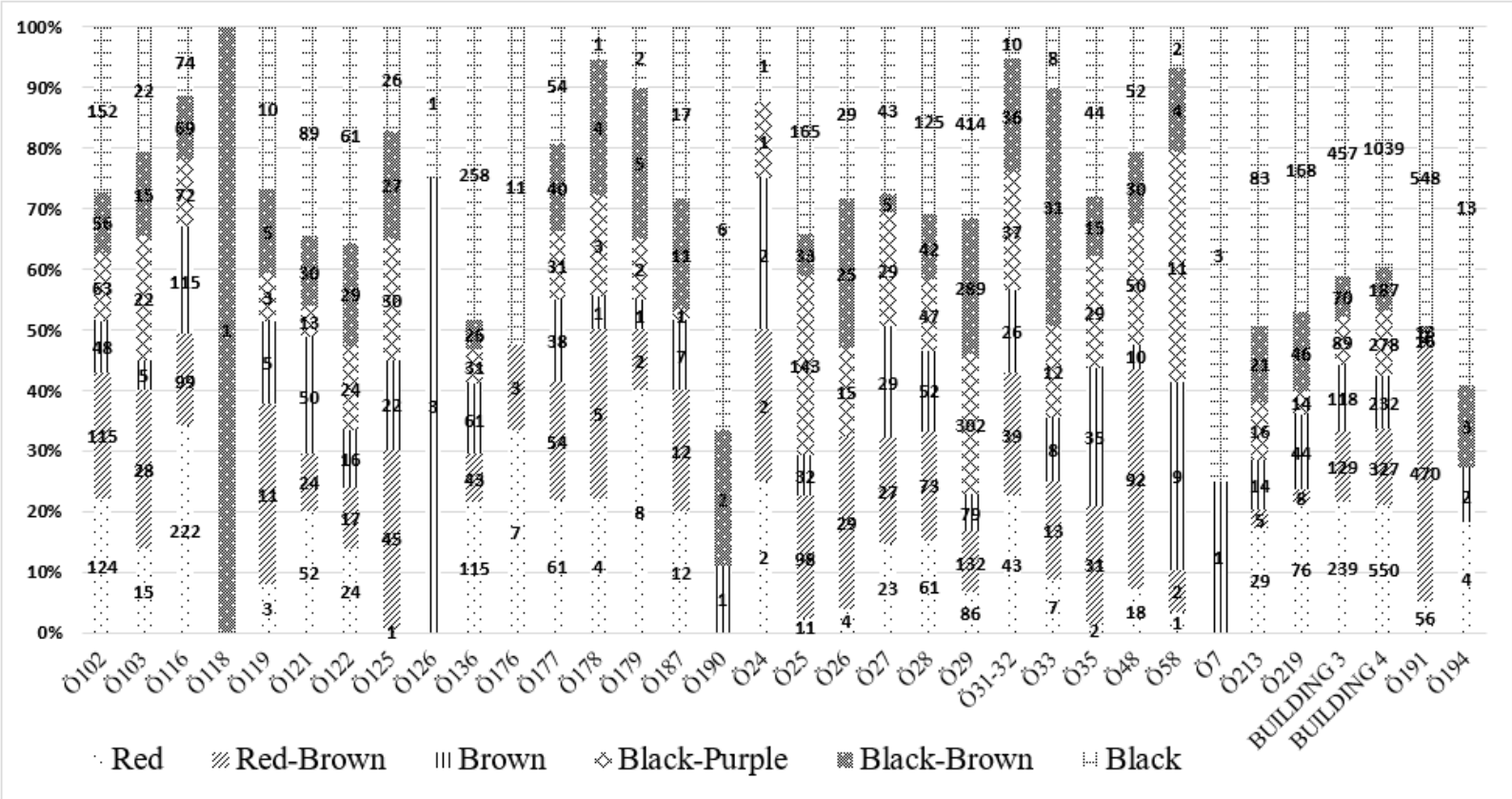
Secondly, all sherds for each building have been divided into main color groups containing red, brown and black and then counted (Table 35). Afterwards, like in pits, these three colors have has been subdivided and counted (Table 37). These graphs show that the quantity of pottery shreds having black color is extremely dominant in Building 3 and Building 4. It can be said that dominant color of sherds in pits and buildings shows parallelism with character of its own phase according to color distributions of pottery sherds in pits and buildings.

Lastly, distributions of color of pottery sherds have been analyzed for special floors as other architectural structure group at the site. The same procedure has been applied for sherds in these floors. Following to all sherds for each floor have been divided into main colors and then counted (Table 36), each main color has been subclassified as being red, red-brown, brown, black-purple, black-brown and black. According to these graphs, black color within assemblage of pottery sherds in Ö191, ratios of red and black color sherds are close whereas black color is more frequently found in Ö194, another special floor (Table 37).

Table 36. Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in Each Spatial Context during Phase III

	RED	BROWN	BLACK
Ö24	4	2	2
Ö25	109	32	341
Ö26	33		69
Ö27	50	29	77
Ö28	134	52	214
Ö29	218	79	1005
Ö31-32	82	26	83
Ö33	20	8	51
Ö35	33	35	88
Ö48	110	10	132
Ö58	3	9	17
Ö7		1	3
Ö102	239	48	271
Ö103	43	5	59
Ö116	321	115	215
Ö118			1
Ö119	14	5	18
Ö121	76	50	132
Ö122	41	16	114
Ö125	46	22	83
Ö126		3	1
Ö136	158	61	315
Ö176	10		11
Ö177	115	38	125
Ö178	9	1	8
Ö179	10	1	9
Ö187	24	7	29
Ö190		1	8
Ö213	34	14	120
Ö219	84	44	228
BUILDING 3	368	118	616
BUILDING 4	877	232	1504
Ö191	526	16	563
Ö194	4	2	16

Table 37. Subgroup Color Distributions of Pottery Sherds in Spatial Contexts of Phase-III



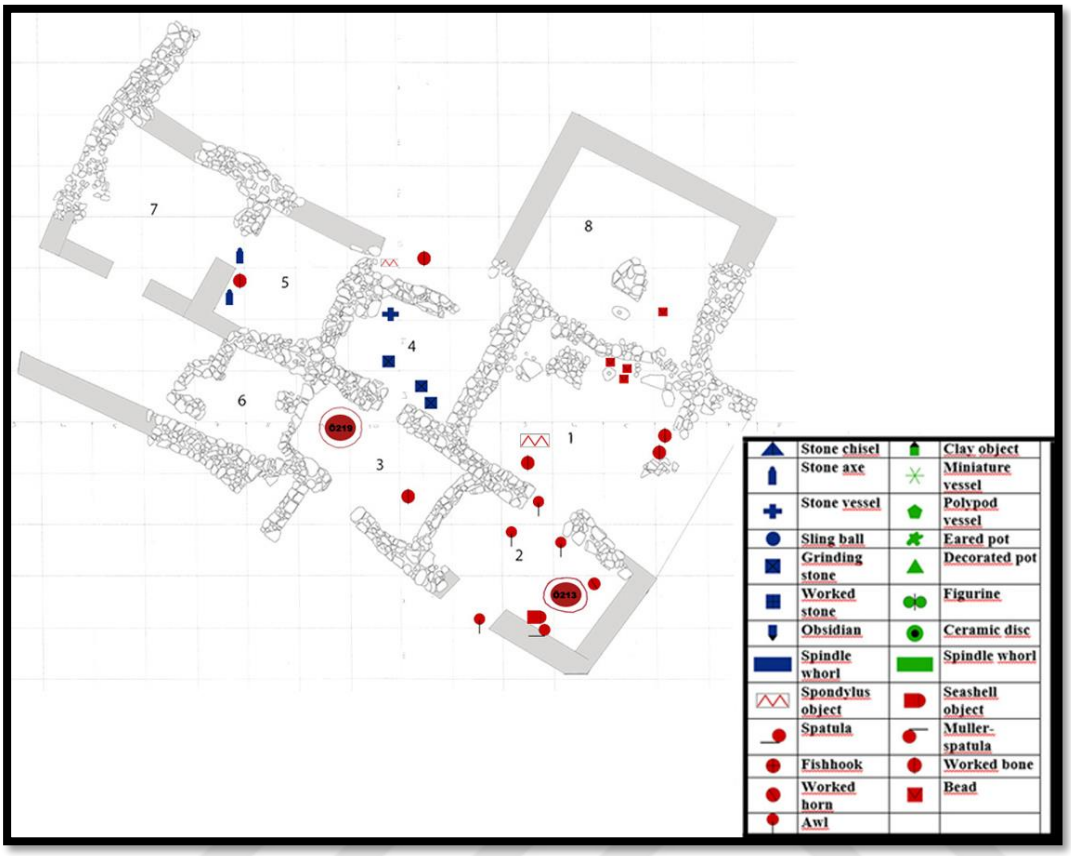


Figure 39. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 3 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

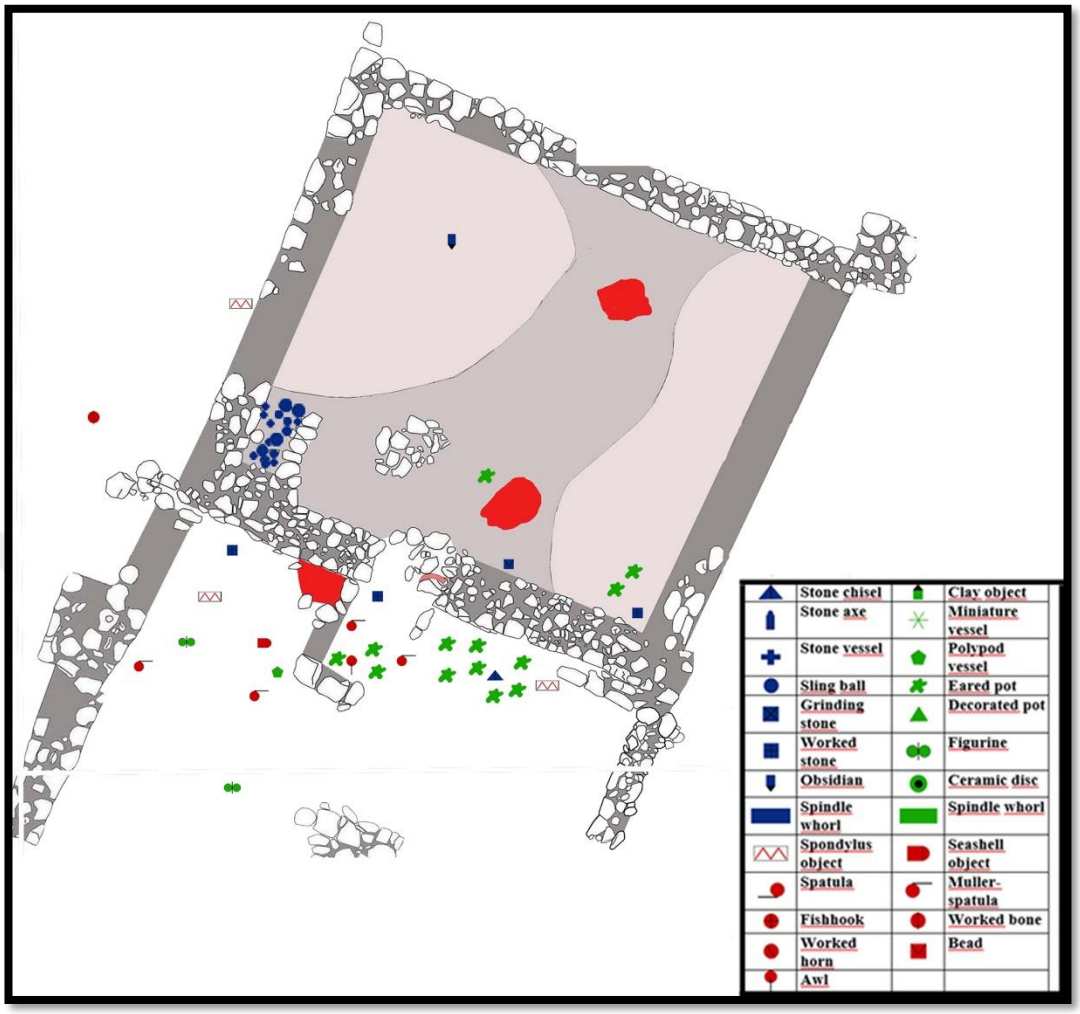


Figure 40. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 4 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

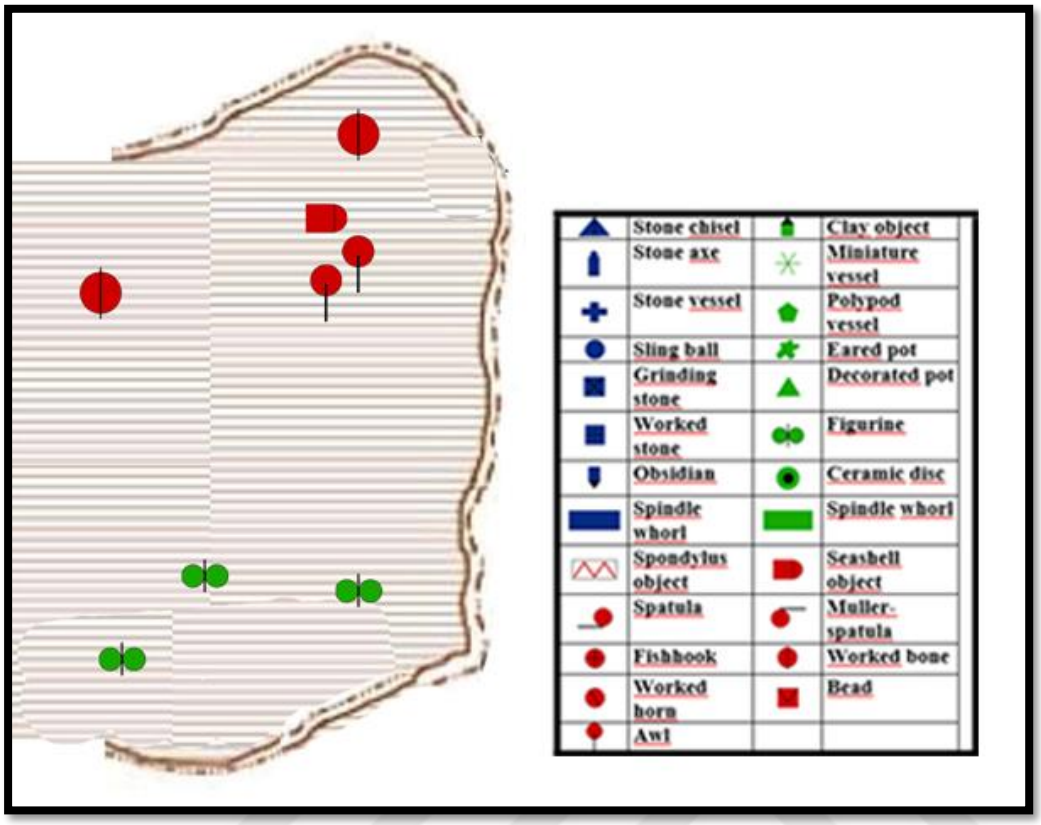


Figure 41. Spatial distribution of small finds in Ö191 special floor (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

3.4.3 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase IV

Although Phase IV can be also seen in several areas of the site, trenches of P5 and P6 have been selected for distribution analyses of small finds in Phase IV because of their advantages of best studied and continuity. As mentioned in the introductory part of previous section, according to the numeric distributions of finds through time with relative values based on certain spatial contexts, bone objects in this phase are dominant. The density of group of Spondylus and other seashell objects and characteristic clay objects is high. Moreover, the amount of bead is more than the next

phase. Interestingly, limited number of eared pots main characteristic for Phase III are found in small quantities in Phase IV (Table 9).

According to the distributions of small finds in spatial context during Phase IV of Uğurlu, obsidian playing important role in archaeological investigations were found in only Building 5 and Building 8 (Fig. 42, Fig. 43, Table 38). The majority of the architectural structures have decorated pots in various quantities in this phase (Table 38). Awl is found in all architectural structures, especially Ö52 pit in which there are 22 finds (Table 38). Similarly, muller-spatula is common in all structures in Phase IV (Table 38). Also, stone objects involving ground stone, stone vessel, stone axe and chisel are often found in pits, buildings and special floor of this phase (Table 38). In this context, it seems that Ö52 pit is the most substantial place. In addition, if required, distributions of other artifacts can be found in the appendices section of the thesis.

Table 38. Numeric Distribution of Artifacts in Each Spatial Context in Phase IV

SMALL FINDS	Ö52	Ö142	Ö149	BUILD-5	BUILD-8	BUILD-9	YELLOW FLOOR
Obsidian				4	6		
Figurine							
Bead	1			1	1	1	
Spindle whorl					0		
Decorated pot	2			11	5	8	1
Eared pots							
Polypod vessel							
Miniature vessel							
Face decorated vessel							
Ceramic disc							
Clay object				1			
Spondylus object						1	
Seashell object	1				3		1
Awl	22		2	12	1	6	4
Muller-Spatula	5			3		1	3
Spatula							
Worked bone	1	1	1	1		2	1
Worked horn							
Worked tooth							
Fishhook							
Sling ball					1		
Grinding stone	1						
Stone axe		1		1		1	
Stone chisel	1					2	1
Stone vessel	1						
Worked stone	1			1		1	1

According to the numeric distributions of total pot sherds in each spatial context during Phase IV, Building 5 has the most amount of pottery sherds among buildings of this phase. There are some sherds in only Ö52 pit in Phase IV whereas other pits are empty (Table 39). Ratios of thin wall pottery sherds to total sherds obtained from spatial contexts indicate that about 93 percent of all sherds in pits of this phase is fine ware while about 65 percent of all sherds from all buildings in this phase consists of fine sherds. Also, 73 percent of ceramics of special floor is fine ware (Table 39). The chart of color distributions of pottery sherds in spatial contexts during Phase IV shows that red color is dominant in the pit. While black and its color tones are found more frequently in Building 5, Building 9 (Fig. 44) and Yellow Floor (Fig. 45), this state changes for Building 8 having red color and its tones (Table 40).

Table 39. Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in Each Spatial Context during Phase IV

	BUILDING -5	**BUILDING -8**	**BUILDING -9**	**Ö52**	**Ö142**	**Ö149**	**Yellow Floor**
Total number of pot sherds	1666	778	1013	121			353
Total number of thin wall sherds	1188	498	618	113			267
Total number of flint	532	173	147	36	45	6	45
Total of human bones							
Total of animal bones (kg)	-	-	-	0,16	0,05	0,02	-

Table 40. Numeric Distributions of Pottery Sherds According to Colors in Each Spatial Context during Phase IV

	RED	BROWN	BLACK
BUILDING-5	554	223	889
BUILDING-8	372	70	336
BUILDING-9	333	108	572
Ö52	53	24	44
Yellow Floor	69	25	259

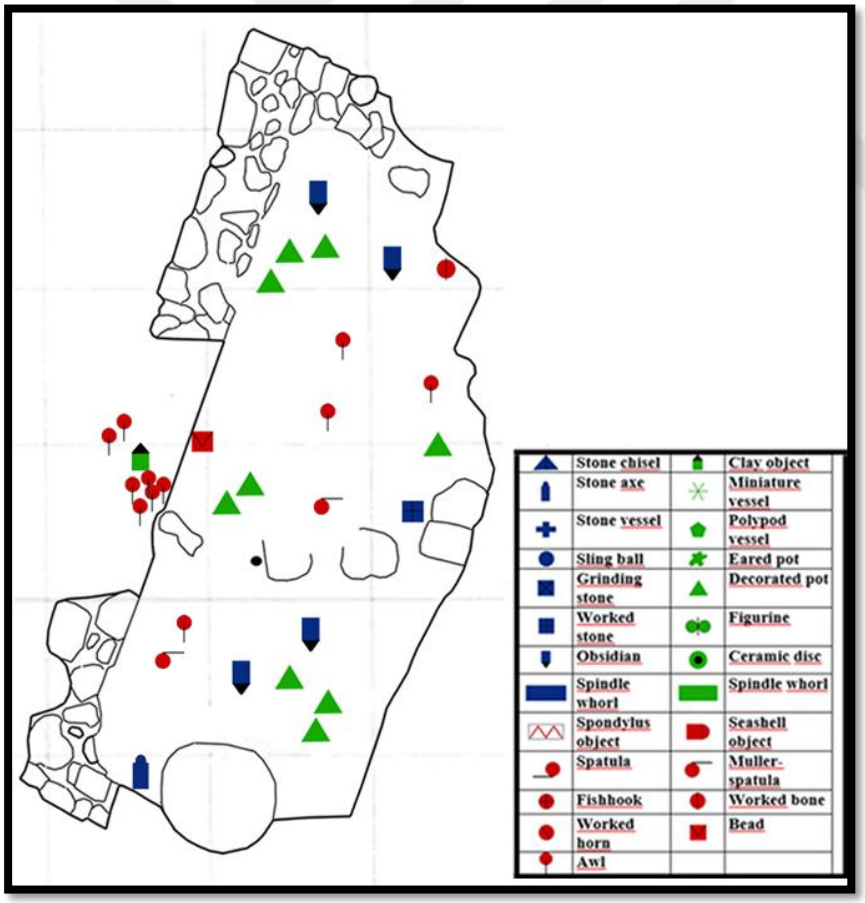


Figure 42. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 5 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

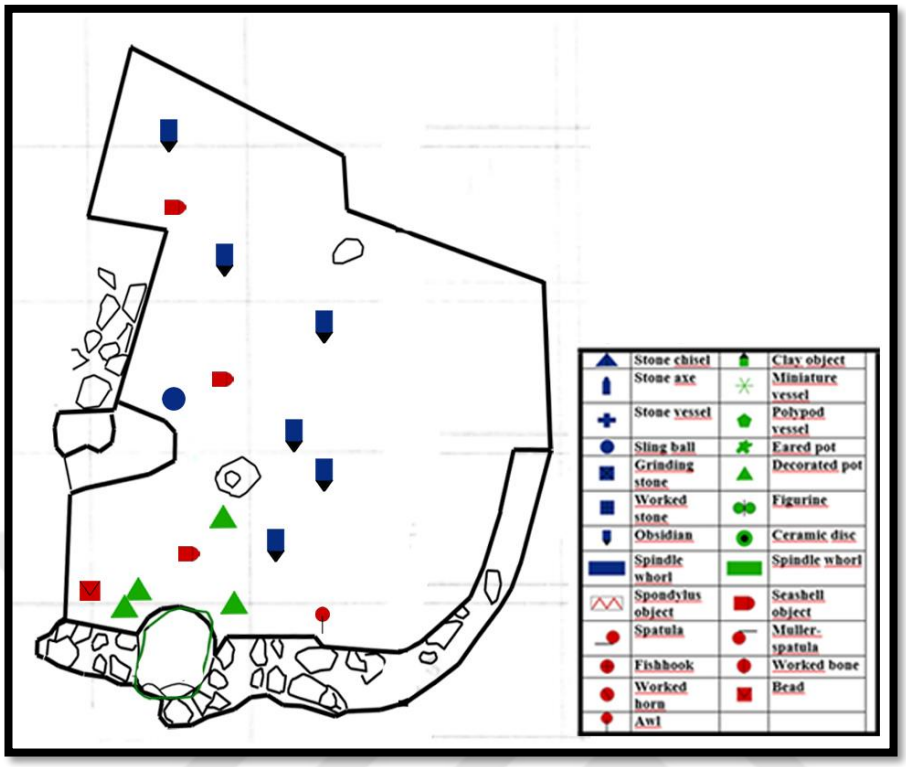


Figure 43. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 8 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

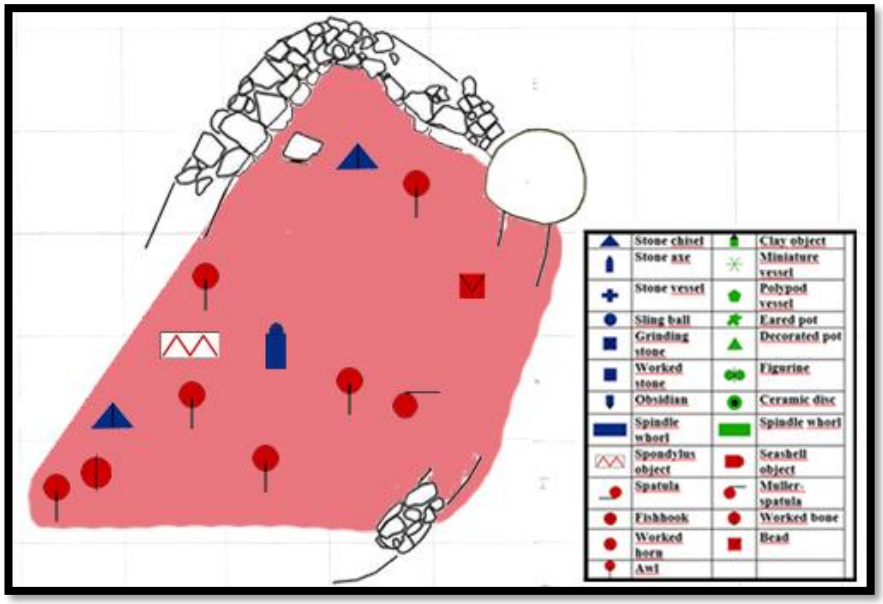


Figure 44. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 9 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

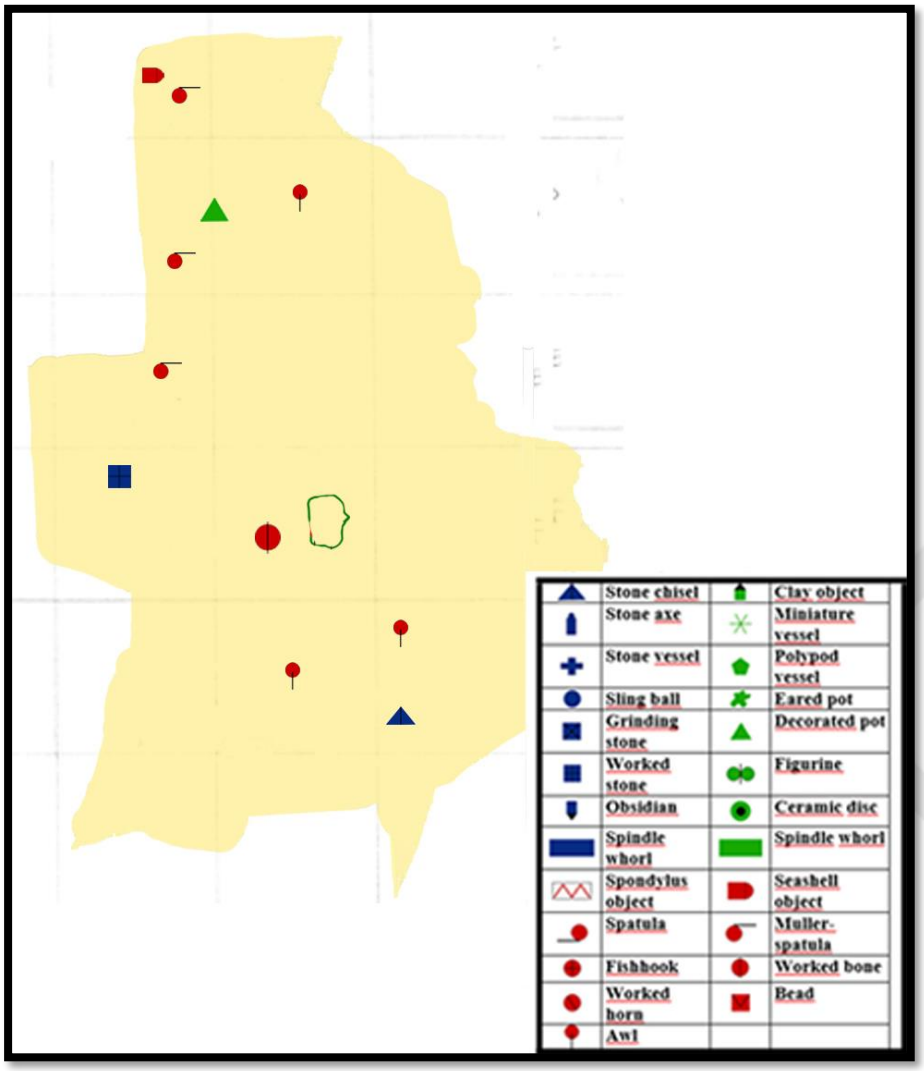


Figure 45. Spatial distribution of small finds in Yellow Floor (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

3.4.4 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase V

Although this excavation is an ongoing study, BB20-21 is the best observable trench for Phase V due to its continuity for material culture. Small finds have been counted and analyzed (Fig. 46, Table 10). The amount of shell objects is too little whereas bone objects are dominant among artifacts. Also, beads and stone objects are comparatively

found in high quantity in this period of time.

In addition to kinds of bone objects, majority of artifacts consist of obsidians with 6 objects and decorated pots with 5 objects in Building 2, one architectural structure in Phase V (Table 41). Analysis of wall thinness of pottery sherds shows that this phase has the highest ratio in fine ware. This ratio is about 80 percent (Table 42, 43). According to the numeric distributions of color of pottery sherds, red color is dominant color group for Phase V (Table 44). Moreover, Building 2 is one of structures having the highest density of flint assemblage (Table 42).

Table 41. Numeric Distribution of Small Finds of BUILDING-2

SMALL FINDS	BUILDING-2
Obsidian	6
Figurine	1
Bead	1
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	5
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	2
Muller-Spatula	1
Spatula	1
Worked bone	2
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	1
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

Table 42. Distributions of pot sherds, flints, human bones and animal bones in Each Spatial Context during Phase V

	BUILDING-2
Total number of pot sherds	1163
Total number of flint	384
Total of human bones	
Total of animal bones (kg)	**-**

Table 43. Numeric Distributions of Total Thin Wall Sherds in Spatial Contexts during Phase V

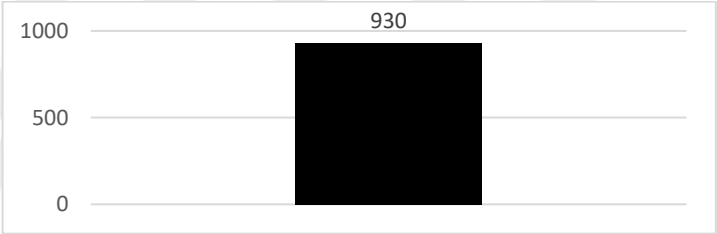


Table 44. Color Distributions of Pottery Sherds in Spatial Contexts during Phase V

	RED	**BROWN**	**BLACK**
BUILDING-2	567	126	470

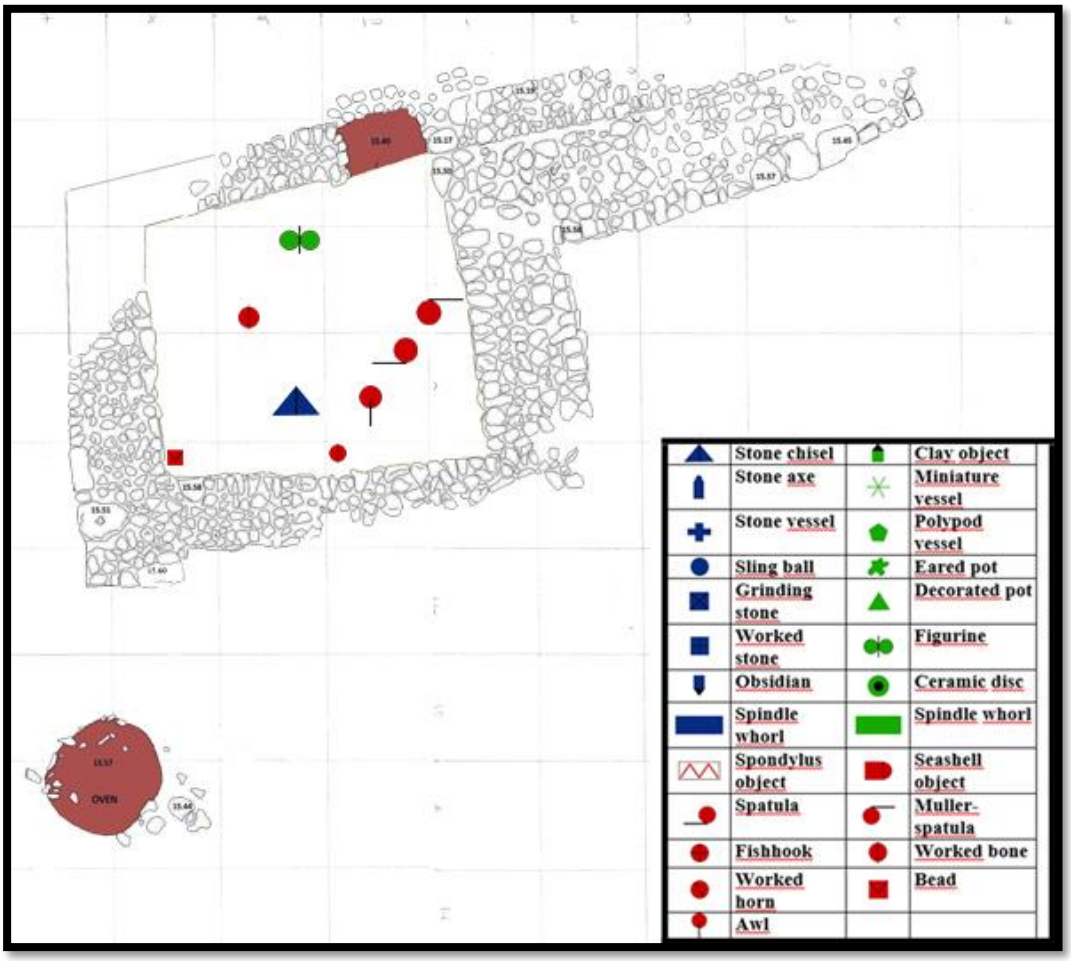


Figure 46. Spatial distribution of small finds in Building 2 (blue for stone, green for clay, red for bone as raw materials; modified from Uğurlu archive)

3.4.5 Distributions of Artifacts in Phase VI

Artifact distributions analyses of this phase were performed by using data of trench BB20-21 because this context is the best observable trench with its processed data. The graph shws that bead and bone objects are found in high quantity. However, there is no any pottery in this phase (Table 11).

In general, in the context of time – space, the combinations of methods have been performed to understand the historical process of landscape, movements of pits and related architectural structures and changes of material culture items. According to numeric distributions of artifacts from Phase VI to Phase II, the quantity of figurine increases until Phase III and reaches a highest point in this phase whereas its amount decreases sharply. Bead which is found in high quantity from Phase VI to Phase IV decreases explicitly in Phase III. Quantities of bone objects and shell objects increase with a great leap in Phase IV and reach their highest points in Phase III. Lastly, high density of stone objects in Phase V and Phase IV continues during Phase III while their numbers reduce in Phase II.

Changes of ceramic colors at Uğurlu throughout timeline indicate that red color was more dominant during Phase V and Phase IV (Table 40, Table 44). Later, black color was in the ascendant in Phase III (Table 35). However, this picture changed in Phase II. Red color began to rise for potteries (Table 33). Ratios of thin wall for pottery in Phase II show that the majority of sherds is coarse wares while in Phase III, it can be seen that pottery sherds are dominantly fine wares (Table 31, Table 35). Distribution of potteries consisting of thin wall indicates that fine wares are found in Phase IV and Phase V (Table 39, Table 42).

According to the numeric distributions of archaeological finds in three main contexts including pits, buildings and special floors, except for 5 artifact categories, rests of small finds are found at distinct rates in all contexts. Human bone and fishhook of artifacts are found in only pit – contexts whereas spindle whorl, sling ball and miniature vessel are in building – contexts (Table 12, Table 13, Table 14). Especially Ö188 comes to the forefront with human burials in addition to pits of Ö25 and Ö29 having a few of human bones.

Moreover, decorated pots, eared pots and polypod vessels assumed as high symbolic objects are found in high density in all pits. Building 4 from all buildings at Uğurlu makes a difference in terms of the amount and quantity of artifacts, such as well-made

ceramic objects, figurines and sling balls. Building 5 among buildings and Ö52 from all pits have the high density for the number of awl (Table 38). In contrast to pits, Building 2 and Building 8 come into prominence in terms of obsidian which is another critical artifact (Table 41, Table 38). Also, it is seen that Ö191 has figurine, decorated pots, eared pots and polypod vessels in the high quantity (Table 34). Also, charts of the ratio of sherds having thin wall to total pottery sherds show that pits and special floors dominantly consist of fine wares (Table 35, Table 39). According to dominant ceramic color seems to be related with temporal context.

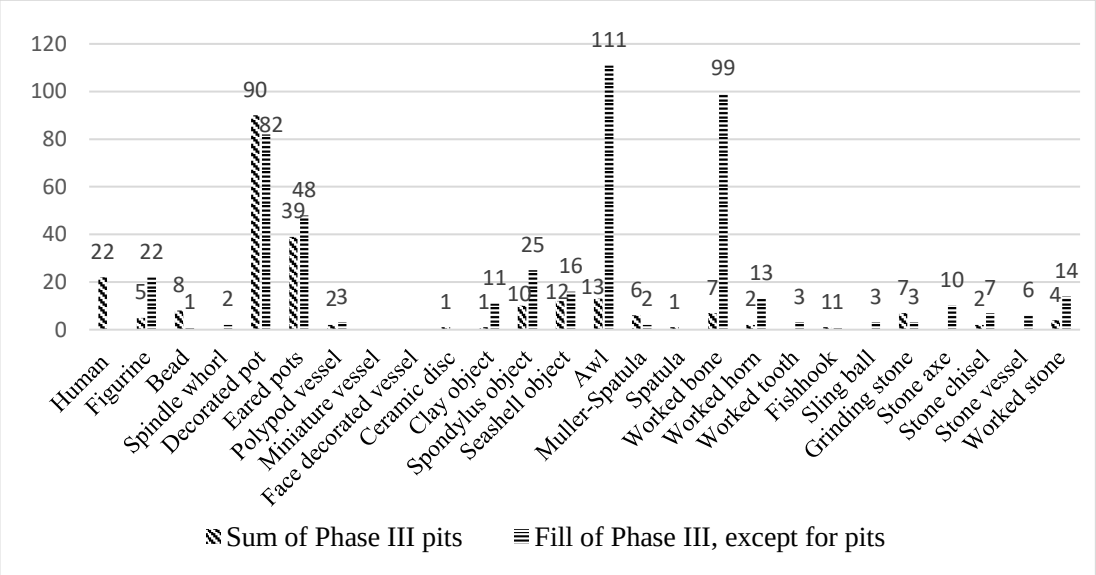
3.5 Establishing the Ritual Significance of the Pit Area in P5-P6

Up to this point, all analyses indicated that pit practice concentrated at a certain region consisting of especially trenches P5 and P6 in which there are related contexts, such as human burials, increasing pit practice and communal building at Uğurlu site in the spatial context when Phase III and Phase IV played host to this practice in the time context (thesis sections of 3.1, 3.2, 3.4). Artifact distributions in these culture layers through Phase III and Phase IV have been investigated in order to observe the general picture of this exclusive area in which practice of pit digging were performed throughout the centuries.

The graph of artifact distributions of pits and fill that accumulated in relation to pits in trenches of P5 and P6 during Phase III indicates that apart from human bones, ceramic disc and spatula not in the fill and spindle whorl, sling ball, worked tooth, stone axe and stone vessel not in pits, the rest of small finds are found in both pits and their contemporary surrounding context. Remarkable point is differences between quantities of small finds in two distinct contexts. The fill that was contemporaneously used with pits during Phase III is wealthier in terms of amount and variety of small finds (Table 45). When the state is broadly viewed though figurines rarely found in

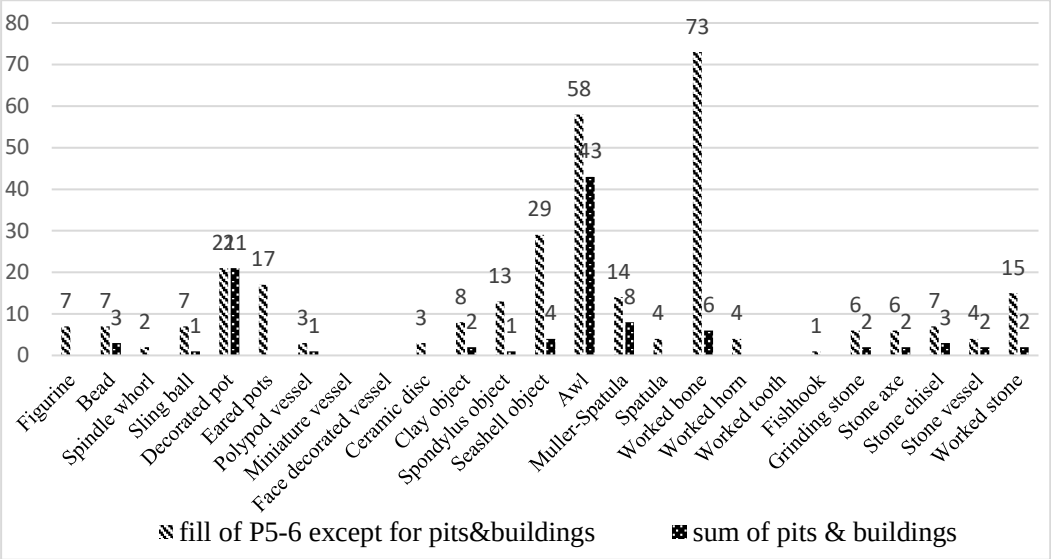
contexts, it is seen that the fill is four times more abundant than pits. Similar situation is seen for other finding categories.

Table 45. Small find distributions in P5-P6 pits vs. fill in Phase III (Human category includes both human bones and skeletons)



Artifact distributions of pits and their fill that accumulated in relation to pits in trenches of P5 and P6 partially explained for Phase IV shows the similar picture for pits and fill in Phase III (Table 46). Ratios in pits and fill show that less small finds that may be particularly selected though all material culture items have been embedded in pits.

Table 46. Artifact-distributions of Pits & Buildings vs. Artifact-distributions of Fill in trenches P5-P6 in Phase IV



General picture highlighted two main situations. One is that pits have relatively small number of artifacts as to other contexts involving the fill of the pit area. However, great majority of these finds are craftsmanship objects. Also, cultural fill accumulated contemporarily with pits in the area of trenches P5 and P6 has figurine and special potteries in high density. In this state, it can be said that less number of small finds that may be particularly selected though all material culture items have been embedded in pits. When looked from the functional viewpoint, overstuffed pits are expected because pits are located with this contemporary and rich fill whereas these pits have small quantities of artifacts. These analyses and results will be discussed in the next chapter (Table 45, Table 46). According to the second assumption, intensity in culture fill shows that this region involving trenches P5 and P6 played host to pit practice between Phase IV and Pahse III.

3.5.1 Chronological Relations Between Pits of P5-P6 / O5-O6

Following to the macro level synthesizing of pits and related structures in the section of 3.2, it has been observed that all pits weren't dug at the same time and there are relationships and distances in the context of time between pits for practice of pit – digging during Phase IV to Phase III. Therefore, at the second stage of the synthesizing mentioned in the section of 3.2, distributions of merely pits in the contexts of time – space will be analyzed in more detail so that emergence of life cycle of pit – practice can be understood in the micro level.

First of all, pits have been studied within the time context because temporal relations of all pits and relevant architectural structures haven't been detailed information about temporal relationships between especially pits in Phase IV and Phase III. Thus, the chart explained in the section of 3.2 has been utilized that network of temporal relations between pits in Phase III would have been established with this synthesis process (Fig. 47).

Pits having nearly equal opening values during Phase IV to Phase III have been grouped (Fig. 47). It should be indicated that although temporal distance between pits in each pit group cannot be exactly known, temporal relations can be understood on the basis of stage. Right after, 8 groups occurred. It is supposed that all pits in each cluster of these 8 groups were dug contemporaneously or in the same period of time. 2 undermost pits of the chart are pits of Phase IV as group of PHASE4-PITSTAGE1. And all pit groups as follow in Table 47:

Table 47. New pit groups and their pits according to the temporal proximity

New Pit Groups According to Temporal Proximity	**Constituent Pits of These New Groups**
PHASE4-PITSTAGE1	Ö142 and Ö149
PHASE4/3-PITSTAGE2	Ö52, Ö125 and Ö190
PHASE3-PITSTAGE3	Ö48, Ö58, Ö121, Ö122, Ö126 and Ö150
PHASE3-PITSTAGE4	Ö31-32, Ö29, Ö119 and Ö178
PHASE3-PITSTAGE5	Ö35, Ö117, Ö118 and Ö131
PHASE3-PITSTAGE6	Ö7, Ö26, Ö27, Ö28, Ö33 and Ö177
PHASE3-PITSTAGE7	Ö24, Ö25, Ö102, Ö103, Ö136, Ö176 and Ö187
PHASE3-PITSTAGE8	Ö116 and Ö176

In addition to these temporal pit groups, Ö188 grave that is the most important pit may be located between third and fourth groups according to its radiocarbon date and stratigraphic position. Nevertheless, it hasn't been settled in a certain group. Thus, this feature will be separately located and analyzed during these studies. At this point, distribution analyses of pits groups according to temporal proximity will be run with multiple analyses of artifacts.

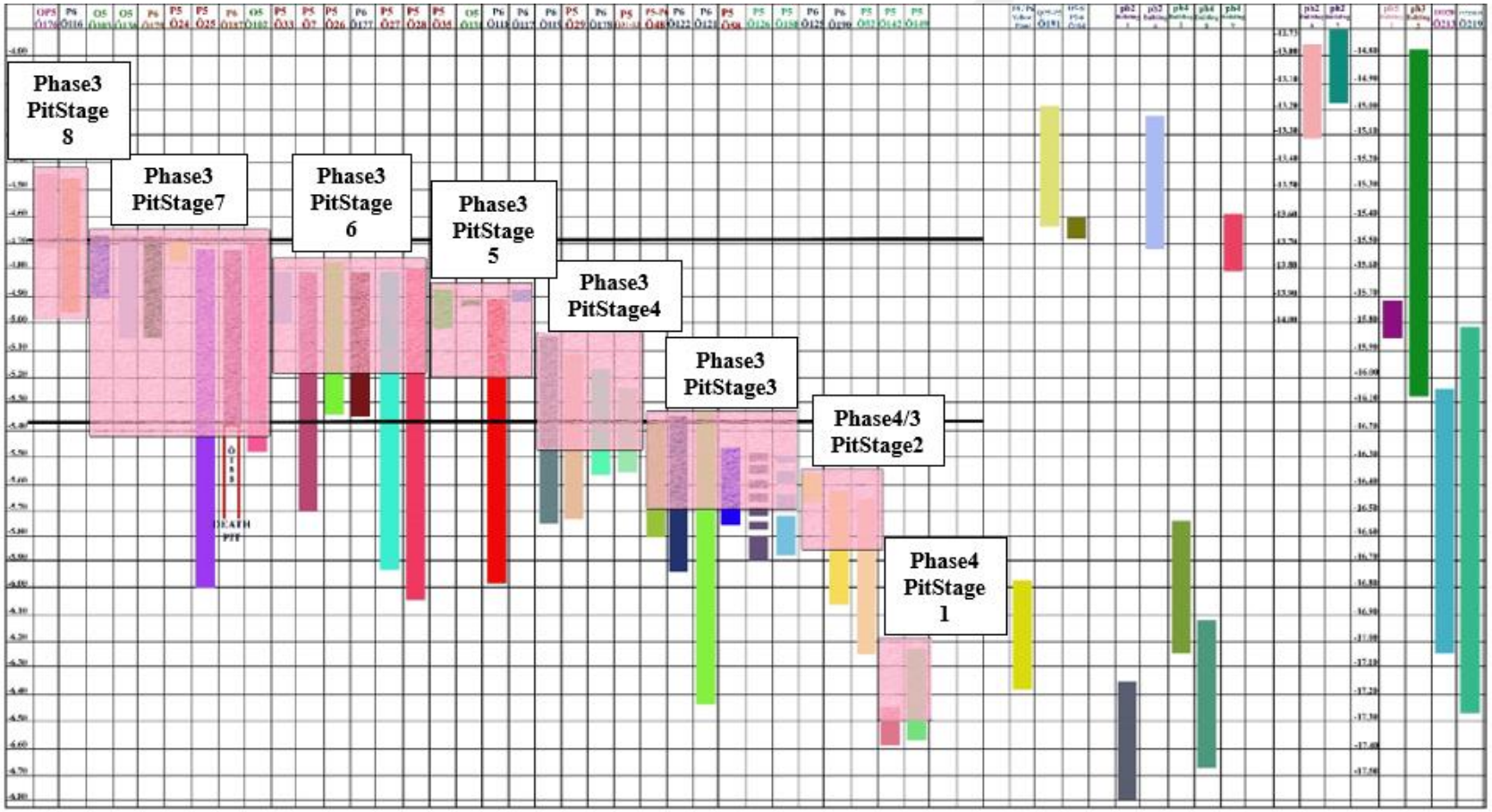


Figure 47. Temporal Groups According to the chronological relations in micro level among pits in Phase III

(C14 dates: Ö122= 5481-5381 cal. BC; Ö188= 5363-5302 cal. BC; Ö28= 5295-5218 cal. BC; Ö25= 4939-4847 cal. BC)

3.5.2 Artifact Distributions in Chronologically Ordered Pit Groups

Distribution analyses of pit groups according to temporal proximity have been run with multiple analyses of artifacts. It is known that PHASE4-PITSTAGE1 is sub time zone belonging to Phase IV. Thus, it is isolated from main pit activity in Phase III during these analyses. But, it is inserted in general criticism because these pits are the first step of pit practice. There are little bone and stone objects while there are lots of lithics in pits of PHASE4-PITSTAGE1 time zone (Table 48).

The next sub time zone is chronologically PHASE4/3-PITSTAGE2. There are three pits in this period. Bone objects are dominant, especially awls. Stone and special clay objects are represented in small scale (Table 48). In terms of quantity of pottery sherds, except for one pit, other pits are equal. When looked at wall thinness of pottery sherds, sherds are mainly fine wares in this sub period (Table 48). According to color distributions of ceramics, mainly red color is observed with black color in the same rate because red color is dominant in one pit whereas black color for sherds is dominant in two other pits (Table 48). The quantity of flint goes down in this sub time zone (Table 48).

Following sub time zone is PHASE3-PITSTAGE3 consisting of six pits within Phase III. Distributions of small finds in this period indicate that special clay objects that are figurines, decorated and eared pots are at the forefront (Table 48). Also, about 70 % of pottery sherds are fine wares (Table 48). Black color is on the rise after the previous period (Table 48). And, average amount of flint in each pit of this period is stable to previous period (Table 48).

The next sub time zone is PHASE3-PITSTAGE4 having four pits. The most critical artifact of this period is human bones. Furthermore, a remarkable amount of decorated and eared pots is observed with various bone objects in this sub time zone (Table 48). Also, especially Ö29 pit makes a difference in terms of amounts of pottery sherds. In terms of wall thinness of pottery sherds, half of pits contains fine wares whereas other

half have coarse wares in PHASE3-PITSTAGE4 (Table 48). Moreover, color distribution graph indicates that determinant color of this period is black (Table 48). Ö29 pit is overabundant for lithics when it is compared with other pits in this sub time zone (Table 48).

The next sub time zone in Phase III is PHASE3-PITSTAGE5 involving four pits. Special potteries, shell objects and stone objects are mainly demonstrated in the distributions of small finds in this period (Table 48). Apart from one pit, other pits don't have pottery sherd. About half of these sherds consist of fine wares (Table 48). According to color distributions, black color is mainly observed in this sub time zone (Table 48). Apart from one pit, others have almost same amount of lithic (Table 48).

The other sub time zone is PHASE3-PITSTAGE6 with six pits. Weighty group in terms of distributions of small finds is special clay objects consisting of figurines, decorated and eared pots and bone objects (Table 48). Ö28 pit has the highest amount of pottery sherds in this time zone. Also, according to the ratio of thin wall sherds to total pottery sherds, majority of pits have fine wares whereas one pit has coarse wares (Table 48). Color distributions of these sherds indicate that dominant color is black (Table 48). Also, Ö7 pit has the highest number of lithic in this period (Table 48).

The next sub time zone is chronologically PHASE3-PITSTAGE7 having seven pits. The most critical artifact human bone is observed in this period. Moreover, the most dominant small finds consist of decorated and eared pots during this sub time zone (Table 48). In terms of wall thinness of pottery sherds, almost 61 % of them are fine wares in PHASE3-PITSTAGE7 sub period (Table 48). According to color distributions of ceramics, black color is dominantly found in this period. Lastly, the number of flint in highest quantity is in Ö25 pit among all pits of this period (Table 48).

The last sub time zone is PHASE3-PITSTAGE8 with two pits. Apart from decorated and eared pots, amounts of other small finds is low in this period (Table 48). About 58 % of all pottery sherds are fine wares (Table 48). Interestingly, dominant color for

potteries has been changed from black to red in this sub time zone (Table 48). The number of flint in one of two pits is bent double from the other pit (Table 48).

Table 48. Distributions of artifacts and constructional features of pits according to Chronologically Ordered Pit Stages

	Phase4-PitStage1		Phase4/3-PitStage2			Phase3-PitStage3						Phase3-PitStage4				Phase3-PitStage5				Phase3-PitStage6						Phase3-PitStage7							Phase3-PitStage8	
SMALL FINDS	**Ö142**	**Ö149**	**Ö52**	**Ö190**	**Ö125**	**Ö121**	**Ö122**	**Ö48**	**Ö58**	**Ö126**	**Ö150**	**Ö29**	**Ö31-32**	**Ö119**	**Ö178**	**Ö35**	**Ö118**	**Ö117**	**Ö131**	**Ö28**	**Ö27**	**Ö26**	**Ö33**	**Ö177**	**Ö7**	**Ö25**	**Ö102**	**Ö136**	**Ö103**	**Ö187**	**Ö179**	**Ö24**	**Ö116**	**Ö176**
Obsidian																																	1	
Figurine				1		2								1						1														
Bead			1									1																1			1	1	
Spindle whorl																																		
Polypod vessel												1											1											
Spond. & other seashell objects			0+1			1+0	1+0	0+1	0+1			2+1				2+1				2+5						1+1	1+1			0+1			0+1	
Awl		2	22	1		1						4	1				1			2					1	2		1						
Spatula			5						2					1			1			1						1				1				
Worked bone	1	1	1			1	1					2												1			1	1	1				1	
Worked horn												1													1		1							
Fishhook																				1														
Grinding stone			1			2								1								2				2								
Stone axe & chisel	1		1															1								1		1	1					
Stone vessel			1																															
Worked stone			1														1									2				1				1

Table 48 (continued)

	Phase4-PitStage1		Phase4/3-PitStage2			Phase3-PitStage3						Phase3-PitStage4				Phase3-PitStage5				Phase3-PitStage6						Phase3-PitStage7							Phase3-PitStage8	
SMALL FINDS	Ö142	Ö149	Ö52	Ö190	Ö125	Ö121	Ö122	Ö48	Ö58	Ö126	Ö150	Ö29	Ö31-32	Ö119	Ö178	Ö35	Ö118	Ö117	Ö131	Ö28	Ö27	Ö26	Ö33	Ö177	Ö7	Ö25	Ö102	Ö136	Ö103	Ö187	Ö179	Ö24	Ö116	Ö176
Decorated pot			2			3	3	3				8	3	6		4	1			11	3	2	1	19	3	9	15	8	1	1	1		9	
Eared pots					1	2	1					3	2			3				5			1	6	4	4	5				1		6	1
Ceramic disc & object												0 + 1										1 + 0												
Total of pottery sherds			121	9	151	258	171	252	29	4	0	1302	191	37	18	156	1	0	0	400	156	102	79	281	4	482	558	534	107	60	20	8	651	21
Red sherds			53		46	76	41	110	3			218	82	14	9	33				134	50	33	20	118		109	239	158	43	24	10	4	321	10
Brown sherds			24	1	22	50	16	10	9	3		79	26	5	1	35	1			52	29		8	38	1	32	48	61	5	7	1	2	115	
Black sherds			44	8	83	132	114	132	17	1		1005	83	18	8	88				214	77	69	51	125	3	341	271	315	59	29	9	2	215	11
Total of thin wall sherds			113	7	103	165	125	141	23	3		1015	105	28	9	87	1			217	90	64	57	40	7	340	357	379	64	29	10	5	445	10
Flint	45	6	36		2	26	19	16	7			84	14	7		12	16	12		16	11	8	6	22	38	62	23	37	30	2	3	7	37	14
Human bones												2														7								
Animal bones(kg)	0,05	0,02	0,16		0,02	0,94	0,69	1,02	0,05	0,03		4,16	0,5	0,62		0,14	0,58			1,22	0,04	0,17	1,12		1,02	0,85	1,41		0,69			0,05	1,16	
Plaster thickness (cm)	3-5	3-5	>5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	>5	>5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5	>5	>5	>5	3-5	3-5	3-5	>5	3-5	3-5	3-5			3-5	3-5	
Depth (m)	0,2	0,4	0,6	0,4	0,1	1,1	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,1	0,1	0,6	0,3	0,7	0,4	0,2	1,1	0	0	1,3	1,1	0,6	0,2	0,6	0,9	1,3	0,9	0,4	0,3	0,8	0,4	0,1	0,5	0,3
Diameter (m)	0,7	0,5	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,2	0,9	1,1	0,7	0,8	0,5	1,1	0,8	1	0,8	1,1	1,2	0,9	0,8	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,7	1,2	0,9	1,2	1,2	1,3	0,7	0,8	1	1,3	0,8

General picture from the earliest sub time zone to the last one is that bone objects are forefront in the earliest period whereas special potteries, such as decorated and eared pots dominate small find assemblage in later times. Bone objects and shell objects from time to time accompany this artifact group. Also, red and fine wares are dominant in the early sub time zone while red color gives its place to black color after this period. Followed by black is dominant until the end of Phase III, it gives again its place to red in the last sub time zone. Moreover, fine wares are found dominantly in most of sub time zones whereas ratios of fine-coarse wares are observed half and half in some interregnum periods.

As mentioned above, artifact distributions and their changes during stages of pit practice have been analyzed until this point. Examination in Table 49 has been done in order to enrich this analysis and to better understand relation between pits and artifacts. This table indicates the fullest pits in terms of the quantity based on each artifact category through all pit stages. Correlations between some pits and artifact categories have been determined at the end of this examination. There are one or two pits in almost each temporal pit group in this context. Pits of Phase4-PitStage1 are equal to each other in terms of quantity of artifact. Ö52 pit in Phase4/3-PitStage2 with 5 artifact categories, Ö121 pit in Phase3-PitStage3 with 3 artifact categories, Ö29 pit in Phase3-PitStage4 with 8 artifact categories, Ö117 pit in Phase3-PitStage5 with 1 artifact category, Ö28 pit in Phase3-PitStage6 with 7 artifact categories, Ö25 pit in Phase3-PitStage7 with 7 artifact categories and Ö116 pit in Phase3-PitStage8 with 3 artifact categories are the fullest pits in their own temporal groups. Also, Ö102 pit is in the comparable status with Ö25 in Phase3-PitStage7.

Table 49. The most substantial pits in all pits according to the amount of artifacts

	Phase4-PitStage1		Phase4/3-PitStage2			Phase3-PitStage3						Phase3-PitStage4				Phase3-PitStage5				Phase3-PitStage6						Phase3-PitStage7							Phase3-PitStage8	
SMALL FINDS	Ö142	Ö149	**Ö52**	Ö125	**Ö190**	**Ö121**	**Ö122**	Ö48	Ö58	Ö126	Ö150	**Ö29**	Ö31-32	**Ö119**	Ö178	Ö35	Ö118	Ö117	Ö131	**Ö28**	Ö27	Ö26	Ö33	Ö177	Ö7	**Ö25**	**Ö102**	Ö136	Ö103	Ö187	Ö179	Ö24	**Ö116**	Ö176
Obsidian																																	X	
Figurine				X		X								X						X														
Bead			X									X																	X			X	X	
Spindle whorl																																		
Decorated pot												X								X				X		X	X							
Eared pots																				X				X		X	X						X	
Polypod vessel												X											X											
Ceramic disc																						X												
Clay object												X																						
Spondylus object						X	X					X								X						X	X							
Seashell object																				X														
Awl		X	X									X								X						X								
Muller-Spatula			X																															
Spatula														X																				
Worked bone												X																						

Table 49 (continued)

	Phase4-PitStage1		Phase4/3-PitStage2			Phase3-PitStage3						Phase3-PitStage4				Phase3-PitStage5				Phase3-PitStage6						Phase3-PitStage7							Phase3-PitStage8	
SMALL FINDS	Ö142	Ö149	**Ö52**	Ö125	**Ö190**	**Ö121**	**Ö122**	Ö48	Ö58	Ö126	Ö150	**Ö29**	Ö31-32	**Ö119**	Ö178	Ö35	Ö118	Ö117	Ö131	**Ö28**	Ö27	Ö26	Ö33	Ö177	Ö7	**Ö25**	**Ö102**	Ö136	Ö103	Ö187	Ö179	Ö24	**Ö116**	Ö176
Worked horn												X													X		X							
Fishhook																				X														
Sling ball																																		
Grinding stone						X																X				X								
Stone axe & chisel	X		X															X								X		X	X					
Stone vessel			X																															
Worked stone																										X								
Thickest plastered			X									X	X							X	X	X				X								
Deepest		X	X			X						X		X			X			X	X					X							X	
Biggest diameter	X				X	X						X				X	X								X				X				X	

3.5.3 Distributions of Artifacts in The Context of Constructional Features of Pits

Followed by some strong relations between artifact concentration and some certain pits have been found out in the previous part, analyses of construction techniques of pits have been done as another method. It is believed that relation between some structural properties of pits and their roles in pit – practice can be enlightened though some analyses of this method. All pits have been compared with each other in terms of four main physical attributes which consist of dimensions, shape, plastering and closing technique.

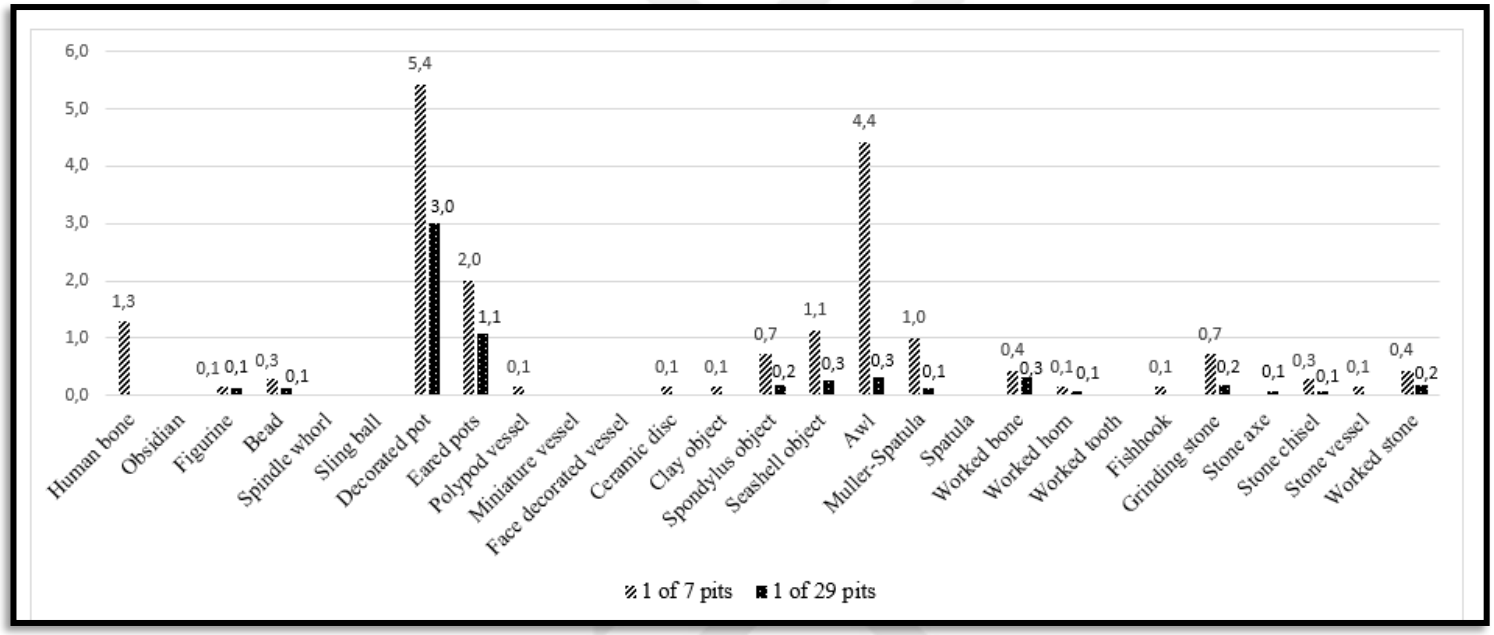
As mentioned in the section of 3. 1, followed by the process of shape determination, pits have been investigated for plastering. The state if pit has plaster or not has been confirmed herein. Then, color and thickness of plaster of pit have been determined by way of preliminary preparations of dissertation. Later, physical structures of pits have been viewed in terms of closing technique. After all of these, all data has been indicated in a table (Table 2).

According to the results of these analyses, distributions of pit – shapes of semicircular and cylindrical are observed equally. Also, apart from four pits, other pits have plaster with usually yellow – color clay. In terms of closing approach, all pits were sealed with large stone. Therefore, these features weren't assigned as criteria. On the other hand, dept, diameter and thickness of plaster have been determined as comparison attributes in each time zone (Table 49). In terms of dimensions, Ö149 in PitStage1, Ö52 in PitStage2, Ö121 in PitStage3, Ö29 and Ö119 in PitStage4, Ö118 in PitStage5, Ö27 and Ö28 in PitStage6, Ö25 in PitStage7 and Ö116 in PitStage8 are the deepest pits through time. Also, Ö142 in PitStage1, Ö190 in PitStage2, Ö121 in PitStage3, Ö29 in PitStage4, Ö35 and Ö118 in PitStage5, Ö7 in PitStage6, Ö103 in PitStage7 and Ö116 in PitStage8 have the largest diameter in each temporal pit groups. Only 7 pits consisting of Ö52 in PitStage2, Ö29 and Ö31-32 in PitStage4, Ö26, Ö27 and Ö28 in PitStage6 and Ö25 in PitStage7 have plaster greater than 5 cm.

It can be said that pits have similar structural attributes according to the big picture. However, especially thickness of plaster of pits and biggest dimentions in part are observable differences. If these factors are born in mind, 7 special pits having thick plaster and 29 other pits having thinner plaster on their walls have been compared in terms of their artifacts (Table 50). Pit Ö188 has been omitted from this comparison because its excavation is still going on.

7 pits and other 29 pits can not be compared statistically. Therefore, based on average numbers of artifacts per pit, these special 7 pits and other pits have been evaluated. This analysis shows that human bones and stone vessel are found in only 7 pits. Moreover, these 7 pits have half of total numbers of each artifact category consisting of polypod vessel, spondylus object, seashell object, muller – spatula, ground stone and stone chisel in all pits. Also, certain 7 pits have awls three times more than number of awl in 29 pits. In terms of quantities of decorated and eared pots, 7 pits have half of amounts in these 29 pits. Lastly, 1 of 5 figurines in all pits is found in the group of these 7 pits. Relationship between plastering and intentionally selection of artifacts for pit – activity may be mentioned in the light of this analysis.

Table 50. Average Numbers of Artifacts per Pit



All numeric information that were obtained from Table 48, Table 49 and Table 50 according to criteria consisting of structural conditions of pits, artifact abundance, artifact variation, related objects having relations with certain places and certain practices in the symbolic context, well-made ceramics and density of animal bone and flint has been converted to more interpretative form and then shown in Table 51. Outstanding pit/s for each criterion in each temporal pit group have been highlighted one-by-one. It is confirmed that deductions from this table match up with ones from previous tables in the section of 3.5.

Table 51. Outstanding pits in each chronologically pit stage according to multiple criteria

	Structural conditions	**Artifact abundance**	**Artifact variation**	**Related artifacts**	**Elaborated and other fine ceramics**	**Density of animal bone**	**Density of flint**
Ö52 Phase4/3PitStage2 Sector I	* **Double**-layer plastering * **Biggest** depth in its own group	36 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	10 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Awls * Grinding stone * Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 2 decorated pots * 113 of 121 sherds fine wares * Second high number for total sherds in its own group	0,16 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	36 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)
Ö121 Phase3-PitStage3 Sector II	* **Biggest** depth and diameter in its own group	12 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	7 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Figurines * Awl * Grinding stones * Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 3 decorated, 2 eared pots * 165 of 258 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	0,94 kg (second high number in its own group)	26 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)
Ö122 Phase3-PitStage3 Sector I	* Second biggest depth and third biggest diameter in its own group	6 small finds	4 kinds of artifacts	* Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 3 decorated, 1 eared pots * 125 of 171 sherds fine wares * Third **highest** number for total sherds in its own group	0,69 kg (second high number in its own group)	19 pieces (second high number in its own group)
Ö48 Phase3-PitStage3 Sector II	* Second biggest diameter and third biggest depth in its own group	4 small finds	2 kinds of artifacts	* Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 3 decorated * 141 of 252 sherds fine wares * Second highest number for total sherds in its own group	1,02 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	16 pieces

Table 51 (continued)

	Structural conditions	Artifact abundance	Artifact variation	Related artifacts	Elaborated and other fine ceramics	Density of animal bone	Density of flint
Ö29 **Phase3-PitStage4** **Sector I**	* **Double**-layer plastering * **Biggest** depth and diameter in its own group	26 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	10 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Awls * Polypod vessel * Spondylus and other seashell objects * Human bones	* 8 decorated, 3 eared pots * 1015 of 1302 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	4,16 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	84 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)
Ö31-32 **Phase3-PitStage4** **Sector I**	* **Double**-layer plastering * Third biggest dept and diameter in its own group	6 small finds	3 kinds of artifacts	* Awl	* 3 decorated, 2 eared pots * 105 of 194 sherds fine wares	0,5 kg	14 pieces
Ö119 **Phase3-PitStage4** **Sector III**	* **Biggest** depth and second biggest diameter in its own group	9 small finds	4 kinds of artifacts	* Figurine * Grinding stones	* 6 decorated * 28 of 37 sherds fine wares	0,62 kg (second high number in its own group)	7 pieces
Ö35 **Phase3-PitStage5** **Sector I**	* Second biggest diameter in its own group	10 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	4 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 4 decorated, 3 eared pots * 87 of 156 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	0,14 kg	12 pieces
Ö118 **Phase3-PitStage5** **Sector III**	* **Biggest** depth and diameter in its own group	4 small finds	4 kinds of artifacts	* Awls	* 1 decorated * 1 of 1 sherd fine ware	0,58 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	16 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)

Table 51 (continued)

	Structural conditions	Artifact abundance	Artifact variation	Related artifacts	Elaborated and other fine ceramics	Density of animal bone	Density of flint
Ö28 Phase3-PitStage6 Sector I	* **Double**-layer plastering * **Biggest** depth and diameter in its own group	28 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	7 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Figurine * Awls * Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 11 decorated, 5 eared pots * 217 of 400 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	1,22 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	16 pieces
Ö33 Phase3-PitStage6 Sector I	* Second biggest diameter in its own group	3 small finds	3 kinds of artifacts	* Polypod vessel	* 1 decorated, 1 eared pots * 57 of 79 sherds fine wares	1,12 kg (second high number in its own group)	6 pieces
Ö177 Phase3-PitStage6 Sector I	* One of the smallest volume in its own group	26 small finds (second highest number in its own group)	3 kinds of artifacts	-	* 19 decorated, 6 eared pots * 40 of 284 sherds fine wares * Second highest number for total sherds in its own group	-	22 pieces (second highest number in its own group)
Ö26 Phase3-PitStage6 Sector I	* **Double**-layer plastering * Third biggest diameter in its own group	5 small finds	3 kinds of artifacts	* Grinding stones	* 2 decorated pots * 64 of 102 sherds fine wares	0,17 kg	8 pieces
Ö27 Phase3-PitStage6 Sector I	* **Double**-layer plastering * Second biggest depth in its group	3 small finds	1 kind of artifacts	-	* 3 decorated pots * 90 of 156 sherds fine wares	0,04 kg	11 pieces

Table 51 (continued)

	Structural conditions	Artifact abundance	Artifact variation	Related artifacts	Elaborated and other fine ceramics	Density of animal bone	Density of flint
Ö25 Phase3-PitStage7 Sector I	* **Double**-layer plastering * **Biggest** depth in its own group	30 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	8 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Awls * Grinding stone * Spondylus and other seashell objects * Human bones	* 9 decorated, 4 eared pots * 340 of 482 sherds fine wares	0,85 kg (second high number in its own group)	62 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)
Ö102 Phase3-PitStage7 Sector IV	* Second biggest depth and diameter in its own group	24 small finds	5 kinds of artifacts	* Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 15 decorated, 5 eared pots * 357 of 558 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	1,41 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	23 pieces
Ö116 Phase3-PitStage8 Sector I-II	* **Biggest** depth and diameter in its own group	19 small finds (**highest** number in its own group)	6 kinds of artifacts (**highest** number in its own group)	* Obsidian * Spondylus and other seashell objects	* 9 decorated, 6 eared pots * 445 of 651 sherds fine wares * **Highest** number for total sherds in its own group	1,16 kg (**highest** number in its own group)	37 pieces (**highest** number in its own group)

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION

4.1 Emergence of The Pit Area in Time & Space

Subscale analyses performed in order to understand the evolution process of the pit area in the section 3.5 will be examined in the spatial context in the direction of temporal context. Using a great quantity of symbolic objects within the pit area represented in Table 45 and Table 46 indicate that this pit area involving trenches of P5-P6/O5-O6 plays host for the pit practice. Followed by understanding this situation, the nature of pit practice will be examined closely. Accordingly, spatial distributions of pit groups will be investigated so that ritual nature of pit practice can be understood specific to Uğurlu site. First of all, color coding has been done within this framework. Then, all pits belonging to different sub time zones have been demonstrated on 10 separate drawings as to color coding (Fig. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45). These drawings show the spatial distributions of all pits from the beginning of Phase IV to the end of Phase III.

Phase4- PitStage1/a

- The first specimens of pit practice are seen in the earliest stage of Phase IV (Fig. 48).
- Building 8 and Ö142 pit which are the first structures in the pit area emerged in this stage.
- Following to Building 8 was closed, this first pit was dug on the wall of this building in the pit area consisting of trenches of P5-P6/O5-O6.
- This pit is highly shallow in terms of its dimensions.
- In terms of materials obtained inside pit, there are bone and stone objects in small quantities and no ceramic remain. Conversely, plenty of flint was found in the same context.

Figure 48. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/a

Phase4- PitStage1/b

- There are two constructions that are Yellow Floor and Ö149 pit in this stage (Fig. 49).
- A floor plastered with yellow-color clay was made in the same location of the landscape where there are the first pit and building.
- This floor was plastered several times.
- Ö149 pit was dug in the earlier stage of the floor. Followed by pit-use was ended, the floor has been used for a while by plastering multiple times.
- This pit shares similarity with the previous pit in terms of the structural features.
- In terms of materials obtained inside pit, there are bone objects in small quantities and no ceramic.

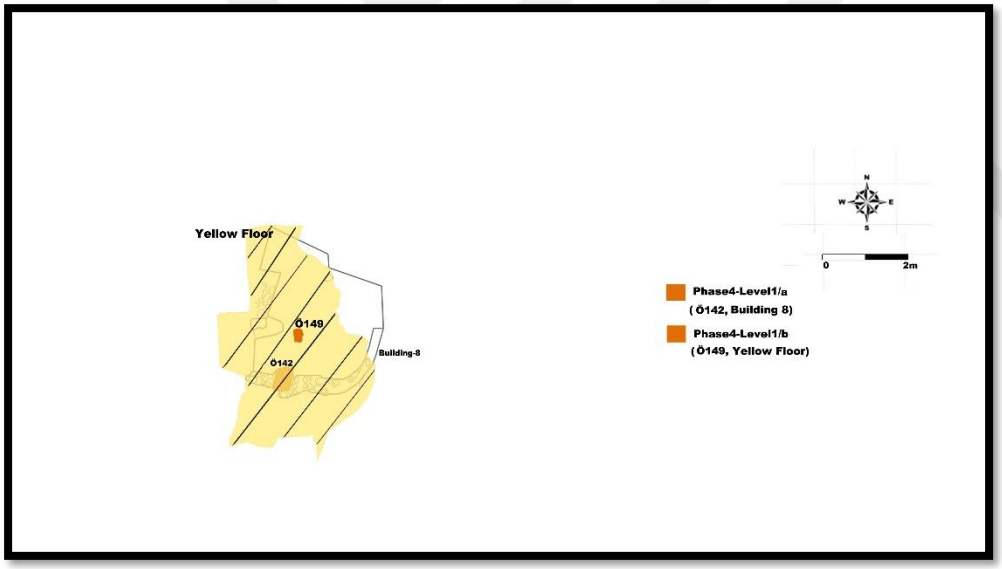


Figure 49. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/b

Phase4-PitStage1/c

- Building 5 was built on the top of the previous constructions in the same location in the last step of the first stage of pit practice (Fig. 50).
- There is no pit in this stage.
- Building 9 was constructed far away from the first pits and related structures.
- After Building 5 was abandoned, a pit will be dug top of this building in the same location as a closure practice.

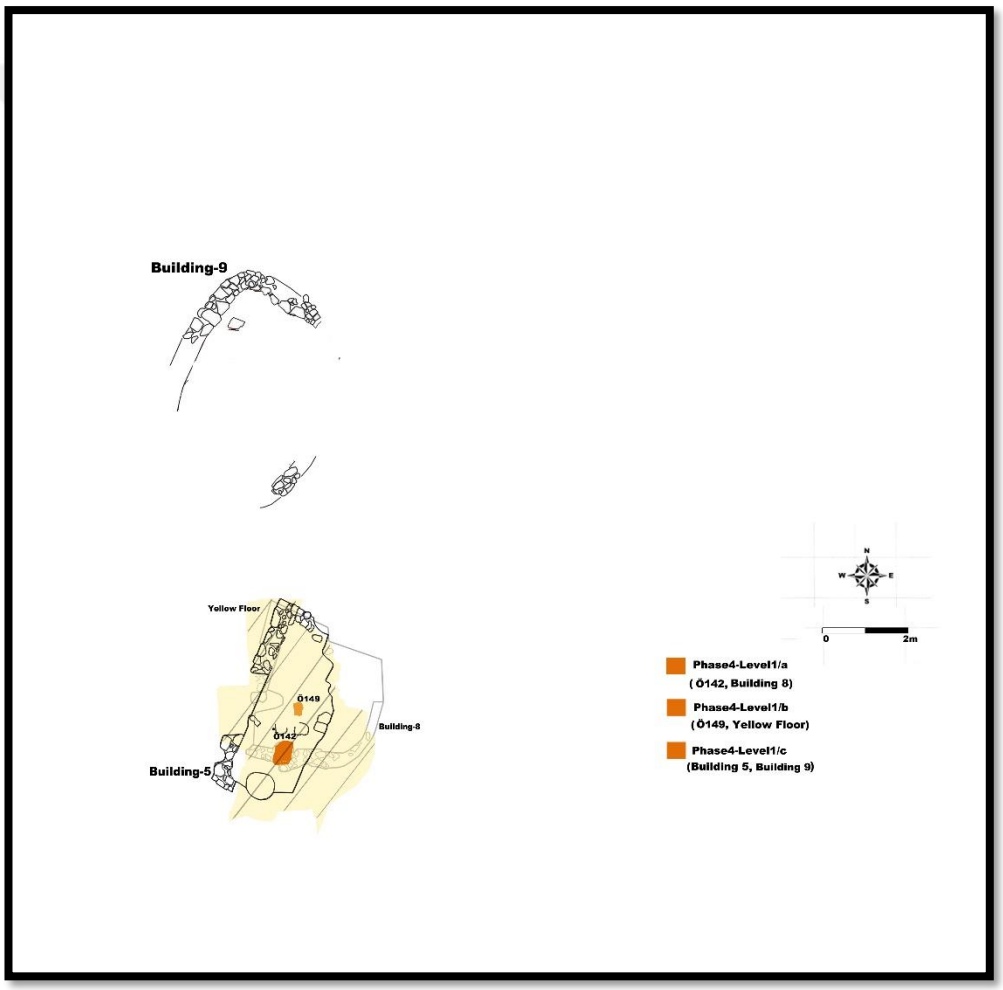


Figure 50. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4-PitSatege1/c

Phase4/3-PitStage2

- This stage coincides with a transition period from Phase IV to Phase III (Fig. 51).
- Three distinct sectors in the pit area were for the first time generated in this stage.
- There is one pit within the boundaries of each sector.
- Ö52 pit was dug in the same location with the first pits and related architectural structures, so-called as the core area of pit practice. However, Ö125 pit and Ö190 pit were positioned equidistantly from this core area consistently preferred during previous periods
- Ö52 pit is located in the earliest period of this stage in the time context because it is associated with the closure of Building 5 previously constructed.
- Building 4 known as the communal building emerges next to the pit area in this stage.
- In terms of constructional features, Ö52 pit made of thicker plaster and distinctive depth comes to the fore in this stage of pit practice.
- With regards to artifact abundance and variation, when compared to other pits, Ö52 pit is outstanding pit having the highest number of artifact and variety in this pit stage. This pit has the largest quantity of awl and also grinding stone and Spondylus objects having relations with certain places and certain practices in the symbolic context. Almost all pot sherds in Ö52 pit are thin wares. The greatest number of animal bone and flint are also found in this pit.
- On the other hand, Ö125 pit and Ö190 pit are bigger than Ö52 pit in terms of diameter. Due to this attribute, Ö190 pit has greater volume than Ö52 pit.
- A figurine is only found in Ö190 pit in this stage. This comparative case will be queried in the further part.

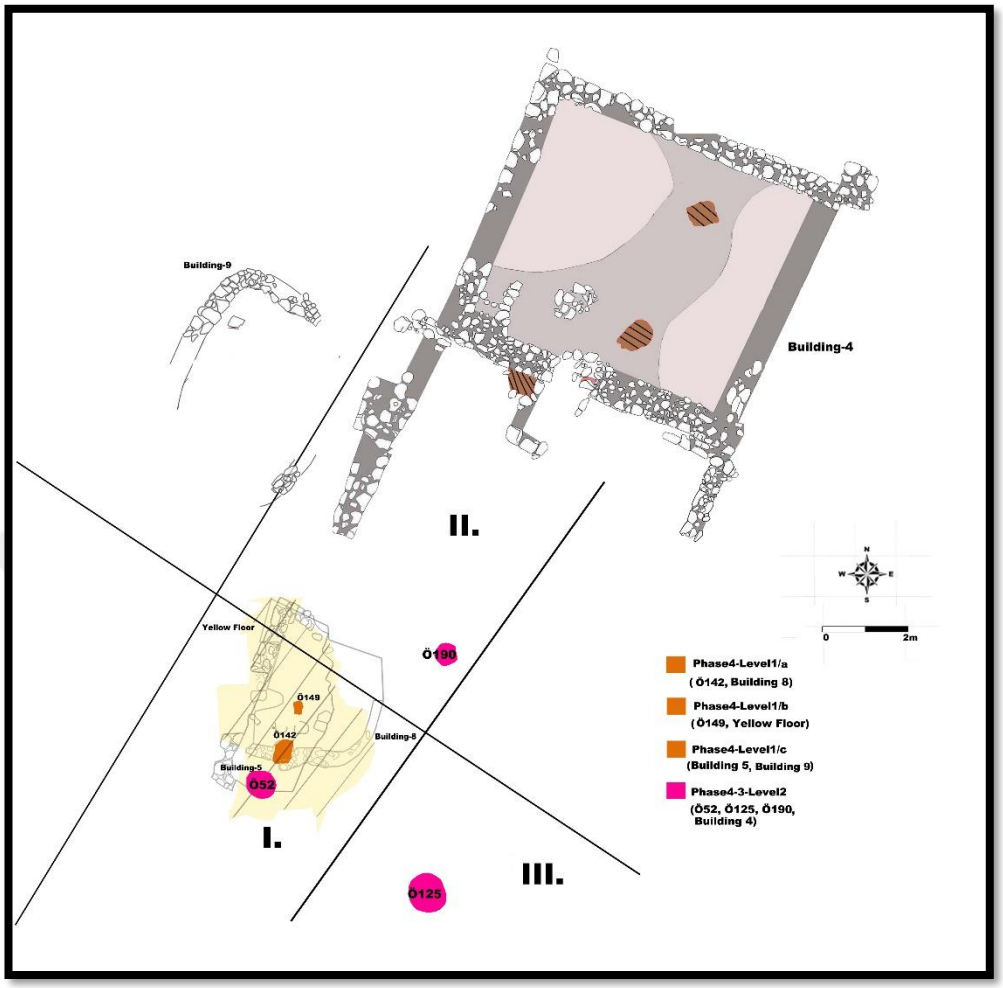


Figure 51. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase4/3-PitSatege2

Phase3-PitStage3

- Pits in this stage were dug within the boundaries of Sector I and Sector II (Fig. 52).
- Locations of pits in the spatial context are considered to be related with pits dated Phase4/3PitStage2.
- Ö58, Ö122, Ö126 and Ö150 pits in Sector I were located around the core area of pit practice. In the same time, these pits have equal distances from Ö52 pit.
- In the spatial and historical contexts, Ö121 and Ö48 pits in Sector II were located by giving references to Ö190 pit dug within the same sector in the previous stage.
- There is no pit in Sector III during Phase3-PitStage3.
- In terms of constructional features, all pits in this stage have the same plastering feature, i.e. plaster thickness of pit walls between 3-5 cm. Ö121 pit is the deepest one and has the widest mouth diameter in terms of dimensions.
- When compared to other pits in Phase3-PitStage3, Ö121 pit has the largest number and the greatest variety of small finds. This pit, moreover, has the largest quantity of awl, grinding stones, figurines and Spondylus objects having relations with each other, certain places and certain practices in the symbolic context. The greatest amount of pot sherds, decorated and eared pots are found in Ö121 pit in this stage. This pit is also the first number in terms of the amount of flint and the second one for the amount of animal bones.
- On the other hand, Ö48 pit in Sector II and Ö122 pit in Sector I are comparable with Ö121 pit for constructional features because Ö48 pit has the second biggest diameter and Ö122 pit is the second deepest pit.
- In addition to these physical conditions of pits, Ö122 pit has the second greatest amount of animal bones and flint.
- The numbers of small finds of Ö48 and Ö121 pits are few although there are pot sherds in large quantities.

- In terms of the number of small finds and sherds, other pits Ö58, Ö126 and Ö150 are almost empty. It is considered that this state may be related with Ö29 and Ö31-32 pits that will be opened in the next pit stage.

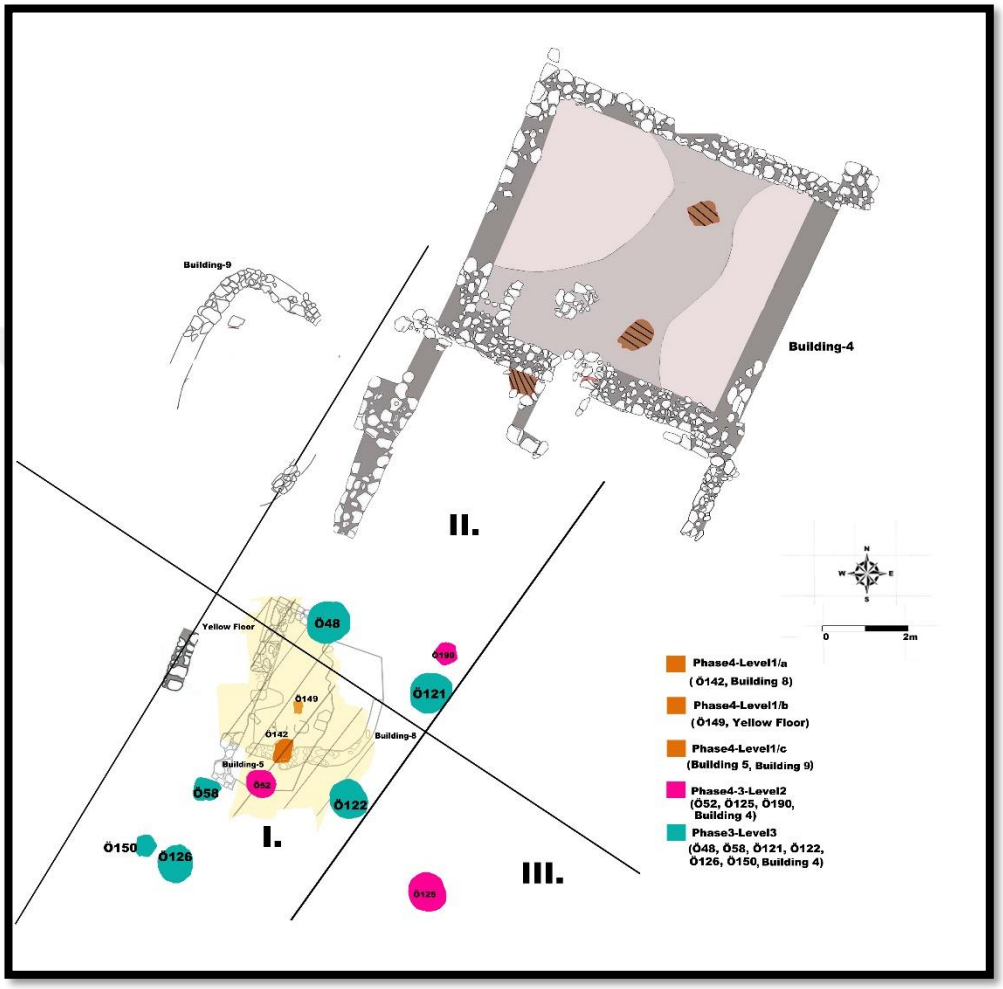


Figure 52. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege3

Phase3-PitStage4

- All three sectors have pits in this stage (Fig. 53).
- Locations of pits in the area are shaped to be related with pits dated the previous stages.
- Ö148 pit-like structure housing to pit rituals in the other contemporary sites was probably dug in the Sector III in the earliest part of Phase3-PitStage4.
- Ö29 pit and Ö31-32 pit were located on the top of pits dated Phase3-PitStage3 within the boundaries of the core area of pit practice.
- Ö178 pit dug in Sector II was directly located above of Ö48 pit which was dug previous stage in the spatial context.
- Ö119 pit was located in relation to the first pit in the Sector III.
- There is no pit activity in the areas of critical pits in the previous stage.
- In terms of the constructional features of pits, only Ö29 pit and Ö31-32 pit in this stage have thick plaster (more than 5 cm). Ö29 pit in Sector I is the deepest one and has the widest mouth diameter in this stage.
- In terms of the artifact abundance and variation, when compared to other pits in Phase3-PitStage4, Ö29 pit has the largest number of small finds and the greatest variety of artefacts. This pit has also the largest quantity of awls, polypod vessels, human bones and Spondylus objects. Furthermore, the greatest amount of decorated pots and eared pots are unearthed in Ö29 pit. In addition, the amount of pot sherd in Ö29 is about four times more than the richest pit when compared with all pits. The greatest quantity of flint and animal bones are found in this pit in both this stage and all times.
- On the other hand, Ö31-32 pit in Sector I and Ö119 pit in Sector III are comparable with Ö29 pit in terms of their constructional features because Ö31-32 pit has thick plaster and also Ö119 pit is the biggest pit as to the volume in Phase3-PitStage4.
- In addition to these physical conditions of pits, Ö119 pit has some symbolically related objects, such as figurine and grinding stones.
- Ö178 pit is almost empty in terms of small finds and pot sherds.

- For archaeological material, Ö31-32 pit is too poor. It is considered that this situation may be related with Ö26 pit that will be directly dug in the same location in Phase3-PitStage6.
- It is thought that Ö29 pit may be used for a closure ritual due to its great quantities of artifacts, symbolic objects, high variety and uncommon physical features. In the same time, this pit may be seen as the first marker of the critical changes for pit practice at Uğurlu.

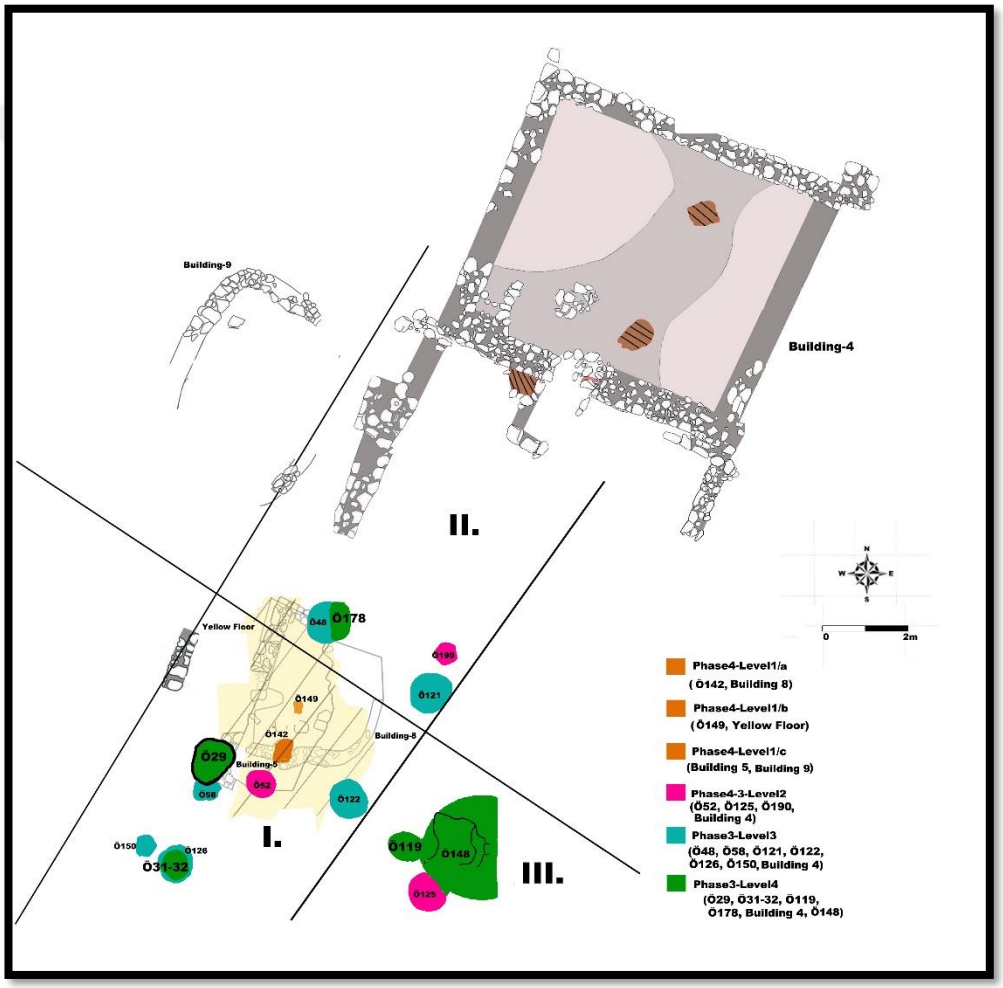


Figure 53. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege4

Phase3-PitStage5

- Two new sectors which are Sector IV and Sector V emerge in this stage (Fig. 54).
- Ö35 pit in Sector I was located on the first pits dated Phase IV.
- In Sector II, Ö188 pit including more than 13 human burials was located in the nearest point to Building 4 known as communal building. This special pit may be used in the earliest period of this stage or during this stage.
- In Sector III, Ö118 pit was located away from the previous pits which were dug in this sector.
- Ö131 pit is the first pit in Sector IV.
- Ö117 pit is the first pit in Sector V.
- Locations of pits in this sage indicate that they were dug near to bounds of sectors.
- In terms of the constructional features, all pits in this stage have the same plastering feature, i.e. plaster thickness of pit walls between 3-5 cm.
- In terms of the artifact abundance and variation in Phase3-PitStage5, Ö35 pit has the largest number and the greatest variety of small finds. However, when this density is compared with other pits that are the richest ones, it is poor. Ö35 is one of pits having the largest quantity of symbolically related objects in this stage. ın addition, the greatest amount of pot sherds, decorated and eared pots are found in this pit in this stage.
- On the other hand, Ö118 pit in Sector III may be comparable with Ö35 pit because Ö118 pit has the biggest volume in this stage.
- Although Ö118 pit is poor for the quantities of small finds and pot sherds, it has the largest amount of animal bones and flint in Phase3-PitStage5. This pit also put an end to the pit practice in Sector III.
- It is observed that the nature of the pit practice undergoes a critical change with human burials in Ö188 pit. The picture that will emerged in the next stage will support the existence of change in this stage.

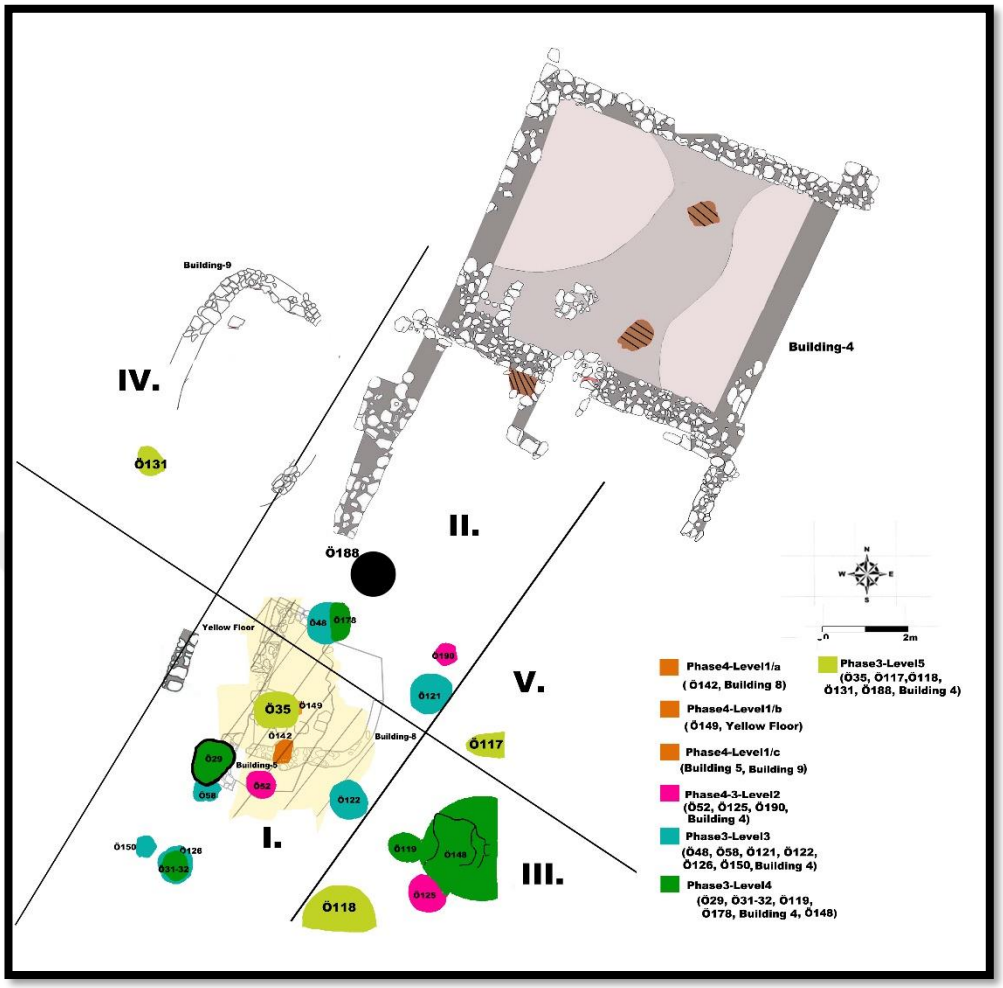


Figure 54. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege5

Phase3-PitStage6

- Pits were dug in only Sector I and Sector II in this stage (Fig. 55).
- Ö33 pit was located within the boundaries of core area of pit practice in Sector I whereas Ö26, Ö27, Ö28 and Ö7 pits in the same sector are relatively away from this core area. Also, Ö26 pit was directly located on Ö126 and Ö150 pits that were dug in Phase3-PitStage3 and Ö31-32 pit that was dug in Phase3-PitStage4.
- Ö177 pit in Sector II was located close to Ö188 pit having human burials.
- It can be said for locations of pits in this stage that they were selected to be related with former pits in their own sectors.
- In terms of the constructional features, Ö26, Ö27 and Ö28 pits in the Sector I during Phase3-PitStage6 have thick plaster (more than 5 cm). Ö28 pit is the deepest pit and also has wide mouth diameter in this stage.
- With regards to the artifact abundance and variation, when compared with other pits in this stage, Ö28 pit has the largest number of small finds and the greatest variety of artefacts. This pit, in the same time, has the largest quantity of awls, figurine and Spondylus objects having symbolic meanings. Furthermore, the greatest quantities of pot sherds, decorated pots and eared pots are revealed in Ö28 pit. The largest amount of flint and animal bones are also found in this pit in this stage.
- On the other hand, Ö26 and Ö27 in the same sector are comparable with Ö28 pit due to their thick plasters. Also, because Ö7 pit has bigger volume than Ö28 pit in Phase3-PitStage6, it may be compared.
- In this stage, Ö177 pit is the other rich pit in terms of amount of pot sherds, decorated and eared pots after Ö28 pit.
- In the spatial context, pit practice was finished in a micro area of Sector I with Ö26, Ö27, Ö28 and Ö7 pits and then this part of Sector I was closed.

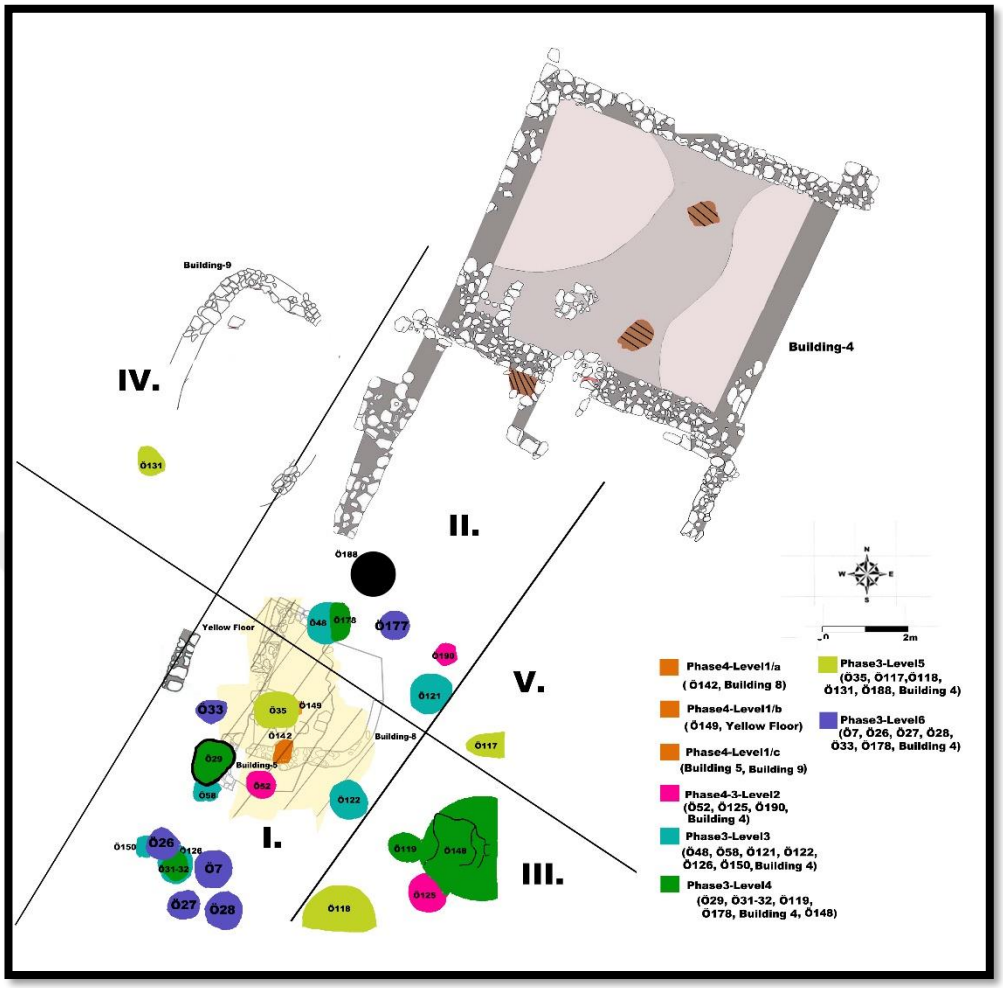


Figure 55. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege6

Phase3-PitStage7

- In this stage, pits were dug in Sector I, Sector II and Sector III (Fig. 56).
- Ö24 pit and Ö25 pit were located within the boundaries of the core area of pit practice.
- Ö187 was recored as a separate feature during the excavation. However, it has been understood that instead of new pit, Ö187 was the rest of Ö188 having more than 13 human burials. Therefore, Ö187 will not be considered as a distinct pit in the further part of the thesis.
- Ö179 pit and Ö194 special floor are located next to Ö188 in Sector II.
- Ö102, Ö103 and Ö136 pits in Sector IV were located next to Building 4 known as communal structure.
- Locations of pits in these sectors may be selected to be related with previous pits in their own sectors.
- In terms of the physical features, Ö25 pit has thick plaster (more than 5 cm). In terms of dimensions, Ö25 pit in Sector I has also the largest volume in this stage.
- With regards to the artifact abundance and variation, Ö25 pit has the largest number of small finds and the greatest variety of artifacts in this stage. This pit, also, has the largest quantity of awls, grinding stone, human bones and Spondylus objects. In terms of the quantities of pot sherds, decorated pots and eared pots, Ö25 pit is comparable with other rich pits in Phase3-PitStage7. Moreover, the largest amount of flint and the second greatest amount of animal bones are also found in this pit.
- On the other hand, Ö102 and Ö103 pits in Sector IV are comparable with Ö25 pit in Sector I because their volumes are bigger than Ö25 pit.
- Ö102 pit is the richest pit in terms of quantities of pot sherds, animal bones, decorated and eared pots in Phase3-PitStage7.
- Pit practice within the boundaries of the core area in Sector I was finished with Ö24 pit and Ö25 pit. This sector was closed in the same time.
- Positioning of Ö24 pit and Ö25 pit in the pit area indicates that locations of previous pits in this sector had been known during practice of pit digging.

- Two special floors or platforms (Ö191 and Ö194) appear within two distinct locations of the pit area in this stage.

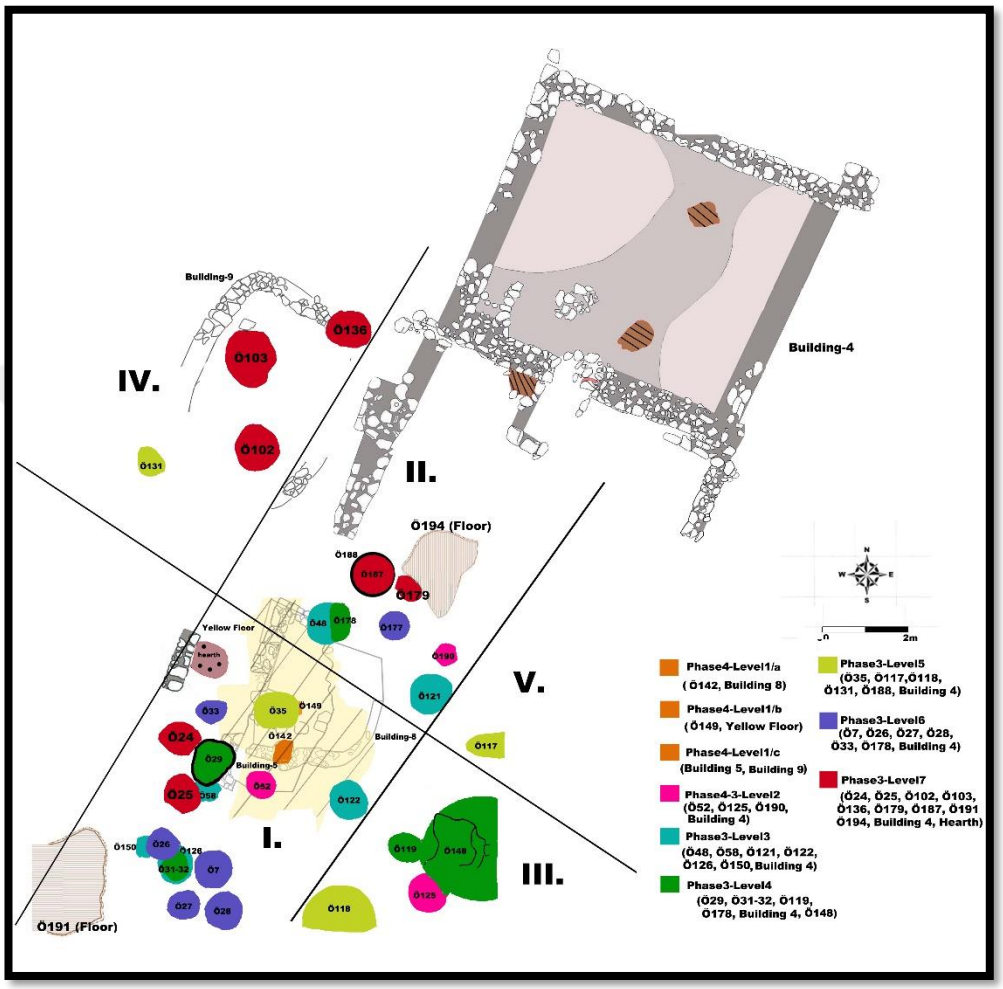


Figure 56. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege7

Phase3-PitStage8

- Pits in this last stage were located so that all pits within all pit stages would relate to each other (Fig. 57). In this direction, Ö116 pit was in the intersection of Sector I and Sector II when Ö176 pit was located near to the boundaries of Sector I and Sector II.
- In terms of the constructional features, all pits in this stage have the same plastering feature, i.e. plaster thickness of pit walls between 3-5 cm. Also, Ö116 pit is the deepest pit and has the widest mouth diameter in terms of dimensions.
- With regards to the artifact abundance and variation, when compared with other pit in this stage, Ö116 pit has the largest number of small finds and the greatest variety of artefacts. This pit, in the same time, has the largest amount of obsidian and Spondylus objects having relations with each other, certain places and certain practices in the symbolic context. Moreover, the greatest quantities of pot sherds, decorated pots and eared pots were revealed in Ö116 pit. The largest amount of flint and animal bones are also found in this pit.
- But then, Ö176 pit is very poor pit in terms of the number of artifacts, diversity and physical features.
- Due to constructional feature, material variation and location in the area, Ö116 pit looks like Ö29 pit in Phase3-PitStage4 when pit practice had a critical change. It is considered that this case may be a milestone for the practice of pit digging. In this direction, it can be said that Ö116 pit represents the closure of the pit area at Uğurlu.

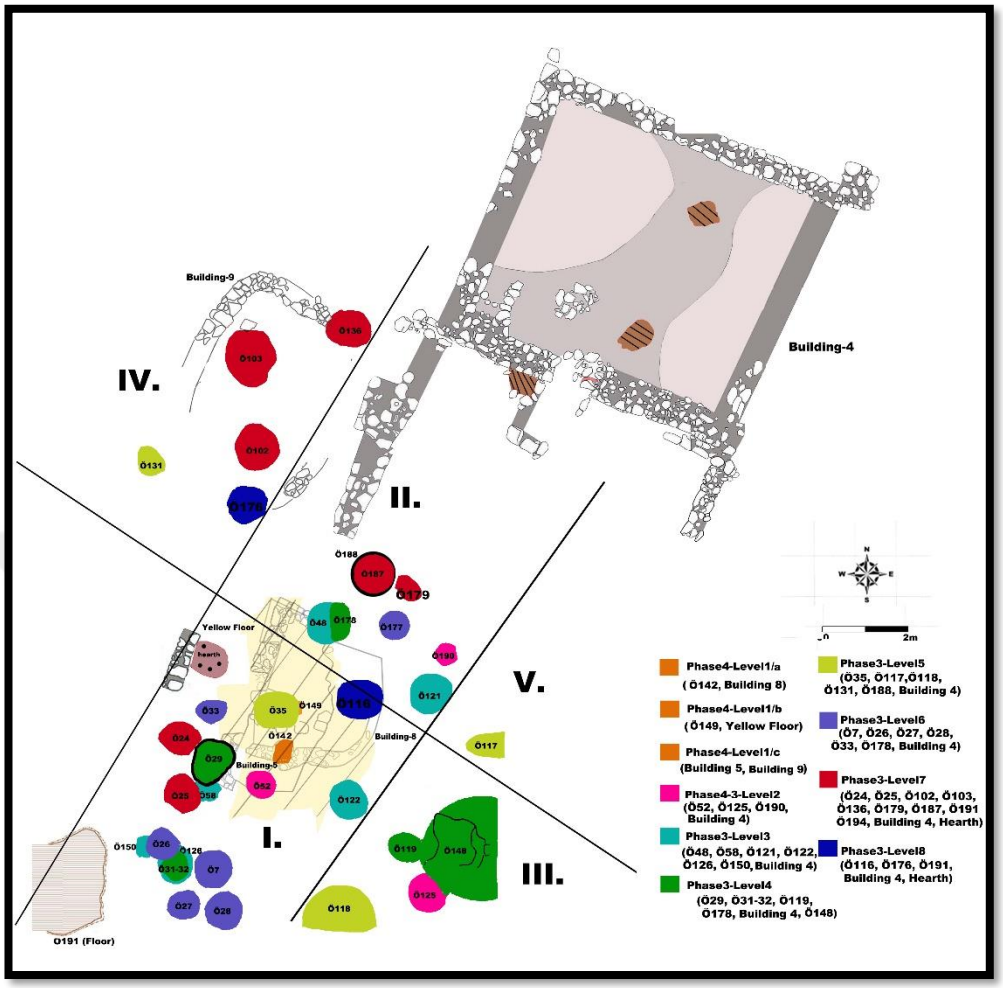


Figure 57. Spatial distributions of pits and related architectural structures in Phase3-PitSatege8

4.2 Spatial Continuity, Boundaries, Clusters

Considering overall picture of the emergence of the pit area which was explained stage by stage in Section 4.1, a few critical points attract attention (Fig. 58). Firstly, the practice of pit digging emerges in trenches P5-P6 starting from Phase IV and concentrates in front of the courtyard of Building 4 with a *megaron* plan in Phase III, and the activity of pit – digging ceases at the end of this phase. As mentioned in the previous sections, there are pits having human burials and numerous elaborate artifacts, such as figurines, polypods, Spondylus objects and eared pots are concentrated in the pit area.

As the stratigraphy has been more intensely examined in Section 3.2 of the thesis, chronological positions of the pits were clarified. Afterwards, based on such chronological positioning, pits were assessed all together according to the criteria including intensity and diversity of artifacts as well as construction techniques of pits, such as plastering, and dimensions observed (Table 48). Accordingly, it was determined that at least one pit in each chronological pit stage showed such features covering majority of analyzing criteria as plaster thickness, artifact intensity, artifact variation, intensity of elaborate ceramic objects (Table 49, Table 51).

In Section 4.1, all analyses performed in previous sections were evaluated in the context of the spatial plans, and factors affecting the development of locations of pits and other architectural items in the historical process were examined. Accordingly, it was understood that the core area of pits is one where architectural elements of Building 8, Yellow Floor, and Building 5 built one following to another in overlapping manner in trenches P5-P6 starting from the early stages of Phase IV. Also, in later stages, pit practice observed in reference to all constructions in previous stages that may be construed as related to a social grouping and its boundaries negotiated via pits at the venue.

A small pit (Ö142) comprising few animal bones, stones objects, and flint was dug on the southern wall of Building 8. This pit was used at the end of the use – life of Building

8 and it may be associated with a closure ritual that seems to be similar in the nature to pits observed by Tringham in Opovo as discussed in literature review Section 2.1 of the thesis.

Followed by this event, a platform (Yellow Floor) was built by plastering the area with yellow clay in more than one coat. During the early phase of this platform, a small pit (Ö149) was opened at the center. Ö149 yielded abundant flint pieces, a worked bone object, and a small stone axe. Yellow Floor apparently continued in use after this event until Building 5 was constructed on it. This building was contemporarily used with Building 9 located in trench O5.

Like the practice in Building 8, Building 5 was also closed with a pit (Ö52). Ö52 stands out among other pits in some respects; it is deep and thickly plastered with abundance of elaborate awls possibly used as head insertions for figurines (Hasan Can Gemici, personal communication, December 10, 2016) along with abundance of flint and ground stone artefacts. As will be seen in the following stages of the development of pit area, thick plastered pits seem to be related to shifts in the activity of pit – digging from one phase to the next, in other words, closing an era and opening a new one.

In the later use of PitStage2, two new pits (Ö125, Ö190) were opened in separate locations about 2 meters away from the core area of pit practice where Ö52 and other architectural structures dated Phase IV are located. Thus, the pit area was divided into three sectors. This spatial divergence between the pits at this stage will shaped the historical progress of pit practice during the later use of the area.

6 new pits in 2 different sectors appeared in the following PitStage3. In Sector I, Ö58, Ö122, Ö126 and Ö150 were opened around the previously opened Ö52 pit. While Ö121 pit and Ö48 pit in Sector II were associated with previously opened Ö190. In Sector II, Ö121 pit stands out both in terms of its assemblage of figurine, grinding stone, flints, ceramic objects and its dimensions. Ö122 in Sector I is comparable to Ö121 in terms of the number of small finds, ceramics, and depth. Such comparable abundance and outstanding physical features of two pits in two different sectors is

interesting and may be related to social factors such as competition. However, it is impossible to make further interpretations because of our inability to understand if the pits were opened at the same time by separate groups or at different times by the same group of people. One feature of pits in the Sector I is that they are almost empty. The reason for such emptiness seems to be related to moving, distribution, and transfer of any material of those pits during the activity of pit – digging in the later stages, in specific the opening of pits Ö29, Ö31-32, Ö26, Ö25.

In PitStage4, pit practice continues in certain locations as part of sub-clusters formed in three sectors mentioned above. Ö178 in Sector II is a pit opened right above Ö48 and containing scarcely any artifacts. Ö119 in Sector III is a larger pit next to Ö125 and containing a figurine and a grinding stone. However, the most important pit in this stage stands out to be Ö29 pit in Sector I within the boundaries of the core area of pit practice. Ö29 partly overlaps Ö58 previously opened in this sector. In Ö29 pit which is rather thick plastered and the largest-volume pit in this stage, there are abundant animal bones, flints, potteries, and other small finds. Two human finger bones were also found inside this pit. One more pit (Ö31-32) in Sector I comes to attention in this stage. This pit is right over Ö126 pit dated previous stage and thick plastered, however, containing scant materials.

Ö29 comes into focus as the most important item of all pits in this area in every aspect. Ö29, which is the richest pit of all times in terms of pit plastering, dimensions as well as artifact intensity and diversity mentioned above, is also the precursor of onset of the transformation of pit practice in the pit area.

As a matter of fact, in PitStage5, it is observed that new pits (Ö117, Ö131) were opened in new spatial sectors (Sectors IV and Sector V) besides Ö35 pit and Ö118 pit opened in the sectors previously existing. It is a matter of attraction that these new sectors are spatially close to Building 4 and also Ö188 has a close relation particularly to the courtyard of Building 4 in Sector II. Ö188 is a burial pit wherein 13 individuals were found. It is interesting that Ö35 pit in Sector I was opened right on top of Ö142 and Ö149 which were the first pits in Phase IV. Ö118 pit is, on the other hand, relatively in

far distance to the pits previously opened in its own sector. Moreover, except a few elaborate ceramic objects, Spondylus objects, and some animal bones in Ö35 pit, almost all pits in this stage contain almost no material.

The practice of pit – digging in PitStage6 continues in Sector I and Sector II; however, the continuity of variation and transition is evident. In Sector I, Ö33 is not prominent in terms of findings and other features; and in Sector II, Ö177 is the richest pit next to the cluster of Ö188, Ö48, and Ö178 in terms of ceramic objects, particularly the finding of decorated and eared pots. However, the most interestingly, the area where Ö126, Ö150, Ö31-32 pits are clustered to the south part of Sector I become an activity area with these new pits. Among these four pits, three pits (Ö26, Ö27, Ö28) are rather thick plastered and relative large in volume; however, whereas Ö26 are Ö27 are poor in material, Ö28 stands out in terms of various aspects (Table 48). Considering that the cluster of thick-plastered pits to the south of Sector I lacks of pit practice following to this stage, it can be said that this concentration with thick-plastered pits has a symbolic importance similar to deliberate closure rituals which are common the Neolithic Period.

In PitStage7, pit practice continues in Sector I, Sector II, and Sector IV; however, while such practice ends in this stage after Ö24 pit and Ö25 pit opened in Sector I, the continuity of pit – digging in Sector II and Sector IV close to Building 4 goes on in the next stage. Ö25 located in the cluster of Ö58 pit and Ö29 pit in Sector I stands out the most important pit in this stage and houses some elements similar to the closure rituals observed in previous stages (e.g., Ö29 in PitStage4, and Ö26-Ö27-Ö28 in PitStage6).

Thick plastered Ö25 pit contains, besides a half human skeleton, a wide range of small finds along abundant pot sherds, flint, and animal bones. The other pit, Ö24 in Sector I, is almost empty. Ö187 was recored as a separate feature during the excavation; however, it has been understood that instead of new pit, Ö187 was the rest of Ö188 having more than 13 human burials. Therefore, Ö187 is not considered as a distinct pit. Ö179 pit and Ö194 special floor are located next to Ö188 in Sector II. Ö179 pit contains no elements noteworthy in terms of artifacts and other pit features. On the other hand, three pits (Ö102, Ö103, and Ö136) in Sector IV are large in volume. In

fact, such enlargement is a feature commonly starting to become prominent in these stages. Ö102 and Ö136 are comparable with Ö25 in terms of small artifacts, pot sherds, and flint. Also, a new floor or platform (Ö191) emerges in parallel to completion of the pit practice in Sector I. Likewise, in Sector II, a new floor or platform (Ö194) appears in line with the termination of pit practice. These platforms may be part of an action related to ending to using these sectors. As a matter of fact, Yellow Floor previously found in PitStage1/b in Phase IV was prominent as an element related to ending of using Building 8.

In retrospect, pits in different sectors which are comparable in terms of material abundance and diversity, plaster thickness, and volume can be observed starting from PitStage3. For instance, Ö122 in Sector I and Ö121 in Sector II in PitStage3, Ö28 in Sector I and Ö177 in Sector II in PitStage6, and Ö25 in Sector I and Ö102 in Sector IV in PitStage7 make think that there are competitive elements in the process of differentiation between sectors.

There are only two pits (Ö116 and Ö176) in PitStage8 which is the stage where pit practice ends. Ö116 pit one of the largest pits in terms of volume is located at the intersection of Sector I and Sector II. Although this pit is poor compared to other pits in the previous stages in terms of amounts and diversity of small artifacts, Ö116 has abundant sherds, flint, and animal bones. Moreover, it is the only pit including obsidian item. In Sector IV, Ö176 pit that was opened close to Ö102 pit is a small pit. This pit is also poor in terms of the number of ceramic objects.

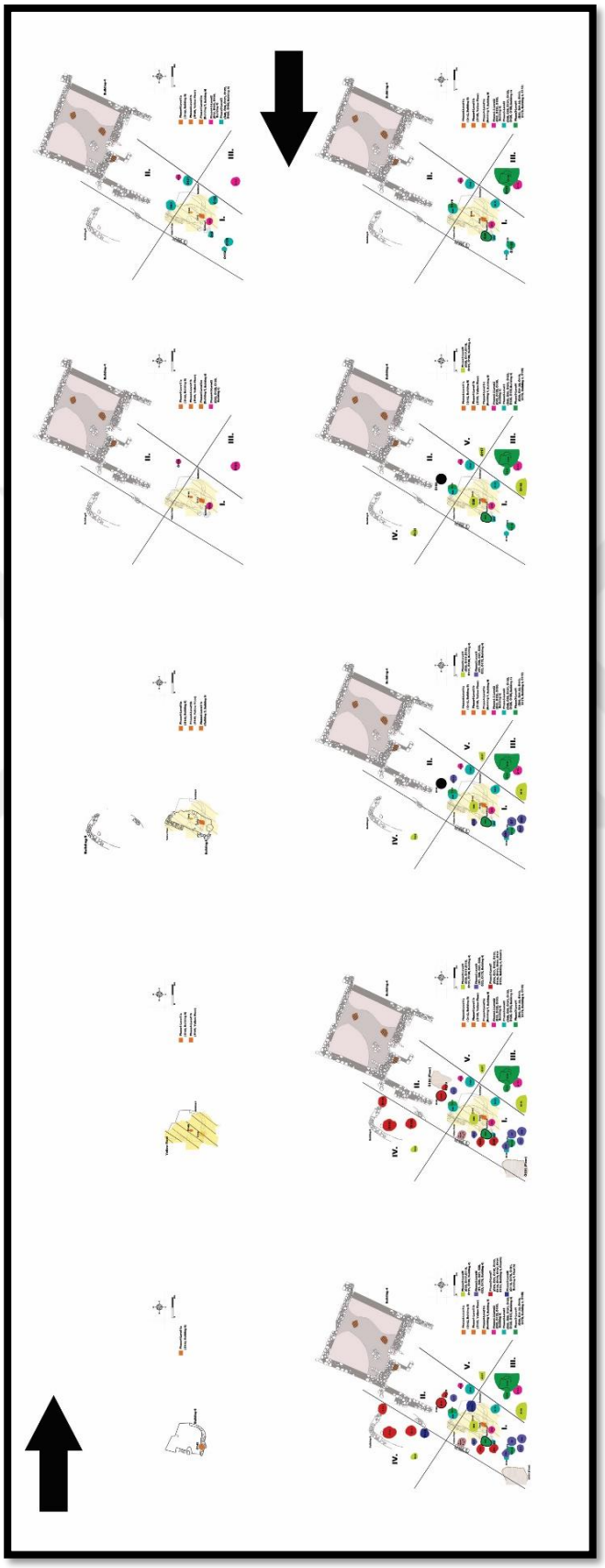


Figure 58. Emergence of pit area through time

As part of the progressive process explained above, the following deductions may be made related to the pit practice observed in trenches P5-P6 at Uğurlu: pit practice starts in a core area with an architectural historically continuity, and pits built in successive stages are positioned in accordance with the actions performed in previous stages. In other words, the historical past of spatial segregation or clustering of pits shapes the future of the pit practice. This appears to be related to a social grouping and its borders negotiated via pits in the location.

Since chronologically, it is unfortunately not possible to elaborately understand the concurrent relation of any pit opened in each pit stage, it is not possible to make any realistic deduction regarding the spatial sectors and the structure, size, and diversity of social groups comprising the sub clusters in sectors. Pits in each stage may have been dug concurrently by one group, or concurrently by more than one group, or by only one group or different groups in different time intervals.

Although not a clear estimate may be made on group compositions and structures, it would be likely to make some deductions when considered in terms of pits' construction features and diversity and abundance of artifacts found in pits. At least, having more than one sector in use during any pit stage as well as that in each of such sectors there are pits which are comparable to each other with similar abundance and construction features evokes an interrelated community and different social groups such as households or household clusters forming such community at Uğurlu. In addition, despite of having a comparable pit in every sector during any stage, one of those pits is at the forefront, and this brings up the competitive relations among groups.

Peoples at Uğurlu are settled or mobile is not clear. However, there is no data about that peoples were settled in Uğurlu during Phase III. There is no 'house' in the pit area. And also, the function of Building 3 in the other part of the site is not clear yet. But, it can be said that there were ritualistic activities in here. A pit was located near Building 3 probably before construction of Building 3. There are traces of intentionally animal killing in this pit. This pit may be related with sanctifying of Building 3 and activities around this area. In addition, activities in this building would be related with activities

in the pit area in the western part of the site. As Uğurlu was in the intersection point of valley systems on the island, its location might have given a chance for meeting activity for peoples on the island during Phase III.

Concordantly, the area wherein pits are dug can be described as a dynamic social negotiation zone. Such dynamism can be observed by substantial transformation and changes of pit practices in various time intervals. For instance, thick plastered pits such as Ö52, Ö29, Ö28, and Ö25 in different pit stages are correlated with the transformation or termination of pit activities in their own sectors. Plaster is, as usually known, an important material used in building interiors and for plastering skulls in Neolithic Period. Because transformation to the sedentary life in Mesopotamia at the PPN increased the complexity between communities, their environments and material sources, new social norms were required to govern people's interactions. Symbolic actions within ritual practices were used as a mechanism justifying the social orders and rules in the society. In skull cult practice that is one of the most common ritual activities in Mesopotamia at the beginning of PPN, after the dead was buried in a pit, the skull was removed from the body. This event was related to specific individuals. Following to generations with several manipulations, such as plastering skulls, coloring faces and changing locations of skulls, memories, identities and relations were transformed from persons to symbolic collective memory and identity. It has been suggested that in the ancestor cult, burial practice is a part of the regeneration ritual along with such events as raising buildings, feastings (Kuijt, 2000, 2008).

At the end of the PPNB, the main idea of "skull cult" was transferred to monumental buildings in the Central Anatolia. At Çatalhöyük, the best example for this issue, various domestic activities, such as food preparation, consumption and tool production were continuously performed in "shrines" as well as ritual actions. Kin relations were continued by rebuilding of houses in the same place with burials under the floors. The connection with the past was highlighted by building continuity. So, the house was in the central position for the construction of social memory (Düring, 2001; Hodder, 1982, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2016; Hodder & Cessford, 2004). In this context, the pit practice observed with various features, such as plastering, artifact groups, spatial continuity,

clustering, and segregation in Uğurlu around 6th millennium BC shows the similar features with the regeneration rituals of the ancestor cult in the Early Neolithic. It is understood from remains of a great amount of animal bones and heavy use of pots that collective food consumption was materialized during such rituals.

As narrated in the introduction and literature review, practices of pit – digging, and the closure of building are prominent elements of many settlements during 6th millennium BC from Mesopotamia to Anatolia and Balkans. In addition to explanations above, Chapman's interpretations can be given as an example. According to his approach, pit digging establishes a bond between the present activity and the recent past of ancestors by removing and filling material. In other words, he considers that pit – digging as an exchange with ancestors (2000). Also, Tringham's perspective can be another argument. She mentions that burned architectural rubble found in pits may be related with the part of the 'burial rites' of the dead house to supply the continuity of place (2000, p. 346).

Although it contains the elements of burial rituals practiced as part of the ancestor cult in the Early Neolithic, pit opening and closing rituals during 6th millennium BC took place in parallel with changes occurred in burial customs. According to the data associated to Central Anatolia and Mesopotamia as well as Levant, burial took place in relation with buildings inside settlement until 7th millennium BC has lost its association with buildings around 6th millennium BC (Atakuman, 2014, 2015a). Instead, although having found out some pits at certain locations wherein limited number of dead was buried en masse, it is estimated that the majority of the dead was mostly buried in graves away from settlements. In fact, this situation of burials and buildings has changed completely in the Early Bronze Age because the settlement and burials are separated in the spatial context, as in Demircihöyük. Prevalence and increase of objects such as figurines in Phase III and the concentration thereof in areas associated with Uğurlu pits give rises the idea of that such objects and pits metaphorically represent death-regeneration relation as part of the social landscape being newly formed. As a matter of fact, the majority of figurines obtained in the pit area at Uğurlu are found broken symmetrically, and this requires a consideration with

half human skeleton found in Ö25.

As a matter of general consideration, 6th millennium BC displays similar processes undergone both in Mesopotamia and Anatolia as well as Balkans. For instance, the emergence of painted ceramic cultures of Hassuna-Samarra-Halaf influencing Northern Mesopotamia is a fact parallel to diversifying and increasing of such objects as figurines and seals which are small and portable and has symbolic meaning. According to Ian Kuijt, the new "household" structure emerging as agricultural economy becomes dominant substance strategy negotiated their social necessities in food sharing settings where portable small objects brought forward visually. The social belonging and establishment of communal structure that were negotiated with the dead in the past have been started to be negotiated with metaphorical objects. Accordingly, this situation undoubtedly caused many variations. One of these is the acceleration of political centralization in tune with competitive relations between social groups.

Case study of Uğurlu site is important in this sense because it is not possible to observe this process in a continuous way neither in the context of Halaf in Northern Mesopotamia nor Chalcolithic period in Anatolia. However, emergence of the pit area at Uğurlu is probably associated with negotiating social structures within the communal or inter-communal levels in the Late Neolithic / Early Chalcolithic periods. And also, the process of evolution of the pit area at Uğurlu which was in relation with Building 4 considered as a ritual structure with *megaron* plan constitutes one of the rare examples indicating stages of ritual centralization. While diversification of small artifacts and pots brings household to the forefront in cooperative and competitive relations before the centralization, decreasing number of such small artifacts and crude craftsmanship of potteries following to the centralization may be related to the fact that households lost their ritual and economic independence as well as the power of expressing itself in that new centralized structure.

Besides ritual and political centralization, methods used to construct and maintain social memory and identity get changed in between Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods. Buildings in Çatalhöyük may have been transformed to pits at Uğurlu. Human

burials inside buildings at Çatalhöyük may have been transformed to the metaphoric objects inside pits at Uğurlu. However, there is a grave-like construction at Uğurlu, like in Demircihöyük. So, the Late Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic pit practice at Uğurlu may be located in between Çatalhöyük and Demircihöyük as a transitional stage (Fig. 59).

On the other hand, it can be said that the usage of Uğurlu site during especially Phase III looks like a meeting place with ritual practices rather than domestic. Although there are lots of Spondylus objects in the pit area as well as pot sherds and animal bones, traces of the production and the consumption cannot demonstrate this area as a domestic area or workshop. Because daily routine activities can be influenced by symbolic and social norms, food or tool production or consumption events should be thought in the ritual context (Hodder, 1982b; Moore, 1981). Like performing domestic activities with ritual actions in shrines at Çatalhöyük, similar scene exists in the pit area at Uğurlu. Therefore, a great number of pot sherds and animal bones can be considered as a feasting activity part of rituals during the prehistoric times in the pit area as well as special Spondylus object production.

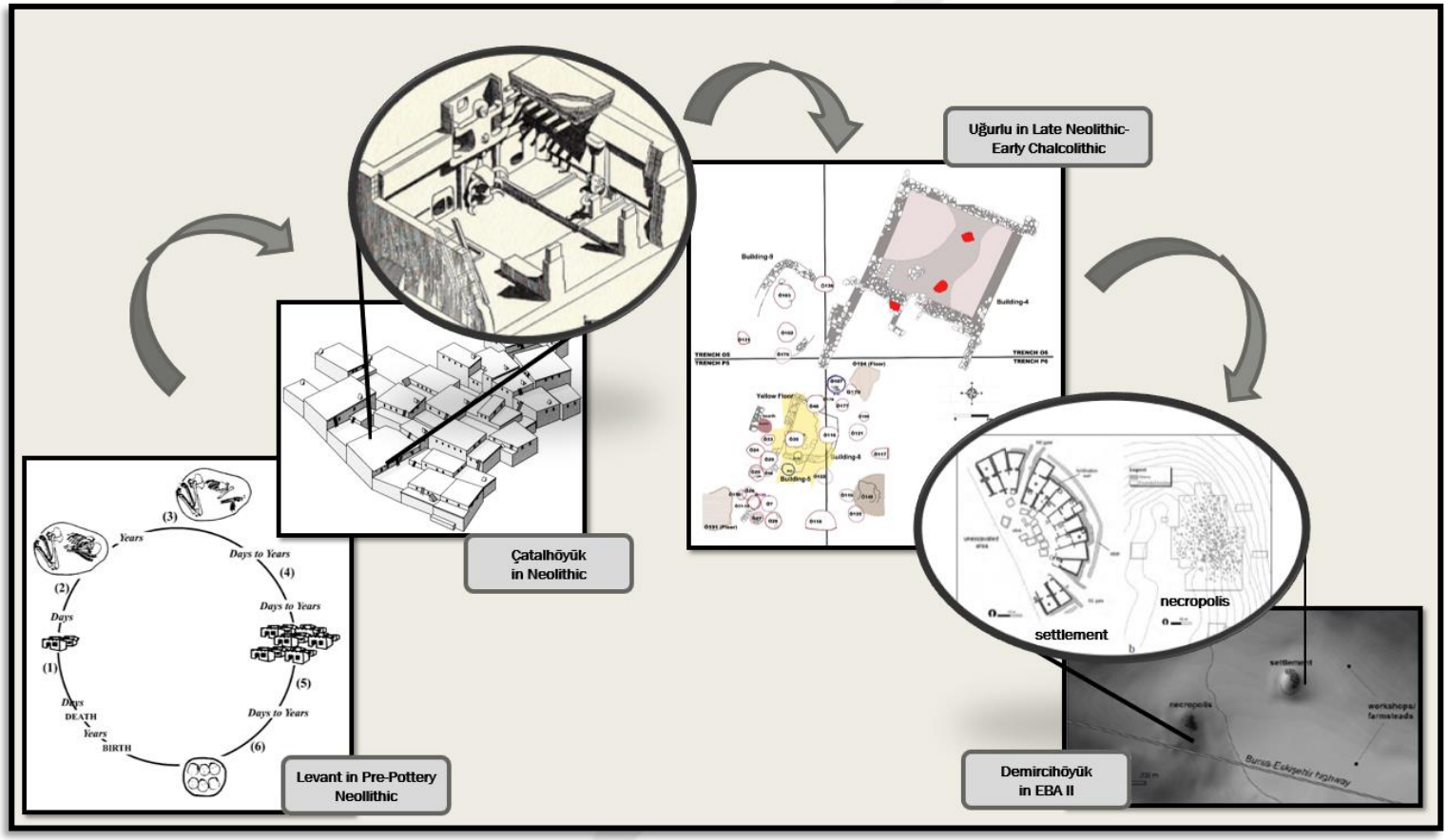


Figure 59. Changes of Social Regeneration Practices from Pre-Pottery Neolithic to Early Bronze Age

(Modified after Kuijt, 2008: Fig.2; Massa, 2016: Fig. 4.2 and 4.3)

4.3 Implications for Further Study

Some suggestions for further researh have come to light at the end of the study. The first of them is that plastered layer inside of pits should be put to micromorphological analyses so that the identification of pit functions becomes clearer, such as food storage, rubbish, etc. The second implication for further research is that radiocarbon dating analysis should be done for all pits or pits in one certain pit stage. Thus, we can say exactly that they were used together at the same time or there are small intervals between pits in one pit stage.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

The aim of this study is to understand the pit function at the Late Neolithic / Early Chalcolithic site of Uğurlu Höyük at the Northern Aegean Island of Gökçeada / Imbros. Pits are mostly considered as storage facilities in the archeology literature; however, particularly in Anatolian prehistory, systematic studies conducted on actual function of pits are scarce. Whenas, as referred in the literature review, it was determined in the researches carried out in Balkans that pits in Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods are closely related to rituals. Following to the British Archeology covering significant methodical developments regarding pit examinations were studied, a proper methodology has been developed for this thesis. And then, Uğurlu pits were investigated, and it was understood that these pits are related to rituals.

Methodically, firstly, a comprehensive chronology of pits was formed, and then, spatiotemporal distributions of small finds as well as pot sherds, flints, and remains of animal bones obtained inside pits, other architectural items, and the fill were analyzed. By this way, emergence of the pit area in Uğurlu in trenches P5-P6 as of Late Neolithic was elaborated on spatial plans. Many forefront elements herein corroborate the arguments that pits are part of the ritual negotiating social structure and relating to the space in the 'Ancestor Cult' in the Early Neolithic. Besides, this ritual is reshaped in the context of the social landscape in 6th millennium BC.

Particularly the followings demonstrate that Uğurlu pits were used for rituals; 1) the pit area emerges as of Phase IV (Late Neolithic), in consideration its spatial proximity to significant Building 8, Building 5, and related elements, 2) having such association performed as part of the spatial sectors with defined borders and the sub clusters thereof, 3) observance of conspicuous pits in terms of the construction technique and materials therein at the points of the significant historical transitions such as closing

area or opening new ones, 4) clustering of pits in the courtyard of Building 4 with *megaron* plan structured for the ritual activity, 5) observance of burial practice in the pit area, 6) richness of the pit area in terms of elaborate potteries as well as objects such as symbolically significant figurines, awls, stone axes, polypod, and eared pots. On the other hand, having pits decreasing in number and disappearing at the end of Phase III (4800 BC in average) as well as the decline in richness of material cultural items, and new advances occurring in rituals may be related particularly to a political centralization like Building 4 as part of communal ritual. As a matter of fact, this is a development parallel to the social transformation processes concurrently observed generally in Mesopotamia and Balkans.

REFERENCES

Atakuman, Ç. (2014). Architectural Discourse and Social Transformation During the Early Neolithic of Southeast Anatolia. *Journal of World Prehistory*, 27, 1-42. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10963-014-9070-4

Atakuman, Ç. (2015a). From Monuments to Miniatures: Emergence of Stamps and Related Image-bearing Objects during the Neolithic. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal*, 25, 759-788. https://doi:10.1017/S0959774315000396

Atakuman, Ç. (2015b). Kuzey Mezopotamya Prehistoryası'nın Terminolojik Sorunlarına Tarihsel Bir Yaklaşım, *Anadolu Prehistorya Araştırmaları Dergisi, 1*, 47-71.

Atakuman, Ç., & Erdem, D. (2015). Geç Neolitik'te Zaman, Mekan Ve Rituel: Domuztepe'de İnsan, Mekan Ve Nesne Gömüleri. In Baysal, A. (eds.) *Tematik Arkeoloji Serisi 2: İletişim Ağları ve Sosyal Organizasyon,* İstanbul: Ege Yayınları, 143–74.

Atakuman Ç., Gemici, H. C., Karamurat, C., Erdoğu, B. (2017, May). "Gökçeada-Uğurlu Höyük'te Bulunan Neolitik ve Kalkolitik Dönem Figürinler". Paper presented at the 39th International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry. Bursa, Turkey.

Atici, L., Pilaar Birch, S. E., & Erdoğu, B. (2017). Spread of domestic animals across Neolithic western Anatolia: New zooarchaeological evidence from Uğurlu Höyük, the island of Gökçeada, Turkey. PLoS ONE 12(10): e0186519. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0186519.

Bailey, D. W. (2005). *Prehistoric Figurines: Representation and Corporeality*. London: Routledge.

Bajnóczi, B., Schöll-Barna, G., Kalicz, Zsuzsanna Siklósi, N., Hourmouziadis, G.H., Ifantidis, F., Kyparissi-Apostolika, A., Pappa, M., Veropoulidou, R., & Ziota, C. (2013). Tracing the source of Late Neolithic Spondylus shell ornaments by stable isotope geochemistry and cathodoluminescence microscopy, *Journal of Archaeological Science 40*, 874–82.

Baysal, E., & Erdoğu, B. (2014). Frog in the Pond: Gökçeada (Imbros), an Aegean Stepping--stone in the Chalcolithic use of Spondylus Shell, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 80*, 363-378.

Benjamin, E. (2009). "Pits and the architecture of deposition narratives of social practice in the neolithic of North-East England", *Doctoral Thesis*. Durham University, England.

Bourdieu, P. (1989). Social Space and Symbolic Power. *Sociological Theory, 7*(1), 14-25. https://doi:10.2307/202060

Brück, J. (1999). Houses, Lifecycles and Deposition on Middle Bronze Age Settlements in Southern England, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 65*, 145-166. https://doi:10.1017/S0079497X00001973

Brück, J., & Goodman, M. (2001). *Making Places in The Prehistoric World: Themes in Settlement Archaeology*. Taylor & Francis e-Library.

Campbell, S., Carter, E., Healey, E., Anderson, S., Kennedy, A., & Whitcher, S. (1999). "Investigating complexity in SE Turkey: The Domzuetepe project 1995-97" *American Journal of Archaeology* 103**:** 395-418.

Campbell, S., Whitcher Kansa, S., Bichener, R., & Lau, H. (2014). Burying Things: Practices of Cultural Disposal at Late Neolithic Domuztepe, Southeast Turkey, in Benjamin W. Porter & Alexis T. Boutin (Eds.), *Remembering the dead in the ancient Near East: recent contributions from bioarchaeology and mortuary archaeology*, 27-60. University Press of Colorado, Boulder.

Case, H. (1973). A Ritual Site in North-East Ireland, in G. Daniel, P. Kjaerum (Eds.), Megalithic Graves and Ritual. *Moesgård: Jutland Archaeological Society Publications*, 173–196.

Chapman, J. (2000a). *Fragmentation in Archaeology: People, Places and Broken Objects in the Prehistory of South-Eastern Europe*, London: Routledge.

Chapman, J. (2000b). Pit-Digging and Structured Deposition in The Neolithic and Copper Age, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 66*, 61-87.

Chapman, J., & Gaydarska, B. (2007). *Parts and Wholes: Fragmentation in Prehistoric Context*, Oxford: Oxbow Books.

Chapman, J. (2012). Structured Deposition Meets Deliberate Object Fragmentation, *Archaeological Dialogues, 19*, 129-133.

Clark, J., Higgs, E., & Longworth, I. (1960). Excavations at the Neolithic Site at Hurst Fen, Mildenhall, Suffolk (1954, 1957 and 1958). *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 26*, 202-245. doi:10.1017/S0079497X00016315

Cleal, R. (1984). The later Neolithic in Eastern England, in R. Bradley & J. Gardiner (Eds.) *Neolithic Studies: a review of some current research*, 135-160. Oxford: BAR British Series 133.

Constantin, N., Dobrinescu, C., & Bodolică, V. (2013). "Late Bronze Age Ritual Pit Discovered in Cernavodă, Constanţa County", *in the 12th Internatıonal Congress of Thracology; The Thracians and their Neighbors in the Bronze and Iron Ages*, 55.

Crease, S. M. E. (2015). "Re-Thinking Ritual Traditions: Interpreting Structured Deposition in Watery Contexts in Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman Britain", *Doctoral Thesis.* University College London, England.

Daszkiewicz, M., & Maritan, L. (2017). “Experimental Firing and Re-Firing”, in A. W. M. Hunt (Eds.). The Oxford Handbook of Archaeological Ceramic Analysis, 487 – 508. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Duru, R. (1991). Höyücek Kazıları 1990 Yılı Çalışmaları, 1*3. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt I: 155-161.

Duru, R. (2008). “MÖ 8000’den 2000’e Burdur – Antalya Bölgesi’nin 6000 Yılı*”.* İstanbul: Ege Yayınları.

Duru, R. (2012). “The Neolithic of the Lake Region Hacılar – Kuruçay Höyük – Höyücek – Bağdemağacı Höyük”, in M. Özdoğan, N. Başgelen and I. Kuniholm (Eds.), *The Neolithic in Turkey: Western Turkey*, 8 – 13, İstanbul, Arkeoloji ve Sanat Yayınları.

Duru, R., & G. Umurtak (2005). *Höyücek, 1989-1992 yılları arasında yapılan kazıların sonuçları*, Ankara, Türk Tarih Kurumu.

Düring, B. S. (2001). Social Dimensions in the Architecture of Neolithic Çatalhöyük, *Anatolian Studies*, 51, 1-18.

Düring, B. S. (2013). Breaking the Bond: Investigating the Neolithic Expansion in Asia Minor in the Seventh Millennium BC, *Journal of World Prehistory*, 26, 75–100. DOI 10.1007/s10963-013-9065-6

Edmonds, M. (1999). *Ancestral geographies of the Neolithic: landscapes, monuments and memory*. London: Routledge.

Erdem, D. (2013). “Social Context of Small Find Distribution at Domuztepe; Ritual Display and Society”, *Doctoral Thesis.* Middle East Technical University, Turkey.

Erdoğu, B. (2003). Visualizing Neolithic Landscape: The Early Settled Communities in Western Anatolia and Eastern Aegean Islands, *European Journal of Archaeology 6*(1), 7-23.

Erdoğu, B. (2011a). Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Kazısı 2009 Yılı Çalışmaları, *32. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt I: 119-127.

Erdoğu, B. (2011b). "A Preliminary Report from the 2009 And 2010 Field Seasons at Uğurlu on the Island of Gökçeada", *Anatolica*, XXXVII, 45-65.

Erdoğu, B. (2012a). 2010 Yılı Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Kazı Çalışmaları, *33. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı*, Cilt I: 365-375.

Erdoğu, B. (2012b). Uğurlu-Zeytinlik: Gökçeada'da Tarihöncesi Dönemlere Ait Yeni Bir Yerleşme, *Trakya Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi Dergisi*, *2*(4): 1-16.

Erdoğu, B. (2013). Uğurlu: A Neolithic Settlement on the Aegean Island of Gökçeada. In M. Özdoğan, N. Başgelen and P. Kuniholm (Eds.), *Neolithic in Turkey, vol. 5: Northwestern Turkey*, 1-33. Arkeoloji ve Sanat, İstanbul.

Erdoğu, B. (2014a). Gökçeada Uğurlu Archaeological Project: A Preliminary Report from the 2011-2013 Field Seasons, *Anatolica* XI, 157-178.

Erdoğu, B. (2014b). Tarihi Sıçrama, *National Geographic Türkiye*, 160: 28.

Erdoğu, B. (2015). "2013 Yılı Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Kazı Çalışmaları", 36. *Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt I: 167-173.

Erdoğu, B. (2016). The Neolithic Landscape and Settlement of the Island of Gökçeada (Imbros, Turkey). In M. Ghilardi (Eds.), *Géoarchéologie des îles de Méditerranée*, 89-94. CNRS ALPHA, Paris.

Erdoğu B., & Atakuman, Ç. (2016). “Interaction and Interconnection in the North Aegean: A perspective from the site of Uğurlu Höyük-Imbros Island”, Innovation, Interaction and Interconnection in the Taurus-Zagros Arc and Beyond 10000-5000, 10-11 December 2016, METU Cultural and Convention Center, org. Cameron Petrie and Douglas Baird, Ankara- Turkey.

Erdoğu, B., Özbek, O. & Yücel, N. (2014). Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Kazısı 2012 Yılı Çalışmaları. 35. *Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt II: 204-210.

Erdoğu, B., Çevik, Ö. (2015). Batı Anadolu Kronolojisi Ve Terminolojisi: Sorunlar Ve Öneriler. In C. M. Erek, B. S. Arbuckle, Ç. Atakuman, K. Özçelik (Eds.), *APAD* 1: 29-45. Bilgin Kültür Sanat Yayınları, Ankara.

Erdoğu, B., & Yücel, N. (2013). Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik Kazısı 2011 Yılı Çalışmaları, *34. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı,* Cilt I: 187-194.
Erdoğu, B., & Yücel, N. (2016). “Gökçeada Uğurlu-Zeytinlik 2014 Yılı Kazı Çalışmaları”, 37. *Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt I: 195-200.

Field, N. H., Matthews, C. L., & Smith, I. F. (1964). “New Neolithic Sites in Dorset and Bedfordshire, with a Note on the Distribution of Neolithic Storage Pits in Britain”, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 30,* 352-381.

Garrow, D. (2006). “Pits, Settlement and Deposition in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in East Anglia, Oxford”, *British Archaeological Reports 414.*

Garrow, D. (2007). “Placing pits: Landscape Occupation and Depositional Practice During the Neolithic in East Anglia”, *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, 73,* 1-24.

Garrow, D. (2011). “Concluding discussion: pits and perspective”, in: Anderson-Whymark, H. and Thomas, J. (Eds.). Beyond the mundane: regional perspectives on Neolithic pit deposition. Neolithic studies group seminar papers (12), 216-225. Oxbow Books, Oxford. ISBN 9781842174685

Garrow, D. (2012). “Odd deposits and average practice. A critical history of the concept of structured deposition”, *Archaeological Dialogues, 19*(2), 85–115.

Georgieva, R. (1991). “Obredni Yami (kraya na II–I hilyadoletie pr. n. e.)”, *Arheologiya 31*(1), 1-11.

Gibson, A. (2003). What do we mean by Neolithic settlement? Some approaches, 10 years on. In I. Armit, E. Murphy, E. Nelis & D. Simpson (Eds.), *Neolithic settlement in Ireland and Western Britain*, 136-145. Oxford: Oxbow.

Graff, S. R. (2015). Archaeology of Cooking. In Bescherer Metheny, K. and Beaudry, C. (Eds.), *Archaeology of food: an encyclopedia*, 32-33. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield.

Guzman, M. J. (2004). “Bandkeramik Pit Contents and Stratification: A Relational Analysis Investigating Structured Deposition”, *Doctoral Thesis.* University of Durham, England.

Harmankaya, S., & Erdoğu, B. (2001). Prehistoric Survey at Gökçeada, Turkey, in 1999, *University of Durham and Newcastle Upon Tyne Archaeological Reports* 1999/2000: 28-35.

Harmankaya, S., & Erdoğu, E. (2003). The prehistoric sites of Gökçeada, Turkey. In M. Özdoğan, H. Hauptmann and N. Başgelen (Eds.), *from Villages to Towns: Studies presented to Ufuk Esin*, 459–479. İstanbul: Arkeoloji Ve Sanat Yayınları.

Hawthorne, K. A. (2009). “Balkan Pit Sanctuaries: Retheorising The Archaeology of Religion”, *Doctoral Thesis.* Newnham College, University of Cambridge, England.

Healy, F. (1995). Pots, pits and peat: ceramics and settlement in East Anglia. In I. Kinnes & G. Varndell (Eds.), *Unbaked urns of rudely shape: essays on British and Irish pottery for Ian Longworth*, 173-84. Oxford: Oxbow Monograph 55.

Hill, J. D. (1995). Ritual and rubbish in the Iron Age of Wessex. Oxford: BAR 242.

Hodder, I. (1982a). *Symbols in Action,* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Hodder, I. (1982b). Theoretical archaeology: A reactionary view, in I. Hodder (Eds.), *Symbolic and structural archaeology,* 1–16. Cambridge University Press.

Hodder, I. (1989). This is not an article about material culture as text, *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology, 8,* 250–69.

Hodder, I. (1991). *Reading the Past,* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hodder, I. (1995). *Theory and Practice in Archaeology*. New York: Routledge.

Hodder, I. (2006). *The Leopard's tale: revealing the mysteries of Çatalhöyük.* Thames & Hudson, London; New York.

Hodder, I. (2016). "More on history houses at Çatalhöyük: A response to Carleton et al.," *Journal of Archaeological Science, 67, 1-6.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2015.10.010.

Hodder, I. & Cessford, C. (2004). Daily Practice and Social Memory at Çatalhöyük, *American Antiquity, 69(1),* 17-40. Cambridge University Press.

Hodder, I. & Pels, P. (2010). History Houses: a new interpretation of architectural elaboration at Çatalhöyük. In Ian Hodder (Eds.), *Religion in the emergence of civilization: Çatalhöyük as a case study*, 163-186. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hondroyianni-Metoki, A. (2010). *Μη οικιστικές χρήσεις χώρου στους νεολιθικούς οικισμούς: Το παράδειγμα της Τούμπας Κρεμαστής Κοιλάδας*. Doctoral Thesis, University of Thessaloniki.

Horejs, B. (2016). “Aspects of Connectivity on the Centre of the Anatolian Aegean Coast in 7th Millennium BC,” in B. P. C. Molloy (Eds.), *Scales and Modes Of İnteraction Between Prehistoric Aegean Societies and Their Neighbours*, 143-167. Oxbow Books.

Ingold, T. (2011). “Introduction”, in T. Ingold (Eds.), *Redrawing Anthropology: Materials, Movements, Lines*, 1-20. Surrey: Ashgate.

Jervis, B. (2014). “Middens, memory and the effect of waste: Beyond symbolic meaning in archaeological deposits: An early medieval case study”, *Archaeological Dialogues 21*(2), 175-96.

Johnsen, H., & Olsen, B. (2000). Hermeneutics and Archaeology on the Philosophy of Contextual Archaeology, in J. Thomas (Eds.), *Interpretative Archaeology a Reader*, 97-117. Leicester University Press.

Karul, N. (2009). “Kuzeybatı Anadolu’da Anahatlarıyla Neolitik-Kalkolitik Dönemler”, *Türk Eskiçağ Bilimleri Enstitüsü Haberler*, *28*, 1 – 7.

Karul, N. (2013). “İlk Kalkolitik Çağ’da Konut ve Yerleşme: Aktopraklık Höyük”, *Arkeoloji ve Sanat*, *143*, 41-50.

Karul, N., & Avcı, M. B. (2011). “Neolithic Communities in the Eastern Marmara Region: Aktopraklık C”. *Anatolica, XXXVII*, 1-15.

Knappett, C. (2011). “Networks of Objects, Meshworks of Things”, in T. Ingold (Eds.), *Redrawing Anthropology: Materials, Movements, Lines*, 45-63. Surrey: Ashgate.

Kuijt, I. (2000). “Keeping the Peace: Ritual, Skull Caching, and Community Integration in the Levantine Neolithic”, in: I. Kuijt (Eds.), *Life in Neolithic Farming Communities: Social organization, identity, and differentiation*, 137-164. London: Kluwer Academic / Plenum Publishers.

Kuijt, I. (2008). “The Regeneration of Life Neolithic Structures of Symbolic Remembering and Forgetting”, *Current Anthropology, 49*,171-197.

Kulaçoğlu, B. (1992). *Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi: Tanrılar ve Tanrıçalar.* İstanbul: Ana Basım.

Kuncheva-Ruseva, T., Velkov, K., & Leshtakov, K. (2004). “Sondazhni arheologicheski razkopki na obekt v zemlishteto na c. Ovchartsi, obshtina Radnevo”, *Arheologicheski Otkritiya i Razkopki prez 2003 g.,* Sofia: Archaeological Institute with Museum, 50-52.

Maringer, J. (1980). “Dwellings in Ancient Japan: Shapes and Cultural Context.” *Asian Folklore Studies 39*(1), 115–123, Nanzan University.

Martinek, D. (1998). Oneota Food Storage Technology: Experiment in Pit Storage of Maize. *University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Journal of Undergraduate Research*, 89-102.

Massa, M. (2016). “Networks before Empires: cultural transfers in west and central Anatolia during the Early Bronze Age”, *Doctoral Thesis.* University College London, England.

Mellaart, J. (1962). Excavations at Çatal Hüyük: First Preliminary Report, 1961. *Anatolian Studies, 12,* 41-65. doi:10.2307/3642517

Mellaart, J. (1970). *Excavations at Hacılar, 2*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

McAnany, P., & Hodder, I. (2009). “Thinking about stratigraphic sequence in social terms”, *Archaeological Dialogues, 16*(1), 1–22.

Nekhrızov, G., & Tzvetkova, J. (2012). Ritual Pit Complexes in Iron Age Thrace. The Case Study of Svilengrad (co-authored with G. Nekhrhizov). In A. Çilingiroğlu and A. Sagona (Eds.), *Anatolian Iron Ages 7: The Proceedings of the Seventh Anatolian Iron Ages Colloquium Held at Edirne,* 177-209, Leuven: Peeters.

Nikolov, V. (2000). “Kapitan Dimitrievo Tell Sequence and Cultural Characteristics (Brief Report in the Light of the Sounding Excavations in 1998-1999)”, in L. Nikolova, (Eds.), *Technology, Style and Society. Contributions to the Innovations between the Alps and the Black Sea in Prehistory,* 51-63. BAR International Series 854, Oxford.

Nikolov, V. (2006). “Negative features in Neolithic houses”, in Frère-Sautot M-C., Des trous ...structures en creux pré- et protohistoriques: actes du colloque de Dijon et Baumeles-Messieurs, Montagnac, V-X.

Nikolov, V. (2008). “Obredni Strukturi prez Neolita v Balgarskite Zemi/ Ritual Structures during the Neolithic Period in Bulgarian Lands,” in *D. Gergova (Eds.), Phosphorion. Studia in Honorem Mariae Cicikova,* 28–33. Sofia.

Nikolov, V. (2011). “A reinterpretation of Neolithic complexes with dug-out features: pit sanctuaries”, *Studia Praehistorica*, 91-119.

Nikolov, V. (2015). “Newly-unearthed types of plastic figurines from the Late Neolithic pit sanctuary at Kapitan Andreevo in Southeast Bulgaria”, *Internationale Archäologie Studia Honoraria, 37*, 21-26.

Oğuzhanoğlu, U. (2014). “Laodikeia Erken Tunç Çağı 2 Mezarlığından Bir Çukur ve Düşündürdükleri”, in C. Şimşek, B. Duman, & E. Konakçı (Eds.), *Mustafa Büyükkolancı’ya Armağan/Studies in Honour of Mustafa Büyükkolancı*, 423 – 434. Ege Yayınları, İstanbul.

Oğuzhanoğlu Akay, U. (2015). *Laodikeia-Kandilkırı Verileri Işığında Güneybatı Anadolu'da Erken Tunç Çağı 2 ve 3*. Pamukkale University, Denizli. (Unpublished PhD Dissertation)

Özbek, O. & Erdoğu, B. (2015). "Initial occupation of the Gelibolu Peninsula and the Gökçeada (Imbroz) Island in the pre-Neolithic and Early Neolithic", *Eurasian Prehistory, 11* (1–2), 97–128.

Özdemir, A. (2017). "Prehistorik Gülpınar (Smintheion) Yerleşimi Mimarisi ve Mekansal Kullanımı", *Doctoral Thesis.* Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey.

Özdoğan, M., Başgelen, N., & Kuniholm, I. (2011). *The Neolithic in Turkey: The Euphrates Basin*. Istanbul: Arkeoloji ve Sanat Yayınları.

Özdoğan, M., Parzinger, H., Özdoğan, E., & Schwazberg, H. (2008). Kırklareli Höyüğü Aşağı Pınar Kazısı 2007 Yılı Çalışmaları, *30. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı* Cilt II: 233-248.

Pappa, M., Halstead P., Kotsakis, K., & Urem-Kotsou, D. (2004). "Evidence for Large-scale Feasting at Late Neolithic Makriyalos, N Greece", in P. Halstead and J. C. Barrett (Eds.), *Food, Cuisine and Society in Prehistoric Greece,* 16 – 44. Sheffield Studies in Aegean Archaeology, Oxford.

Pappa, M., & Veropoulidou, R. (2011). "The Neolithic Settlementat Makriyalos, Northern Greece: Evidence from the *Spondylus Gaederopus* artifacts", Ifantidis, F. and Nikolaidou, M. (Eds.), *Spondylus in Prehistory: New data and approaches. Contributions to the archaeology of shell technologies,* 105 – 121. BAR International Series 2216, Oxford.

Pappa, M., Halstead P., Kotsakis, K., Bogaard, A., Fraser, R., … Veropoulidou, R. (2013). "The Neolithic site of Makriyalos, northern Greece: A reconstruction of the social and economic structure of the settlement through a comparative study of the finds", in Voutsaki S. and Valamoti S. M. (Eds.), *Diet, Economy and Socıety in The*

Ancıent Greek World: Towards A Better Integration of Archaeology and Science, 77 – 88. Proceedings of the International Conference at the Netherlands Institute at Athens.

Paul, J. W. (2016). "The Prehistoric Worked Bone and Antler Assemblage at Uğurlu, Gökçeada: A Local and Regional Perspective", *Doctoral Thesis*. The University of Melbourne, Australia.

Pit. (n.d.). In dictionary.cambridge.org. Retrieved January 14, 2018, from https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/pit

Pit. (n.d.). In oxforddictionaries.com. Retrieved January 14, 2018, from https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/pit

Pitt Rivers, A. (1898). Excavations in Cranborne Chase, Vol. 4.

Pollard, J. (1993). *Traditions of deposition in the Neolithic of Wessex*. University of Wales College, Cardiff. (Unpublished PhD thesis)

Pollard, J. (1999). 'These places have their moments': thoughts on settlement practices in the British Neolithic. In J. Brück and M. Goodman (Eds.), *Making places in the prehistoric world: themes in settlement archaeology*, 76-93. London: UCL Press.

Pollard, J. (2001). "The easthetics of depositional practice", *World Archaeology 33*(2), 315-33.

Popov, H., & Grozdanova, G. (2008). "Rescue excavation of pit field from the Iron Age and Early Medieval settlement near Kapitan Andreevo", *AOR za 2007 Sofia*, 163–167.

Renfrew, C., & Bahn, P. G. (2016). *Archaeology: theories, methods, and practice.* Seventh edition revised & updated. London: Thames and Hudson.

Richards, C. & Thomas, J. (1984). Ritual activity and structured deposition in Later Neolithic Wessex. In R. Bradley & J. Gardiner (eds) Neolithic Studies: a review of some current research, 189-218. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports, British Series 133.

Shackel, P. A., & Little, B. J. (1992). "Post-Processual approaches to meanings and uses of material culture in historical archaeology", *Historical Archaeology, 26* (5), 5 – 11. https://doi.org/10.1007/BF03373538

Shea, J. J. (2011). "Homo sapiens Is as Homo Sapiens Was Behavioral Variability versus "Behavioral Modernity" in Paleolithic Archaeology", *Current Anthropology, 52* (1), 1-35.

Souvatzi, S. G. (2008). *A Social Archaeology of Households in Neolithic Greece An Anthropological Approach*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Stroulia, A., & Chondrou, D. (2013). "Destroying the Means of Production: The Case of Ground Stone Tools from Kremasti-Kilada, Greece", in J. Driessen (Eds.), *Destruction: Archaeological, Philological and Historical Perspectives*, 109-131. Presses Universitaires de Louvain, Louvain, Belgium.

Stone, J. F. S., & Young, W. E. V. (1948). "Two pits of Grooved Ware date near Woodhenge", *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine 52*, 287–304.

Takaoğlu, T. (2015). "Prehistoric Occupations at Smintheion: A Preliminary Report". Retrieved from https://www.academia.edu/30486886/_Prehistoric_Occupations_at_Smintheion_G%C3%BClp%C4%B1nar_A_Preliminary_Report._Smintheion_In_Search_of_Apollo_Smintheus_2015_

Thomas, J. (1991). *Rethinking the Neolithic*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Thomas, J. (1996). *Time, Culture and Identity*. London & New York: Routledge.

Thomas, J. (1999). *Understanding the Neolithic*. London: Routledge.

Thomas, J. (2000). *Interpretive Archaeology: A Reader*. Leicester University Press

Thomas, J. (2002). *Understanding the Neolithic*. *Routledge 11 New Fetter Lane*, London EC4P 4EE.

Thomas, J. (2011). "Ritual and religion in the Neolithic", in T. Insoll (Eds.), *The Oxford handbook of the archaeology of ritual and religion*, 371–86. Oxford.

Thomas, J. (2012). "Introduction: beyond the mundane?", in H. Anderson-Whymark and J. Thomas (Eds.), *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*, 1-13. Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 12, Oxbow Books.

Tringham, R., Brukner, B., Kaiser, T., Borojevic, K., Bukvic, L., Steli, P., Russell, N., Stevanovic, M., & Voytek, B. (1992). Excavations at Opovo, 1985-1987: Socioeconomic Change in the Balkan Neolithic. *Journal of Field Archaeology 19*(3), 351-386.

Tringham, R. (2000). Engendered Places in Prehistory, *Interpretive Archaeology: A Reader*, 329-357.

Tsoraki, C. (2007). "Unravelling Ground Stone Life Histories: The Spatial Organization of Stone Tools and Human Activities at LN Makriyalos, Greece", *Documenta Praehistorica XXXIV*, 289 – 297.

Vanderwarker, A. (2006). "Agriculture and Political Complexity in Theoretical Perspective". In *Farming, Hunting, and Fishing in the Olmec World,* 5-30. University of Texas Press.

Verhoeven, M. (2002). “Ritual and Ideology in the PrePottery Neolithic B of the Levant and Southeast Anatolia”, *Cambridge Archaeological Journal, 12,* 233-258. doi:10.1017/S0959774302000124

Whittle, A., Pollard, J. & Grigson, C. (1999). *The harmony of symbols: The Windmill Hill causewayed enclosure, Wiltshire*. Oxford: Oxbow.

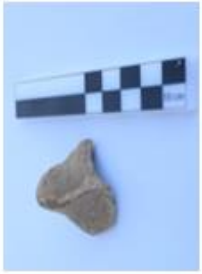
APPENDICES

APPENDIX A - PHYSICAL FEATURES AND MATERIAL ASSEMBLAGES OF PITS, BUILDINGS AND SPECIAL FLOORS

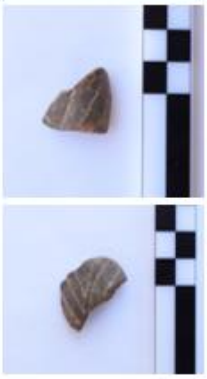
Ö7 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P5/B39**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	7
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,02
Total of flint	38
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	3
Eared pots	4
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	1
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	1
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Eared pot from Uğurlu archive



Decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive

Awl from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 1,2 m **Depth: 0,9 m**

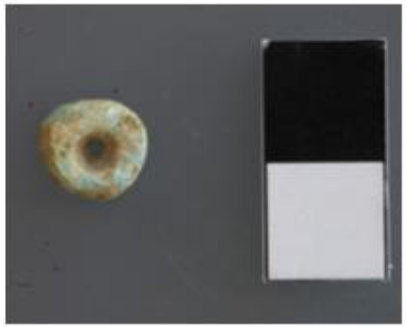
Ö7 (continued)

Grinding stone		Worked horn from Uğurlu archive	
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
Metal object			

Ö24 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B44

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	7
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,05
Total of flint	7
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	1
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Bead from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

CERAMICS FROM PIT

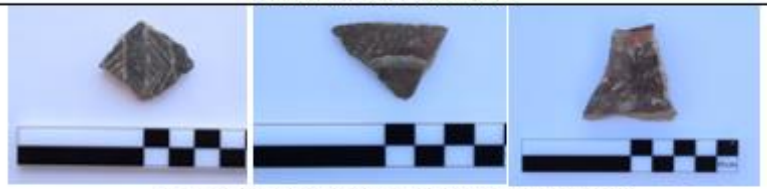
Ö24 (continued)

Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
Metal object			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1 m** **Depth: 0,1 m**			

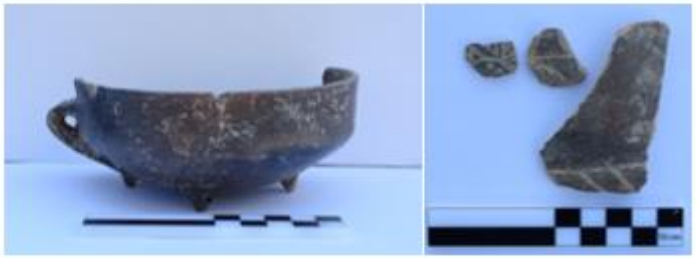
Ö25 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B45, 110

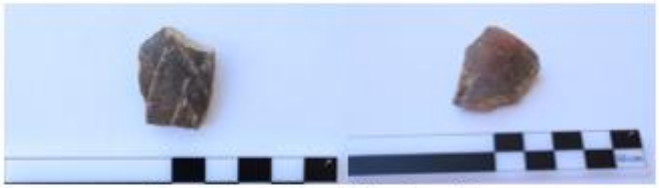
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	7
Total of pot sherds	485
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,85
Total of flint	62
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	9
Eared pots	4
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	1
Seashell object	1
Awl	2
Muller-Spatula	1
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Some decorated pots from Uğurlu archive





Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

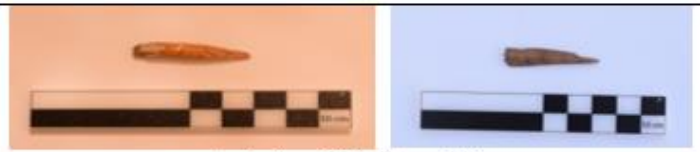
PHOTO OF PIT

Ö25 (continued)

Sling ball	
Grinding stone	2
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	1
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	2

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,9 m
Depth: 1,3 m



Awls from Uğurlu archive

Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive

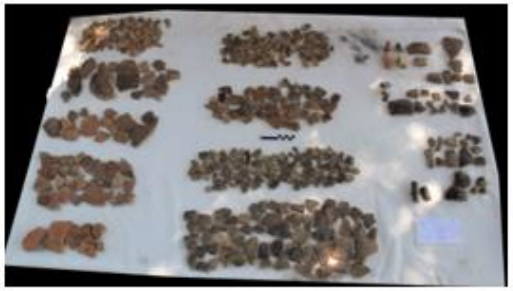
Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive

Worked stone from Uğurlu archive

Ground stone stone from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM PIT



Ö26 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B46

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Ceramic disc from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	102		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,17		
Total of flint	8		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	2		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc	1		
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö26 (contunied)

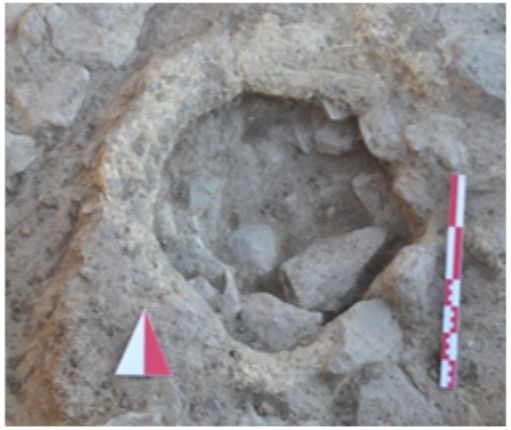
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	2
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,8 m
Depth: 0,6 m

CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö27 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B47, 131

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone			
Total of pot sherds	166		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,04		
Total of flint	11		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	3		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö27 (continued)

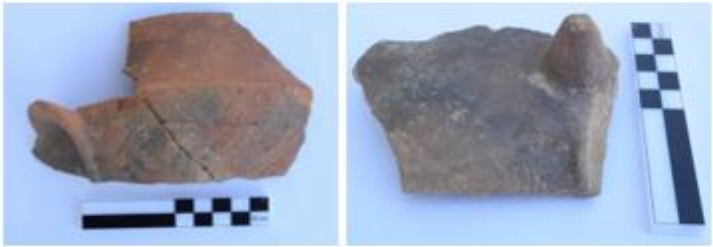
Sling ball			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 1,1 m**			

Ö28 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B48,128

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	402
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,22
Total of flint	16
Obsidian	
Figurine	1
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	11
Eared pots	5
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	2
Seashell object	5
Awl	2
Muller-Spatula	1

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Some decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive



Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

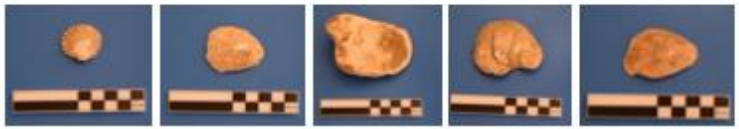
Ö28 (continued)

Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	1
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

Figurine from Uğurlu archive

Awls and Fishhook from Uğurlu archive

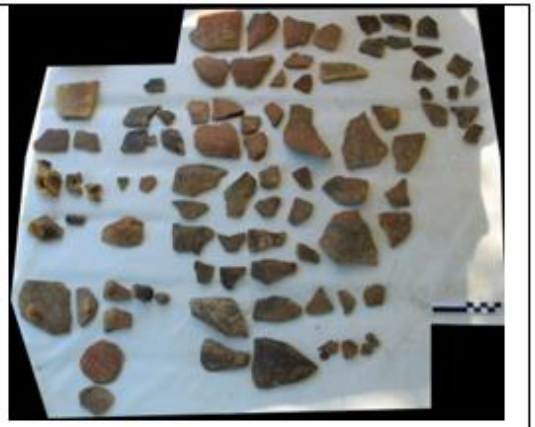
Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive



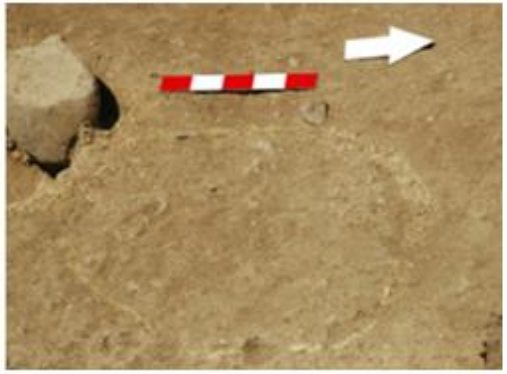
Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö28 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 1,3 m**		

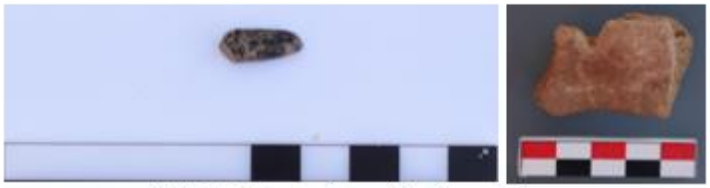
Ö29 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B52

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone	2	Decorated vessels, Eared pot and Rectangular Polypod vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	1303		
Total of animal bones (kg)	4,16		
Total of flint	84		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	8		
Eared pots	3		
Polypod vessel	1	Clay object from Uğurlu archive	Bead from Uğurlu archive
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object	1		
Spondylus object	2		
Seashell object	1		
Awl	4		
Muller-Spatula			

Ö29 (continued)

Spatula	
Worked bone	2
Worked horn	1
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

Awls from Uğurlu archive



Worked bones from Uğurlu archive

Worked horn from Uğurlu archive

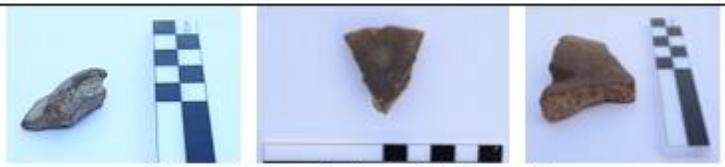
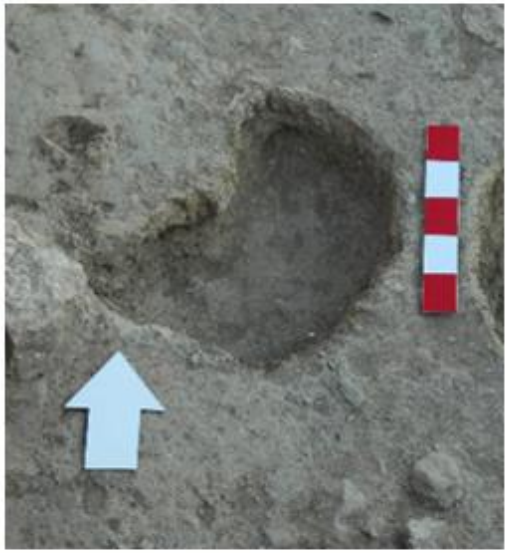
CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö29 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,1 m** **Depth: 0,6 m**	 Spondylus objects from Uğurlu archive	 Seashell object from Uğurlu archive	

Ö29 (continued)

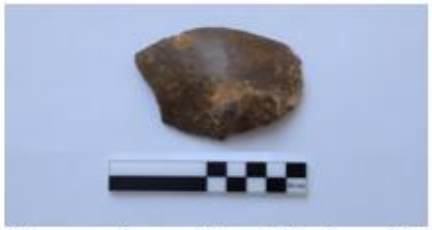
Ö31-32 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B56

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		 Decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	194		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,5		
Total of flint	14	Eared pots from Uğurlu archive	
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	3		
Eared pots	2		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel		Awl from Uğurlu archive	
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl	1		
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö31-32 (continued)

Sling ball			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,8 m** **Depth: 0,3 m**			

Ö33 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B62

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		 Decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	79		
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,12		
Total of flint	6		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	1		
Eared pots	1		
Polypod vessel	1		
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

Ö33 (continued)

Sling ball		Polypod vessel from Uğurlu archive	**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,9 m** **Depth: 0,2 m**			

Ö35 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B63

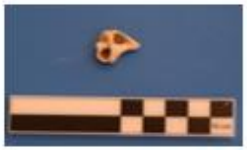
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	158
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,14
Total of flint	12
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	4
Eared pots	3
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	2
Seashell object	1
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Decorated pot from Uğurlu archive

Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive



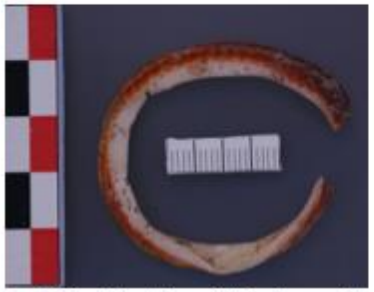
Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

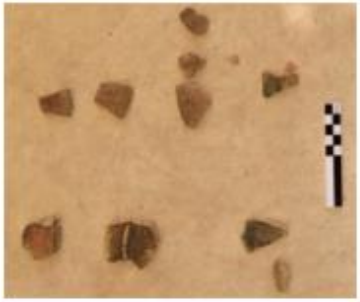
Ö35 (continued)

Worked tooth			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,1 m** **Depth: 0,2 m**			

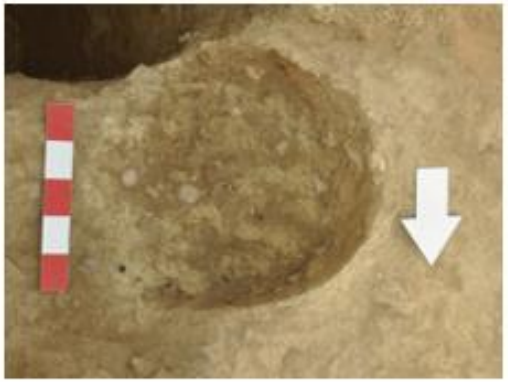
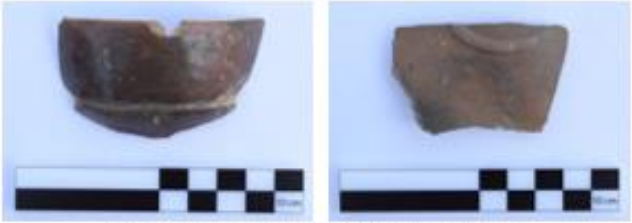
Ö48 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B89, P6/B72

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	252		
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,02		
Total of flint	16		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	3		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel		 Seashell object from Uğurlu archive	
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object	1		
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			

Ö48 (continued)

Worked tooth			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,1 m** **Depth: 0,3 m**			

Ö52 Phase IV Trench/unit: P5/B91, B103

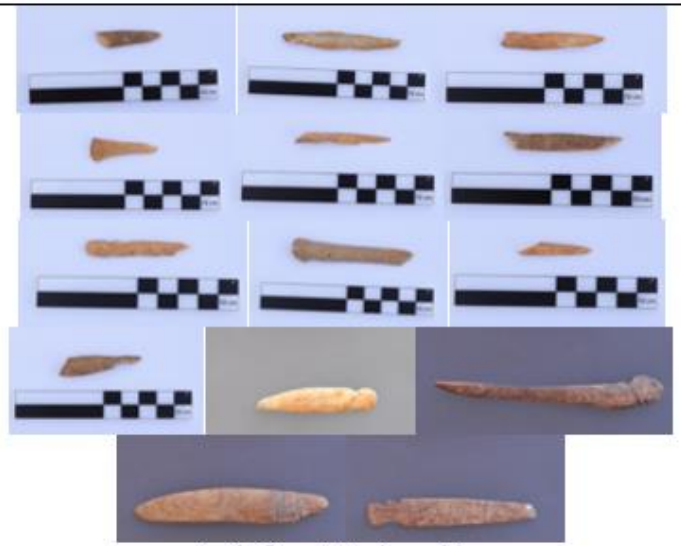
SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Bead from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	121	 Decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,16		
Total of flint	36		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	2		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object	1		
Awl	22		
Muller-Spatula	5		
Spatula			
Worked bone	1		
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö52 (continued)

Sling ball	
Grinding stone	1
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	1
Stone vessel	1
Worked stone	1

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,6 m
Depth: 0,6 m



Awls from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö52 (continued)

	 Muller-Spatulas from Uğurlu archive Seashell object from Uğurlu archive Stone chisel from Uğurlu archive Griding Stone from Uğurlu archive Stone vessel from Uğurlu archive Worked Stone from Uğurlu archive	

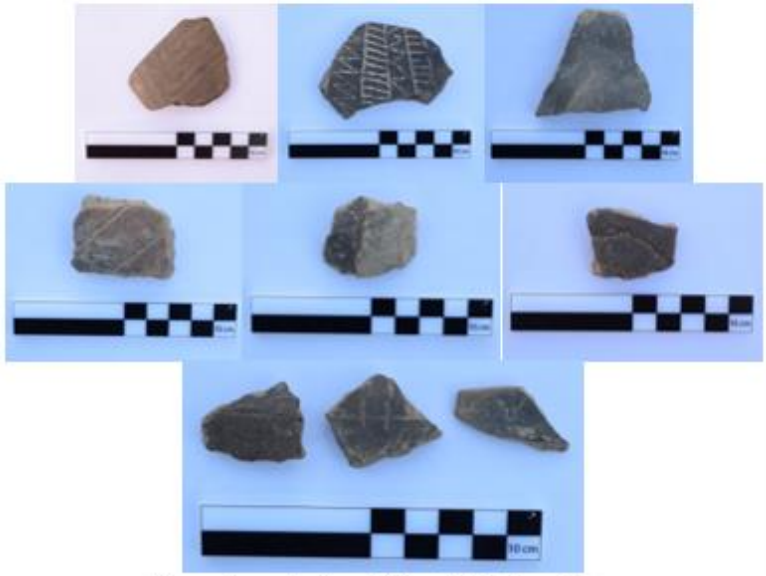
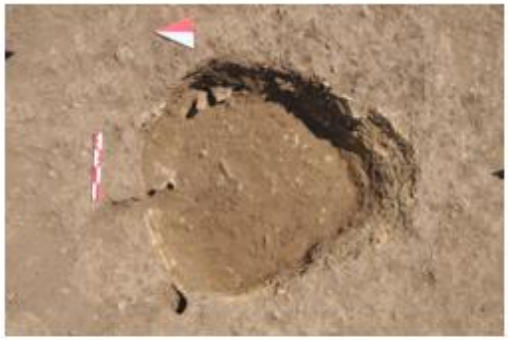
Ö58 Phase III Trench/unit: P5/B101

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Muller-Spatulas from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	29		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,05		
Total of flint	7		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object	1	Seashell object from Uğurlu archive	
Awl			
Muller-Spatula	2		
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö58 (continued)

Sling ball			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 0,3 m**			

Ö102 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: O5/B10, B34, B35**

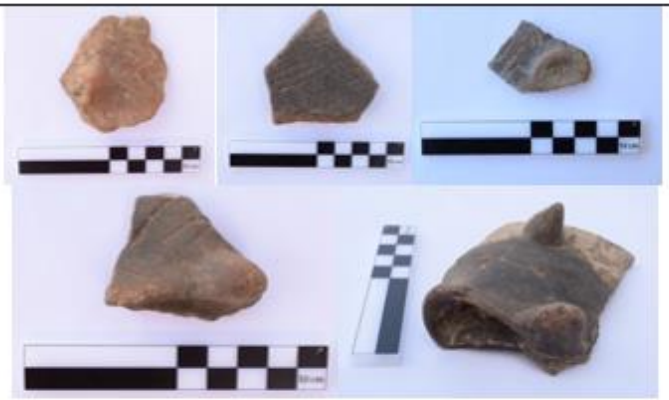
SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		 Some decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	558		
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,41		
Total of flint	23		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	15		
Eared pots	5		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object	1		
Seashell object	1		
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone	1		
Worked horn	1		
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö102 (continued)

Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 1,2 m
Depth: 0,9 m



Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

Worked horn from Uğurlu archive

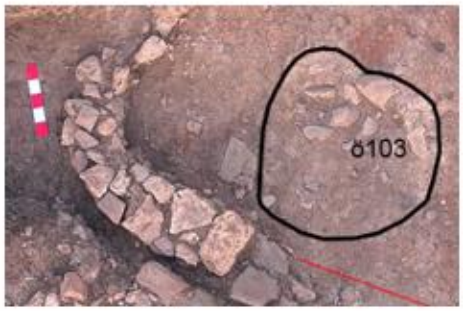
Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö103 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: O5/B11, B23**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Bead from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	107		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,69		
Total of flint	30		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	1	Decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc		Worked bone from Uğurlu archive	
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone	1	Stone chisel from Uğurlu archive	
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			

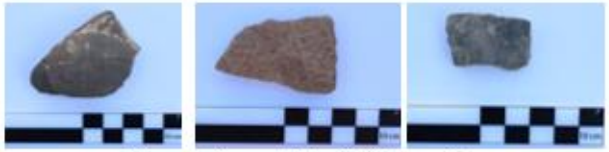
Ö103 (continued)

Stone chisel	1		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,3 m** **Depth: 0,3 m**			

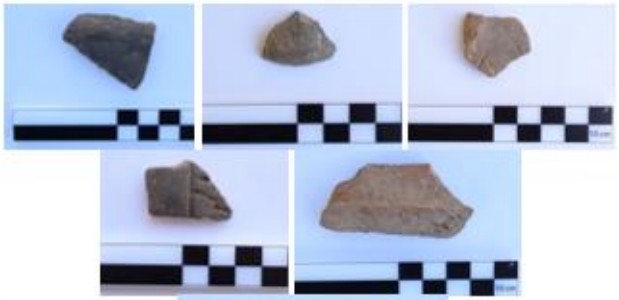
Ö116 Phase III Trench/unit: P6/B4

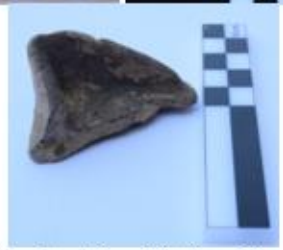
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	654
Total of animal bones (kg)	1,16
Total of flint	37
Obsidian	1
Figurine	
Bead	1
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	9
Eared pots	6
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	1
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



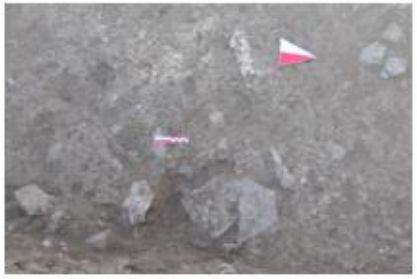
Decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive



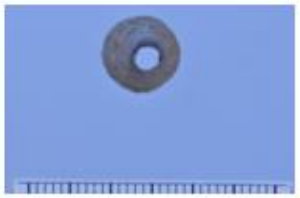


Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

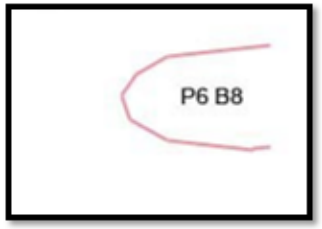
PHOTO OF PIT



Ö116 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,3 m** **Depth: 0,5 m**	 Worked bone from Uğurlu archive  Bead from Uğurlu archive Seashell object from Uğurlu archive	**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

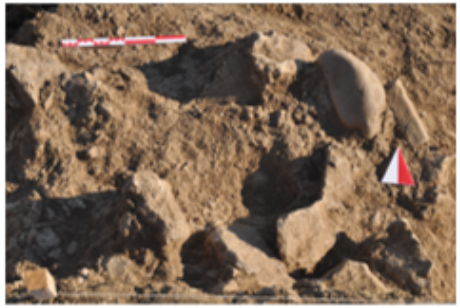
Ö117 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B8**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Stone chisel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds			
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint	12		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			CERAMICS FROM PIT
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel	1		
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö117 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,9 m** **Depth: 0,04 m**		

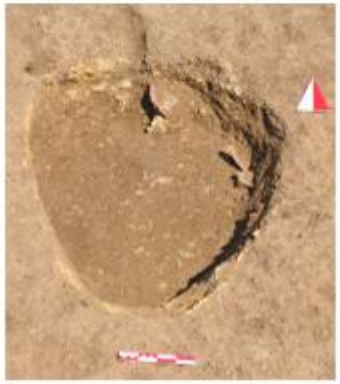
Ö118 Phase III Trench/unit: P6/B9

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	1		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,58		
Total of flint	16		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	1	Awl from Uğurlu archive	
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel		Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive	
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl	1	Worked Stone from Uğurlu archive	
Muller-Spatula	1		
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö118 (continued)

Sling ball			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone	1		
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,2 m** **Depth: 1,1 m**			

Ö119 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B10**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Some decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	37		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,62		
Total of flint	7		
Obsidian			
Figurine	1	Figurine from Uğurlu archive	
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	6		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula	1		
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			

Ö119 (continued)

Sling ball	
Grinding stone	1
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

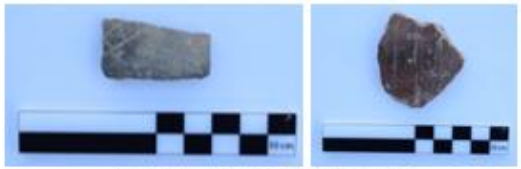
Diameter: 1 m
Depth: 0,7 m

Spatula from Uğurlu archive

Griding Stone from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö121 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B16, B47**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		 Eared pots from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	259		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,94		
Total of flint	26		
Obsidian			
Figurine	2	Figurines from Uğurlu archive	
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	3		
Eared pots	2		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object	1	Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive	
Seashell object			
Awl	1		
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone	1	Grinding Stone from Uğurlu archive	
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone	2		
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö121 (continued)

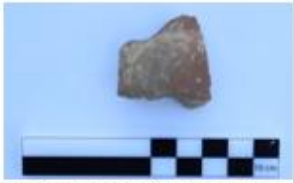
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1,2 m** **Depth: 1,1 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

Ö122 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B17**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	171
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,69
Total of flint	19
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	3
Eared pots	1
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	1
Seashell object	
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive



Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

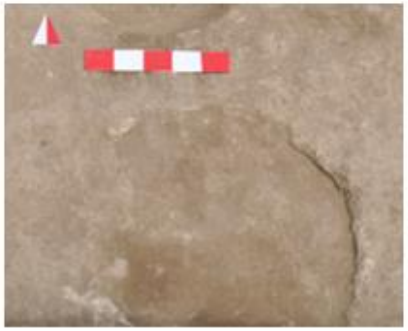
Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

Ö122 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,9 m** **Depth: 0,6 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

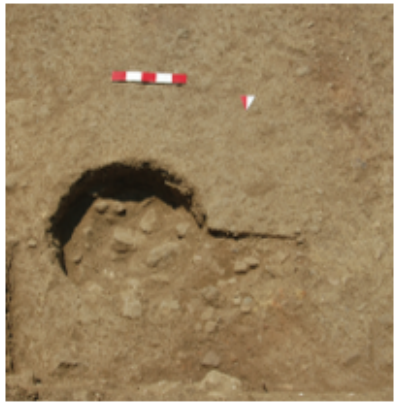
Ö125 Phase III Trench/unit: P6/B20

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Eared pot from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	151		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,02		
Total of flint	2		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots	1		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö125 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,9 m** **Depth: 0,1 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

Ö126 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P5/B130**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone			
Total of pot sherds	4		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,03		
Total of flint			
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö126 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,8 m** **Depth: 0,1 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

Ö131 Phase III Trench/unit: O5/B28

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone			
Total of pot sherds			
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint			
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			CERAMICS FROM PIT -
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT Diameter: 0,8 m Depth: 0,02 m
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö136 Phase III Trench/unit: O5-6/B5

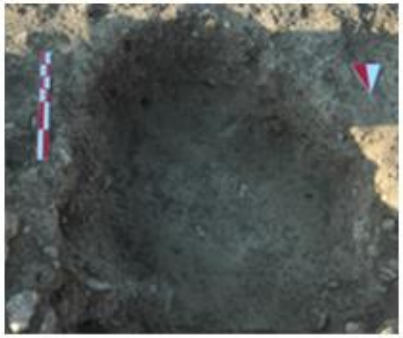
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	534
Total of animal bones (kg)	
Total of flint	37
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	8
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	1
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	1
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Awl from Uğurlu archive

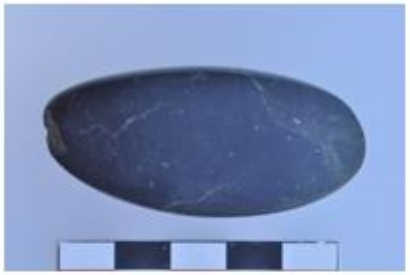
Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT



CERAMICS FROM PIT

Ö142 Phase IV Trench/unit: P5/B140

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		 Stone axe from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds			
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,05		
Total of flint	45		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone	1		
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe	1		
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			

Ö142 (continued)

Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 0,2 m**			**CERAMICS FROM PIT** -

Ö149 **Phase IV** **Trench/unit: P5/B144**

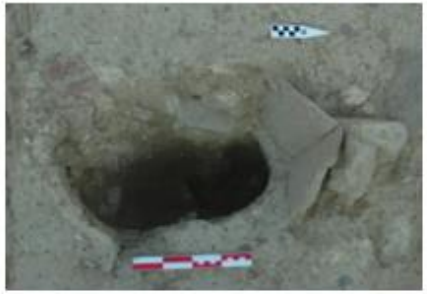
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,02
Total of flint	6
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	2
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Awls from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

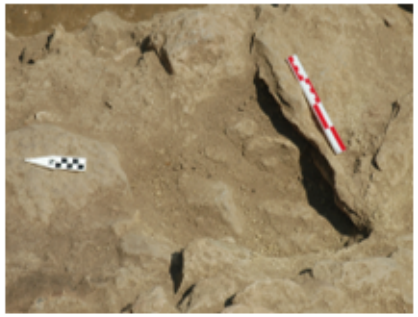
PHOTO OF PIT



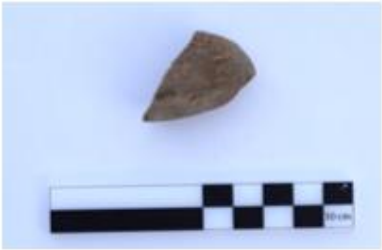
Ö149 (continued)

Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,5 m** **Depth: 0,4 m**			**CERAMICS FROM PIT** -

Ö150 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P5/B139**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone			
Total of pot sherds			
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint			
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			**CERAMICS FROM PIT** -
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			**PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT** **Diameter: 0,5 m** **Depth: 0,1 m**
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

Ö176 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: OP5/B3**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Eared pot from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	21		
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint	14		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots	1		
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel		 Worked stone from Uğurlu archive	
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone	1		

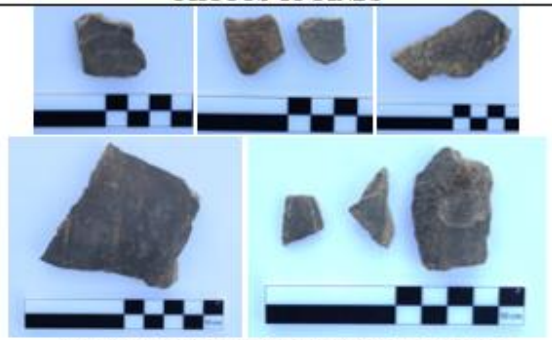
Ö176 (countinued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,8 m** **Depth: 0,3 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

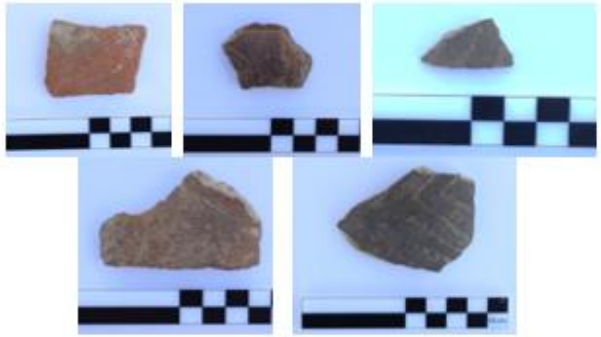
Ö177 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B58**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	284
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,1
Total of flint	22
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	19
Eared pots	6
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Some of decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive



Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

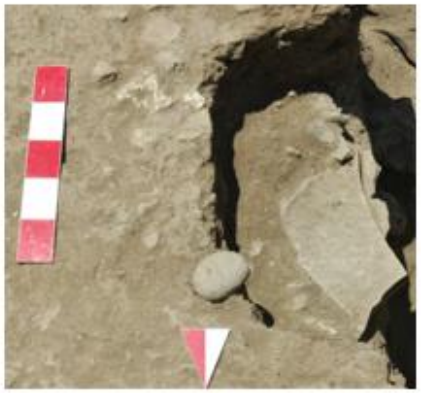
PHOTO OF PIT

Ö177 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 0,6 m**	**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

Ö177 (continued)

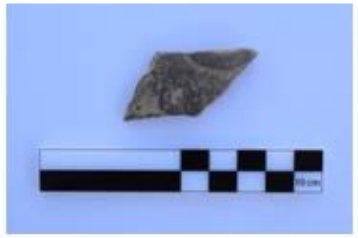
Ö178 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B61**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone			
Total of pot sherds	19		
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint			
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot			
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			**CERAMICS FROM PIT**
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			**PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT**
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			**Diameter: 0,8 m**
Stone vessel			**Depth: 0,4 m**
Worked stone			

Ö179 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B66**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	20
Total of animal bones (kg)	
Total of flint	3
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	1
Eared pots	1
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

CERAMICS FROM PIT

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,8 m
Depth: 0,4 m

Ö187 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B70**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	60		
Total of animal bones (kg)			
Total of flint	2		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl		Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive	
Decorated pot	1		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object		Seashell object from Uğurlu archive	
Seashell object	1		
Awl			
Muller-Spatula	1		
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth		Worked stone from Uğurlu archive	
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone	1		

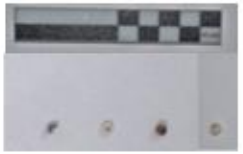
Ö187 (countinued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,7 m** **Depth: 0,8 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

Ö188 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B88**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human (individual)	13
Total of pot sherds	
Total of animal bones (kg)	
Total of flint	
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	5
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	1
Awl	
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS



Beads from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone & Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

Human skeletons from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

CERAMICS FROM PIT

-

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,98 m
Depth: not found its bottom

Ö190 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: P6/B87**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	9
Total of animal bones (kg)	
Total of flint	
Obsidian	
Figurine	1
Bead	
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	1
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Figurine from Uğurlu archive

Awl from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF PIT

CERAMICS FROM PIT

-

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT

Diameter: 0,8 m
Depth: 0,4 m

Ö213 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: DD20/B15**

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	168
Total of animal bones (kg)	2,9
Total of flint	2
Obsidian	
Figurine	
Bead	1
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	3
Eared pots	
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	
Seashell object	
Awl	2
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	
Worked bone	
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	1

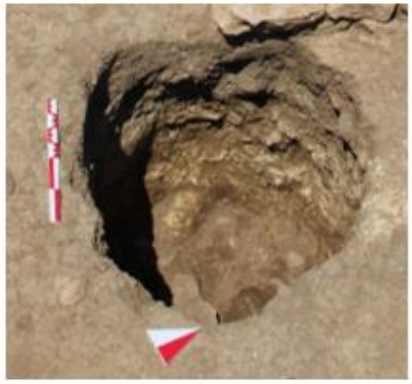
PHOTOS OF FINDS

Bead from Uğurlu archive

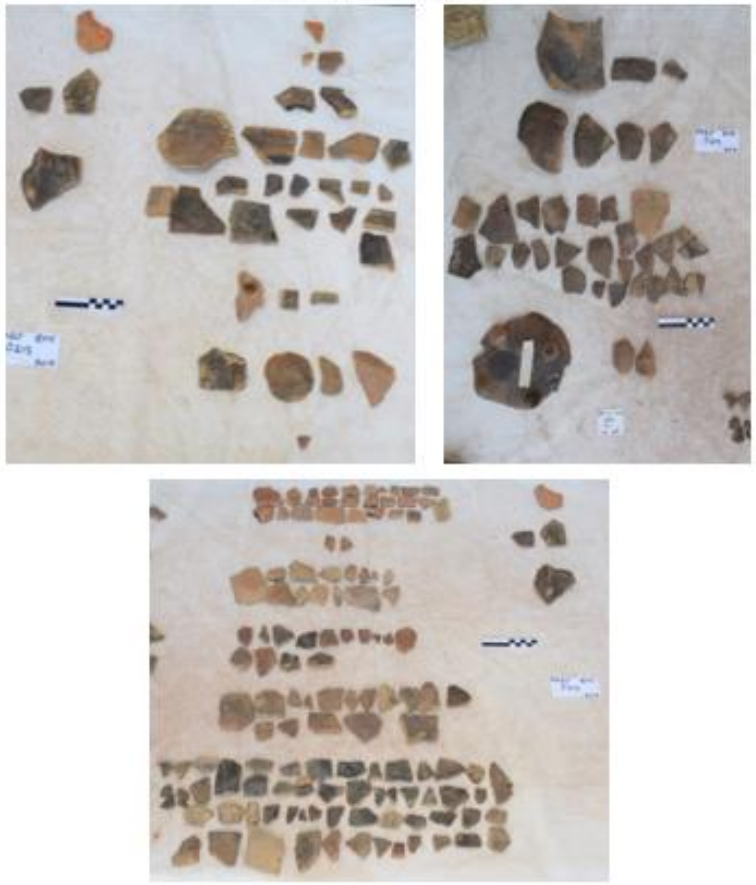
Awls from Uğurlu archive

Worked stone from Uğurlu archive

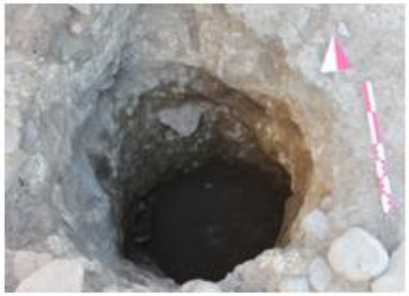
PHOTO OF PIT



Ö213 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 0,84 m** **Depth: 1 m**	**CERAMICS FROM PIT** 

Ö219 Phase III Trench/unit: CC/DD19/B13

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Seashell objects from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	136		
Total of animal bones (kg)	0,22		
Total of flint	18		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead			
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	6		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object	2		
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone	2		
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone	1		

Ö219 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF PIT **Diameter: 1 m** **Depth: 1,46 m**		**CERAMICS FROM PIT**

BUILDING-1 **Phase II** **Trench/unit: O11/B4,5, 14; P11/ B4,5,8,9; O-P11/ B4, 8, 9**

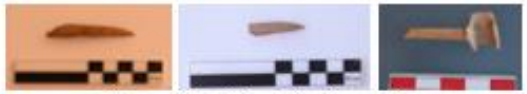
SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	1060
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown
Total of flint	95
Obsidian	2
Figurine	
Bead	1
Spindle whorl	2
Decorated pot	5
Eared pots	1
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	4
Seashell object	5
Awl	4
Muller-Spatula	2
Spatula	
Worked bone	3
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	1
Grinding stone	2
Stone axe	3
Stone chisel	3
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	1

PHOTOS OF FINDS

Some of decorated pots from Uğurlu archive

Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

Bead from Uğurlu archive

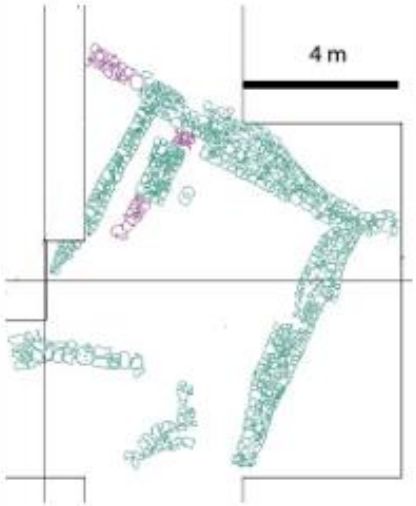


Some of awl from Uğurlu archive

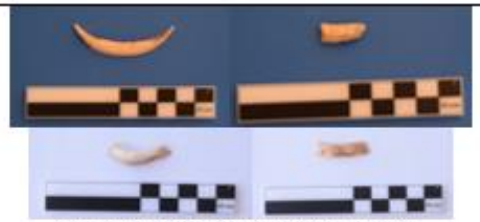
Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive

Some of worked bones from Uğurlu archive

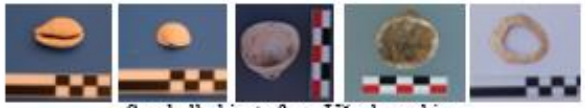
PHOTO OF BUILDING



BUILDING-1 (continued)

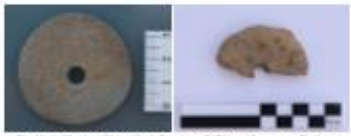


Spondylus objects from Uğurlu archive

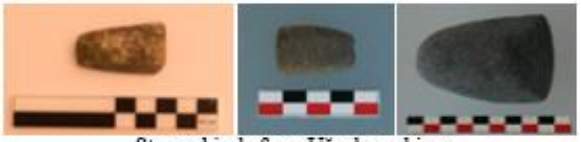


Seashell objects from Uğurlu archive

Griding stones from Uğurlu archive



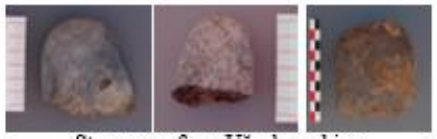
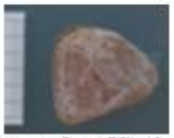
Spindle whorls from Uğurlu archive



Stone chisels from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM BUILDING

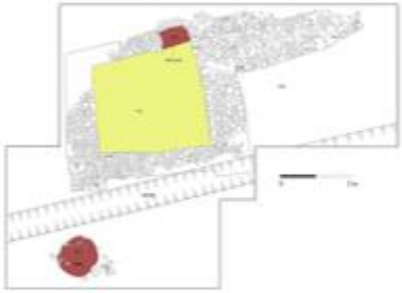
BUILDING-1 (continued)

		 Stone axes from Uğurlu archive  Worked stone from Uğurlu archive Sling ball from Uğurlu archive	

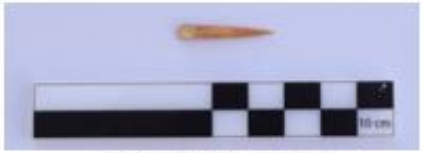
BUILDING-1 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: ca. 5.2 x 5.2 m. (ca 25 m²) Orientation: NE / SW	

BUILDING-2 **Phase V** **Trench/unit: BB20-21/ B31, B35, B36**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF PIT
Total of human bone		Figurine from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	1163		
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown		
Total of flint	384		
Obsidian	6		
Figurine	1		
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl		Decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Decorated pot	5		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl	2		
Muller-Spatula	1		
Spatula	1		
Worked bone	2		
Worked horn		Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive	
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel	1		
Stone vessel			

BUILDING-2 (continued)

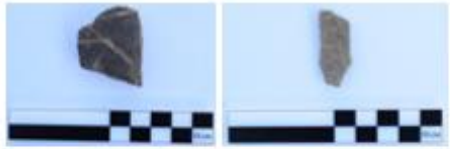
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: 5x4 m. (9.2 m²)		 Awl from Uğurlu archive Worked bone from Uğurlu archive Stone chisel from Uğurlu archive	**CERAMICS FROM BUILDING**

BUILDING-2 (continued)

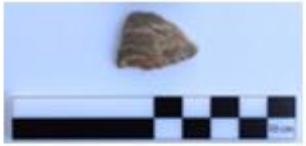
BUILDING-3 Phase III Trench/unit: DD20 B4, 10, 11, 13; CC/DD19 B7, 9; DD19 B3; CC19 B31; CC20 B4, 7, 9, 14, 16, 17, 18; CC19-20 B3,7; DD19/20 B3

SMALL FINDS	SUM
Total of human bone	
Total of pot sherds	1102
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown
Total of flint	153
Obsidian	1
Figurine	
Bead	4
Spindle whorl	
Decorated pot	4
Eared pots	1
Polypod vessel	
Miniature vessel	
Face decorated vessel	
Ceramic disc	
Clay object	
Spondylus object	4
Seashell object	5
Awl	4
Muller-Spatula	
Spatula	1
Worked bone	5
Worked horn	1
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	3
Stone axe	2
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	1
Worked stone	

PHOTOS OF FINDS

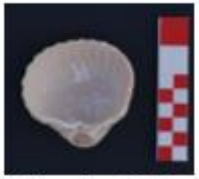


Some of decorated pots from Uğurlu archive



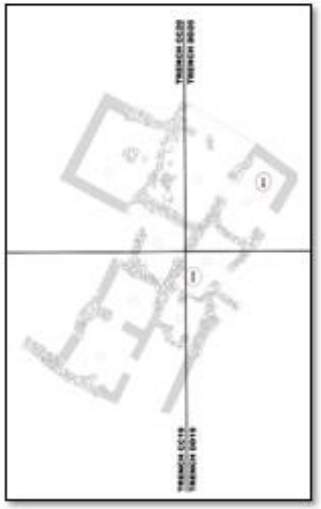
Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

Spondylus objects from Uğurlu archive



Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

PHOTO OF BUILDING



BUILDING-3 (continued)

Awls from Uğurlu archive

Some of worked bones from Uğurlu archive

Stone axe from Uğurlu archive

Stone vessel from Uğurlu archive

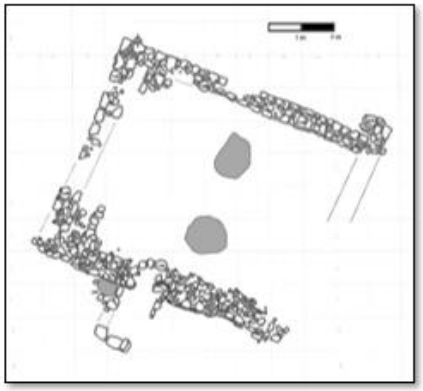
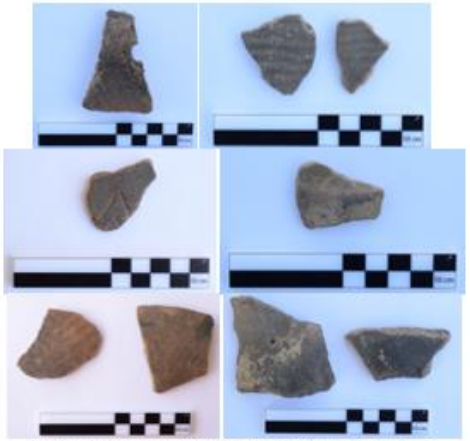
Worked stone from Uğurlu archive

BUILDING-3 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Multi-roomed building about 10 x 10 m	**CERAMICS FROM BUILDING**

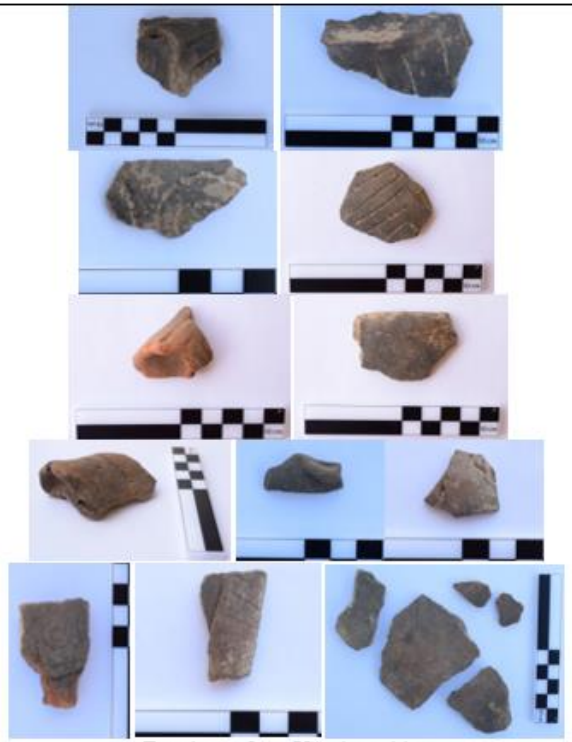
BUILDING-3 (continued)

BUILDING-4 **Phase III** **Trench/unit: O6 B3,4,5,7, 6,9,13,14; O6/7 B4; N/O6 B4**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		Bead from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	2613		
Total of animal bones (kg)	*Unknown*		
Total of flint	290	 Some of decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Obsidian	1		
Figurine	2		
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	108		
Eared pots	13		
Polypod vessel	1		
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object	3		
Seashell object	1		
Awl	2		
Muller-Spatula	5		
Spatula			
Worked bone	3		
Worked horn			

BUILDING-4 (continued)

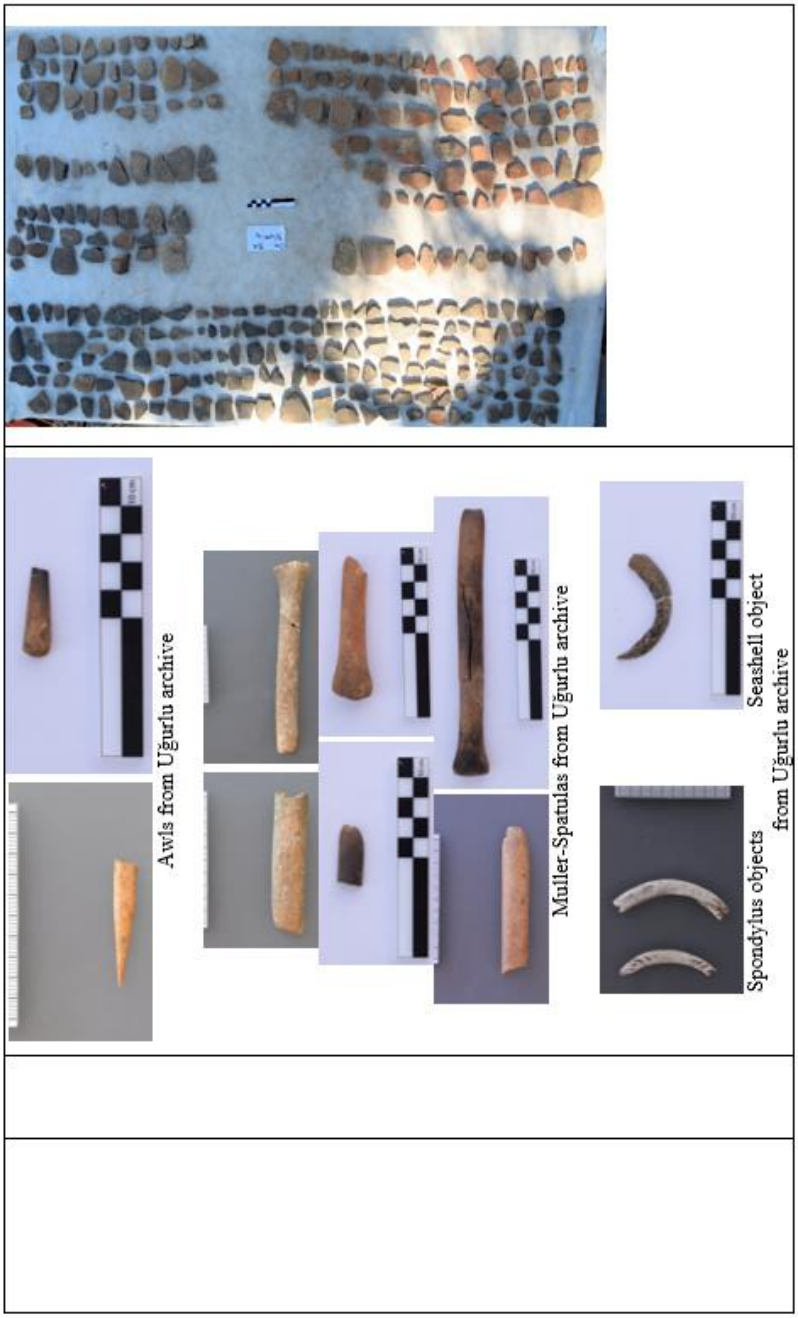
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	52
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	1
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	3



Eared pots from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM BUILDING

BUILDING-4 (continued)



BUILDING-4 (continued)

Figurines from Uğurlu archive

Stone chisel from Uğurlu archive

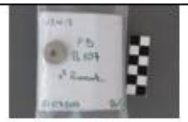
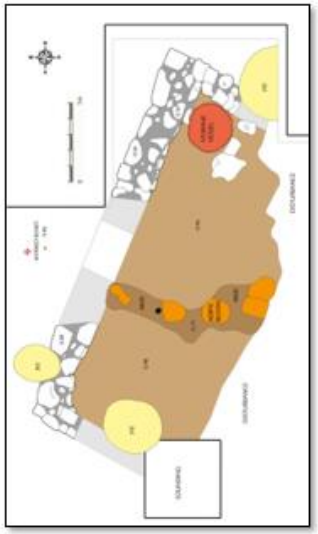
Worked stones from Uğurlu archive

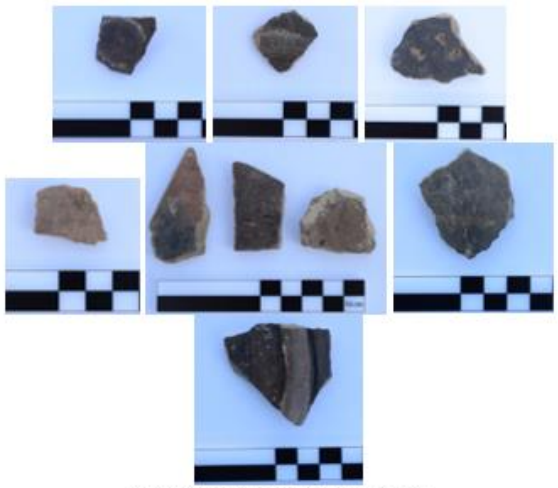
BUILDING-4 (continued)

BUILDING-4 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: ca. 7.4 x 5.4 m, ca. 35 m² Orientation: NE / SW	

BUILDING-5 Phase IV Trench/unit: P5 / B104, 106, 107, 108

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		 Bead from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	1666		
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown		
Total of flint	532		
Obsidian	4		
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	11		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object	1		
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl	12		
Muller-Spatula	3		
Spatula			
Worked bone	1		



Some of decorated pots from Uğurlu archive

BUILDING-5 (continued)

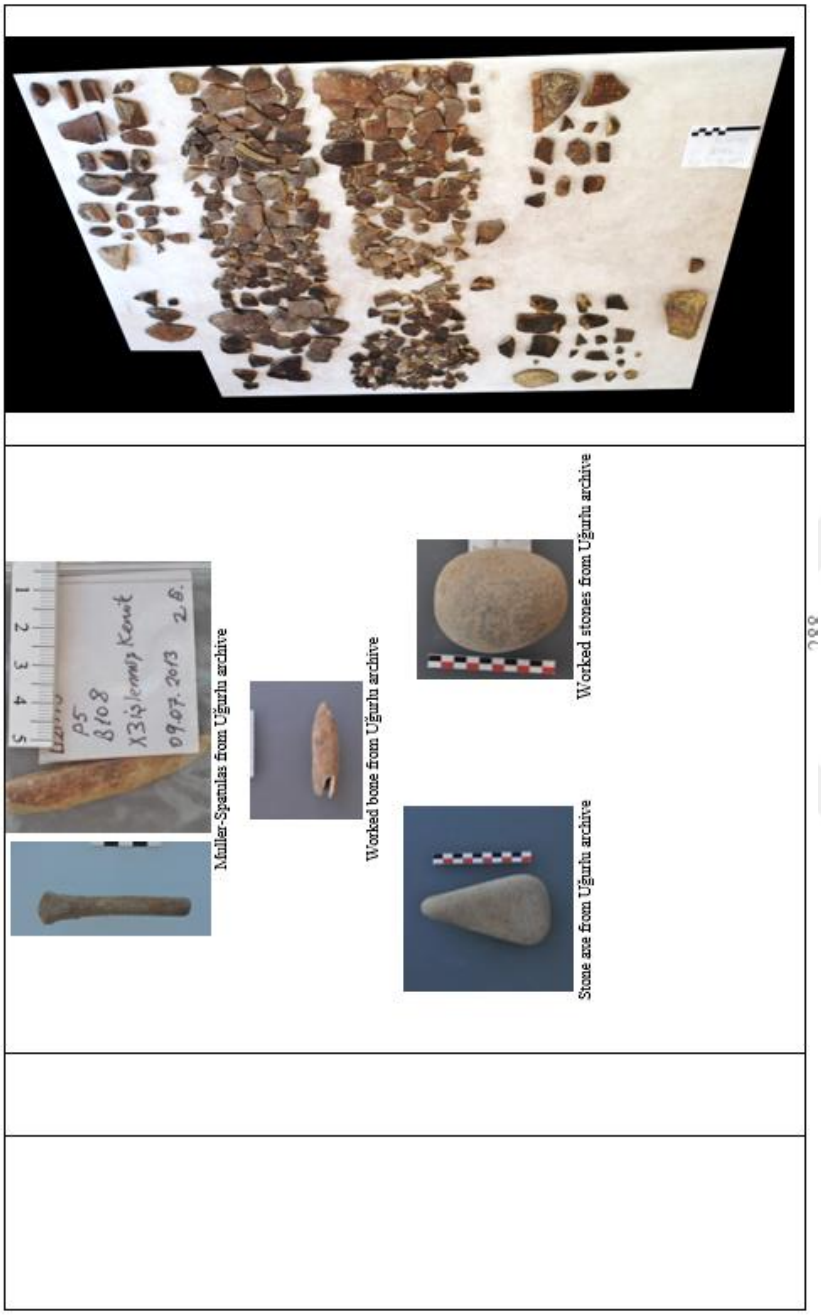
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	1
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	1

Some of awls from Uğurlu archive

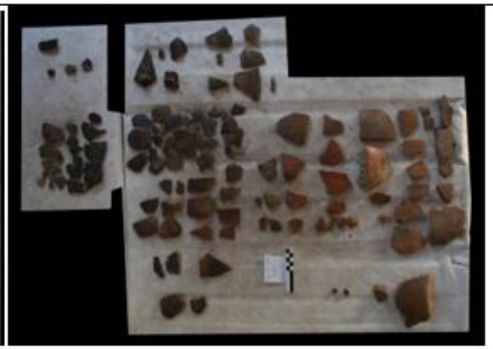
Spatula from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM BUILDING

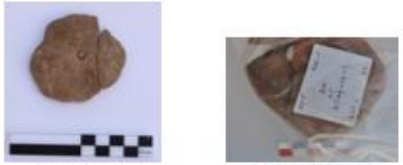
BUILDING-5 (continued)



BUILDING-5 (continued)

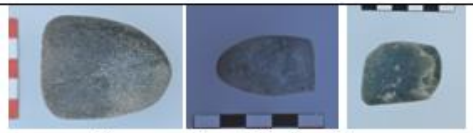
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: ca. 5.4 x 2.2 m, ca. 12 m² Orientation: NE / SW	

BUILDING-6 **Phase II** **Trench/unit: BB14-15/ B5, 9, 10; BB15/ B8, 7, 5, 12, 13**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		Decorated pot from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	504		
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown		
Total of flint	51		
Obsidian	1		
Figurine			
Bead	3	Beads from Uğurlu archive	
Spindle whorl	1		
Decorated pot	6		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc	1	 Ceramic disc Spindle whorl from Uğurlu archive	
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object			
Awl			
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			
Worked bone	1		
Worked horn			

BUILDING-6 (continued)

Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	1
Stone axe	3
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	2



Stone axes from Uğurlu archive

Worked stone from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM BUILDING

BUILDING-6 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING **Measures:** **ca. 7 x 5.5 m, ca. 39 m²** **Orientation: N / S**	

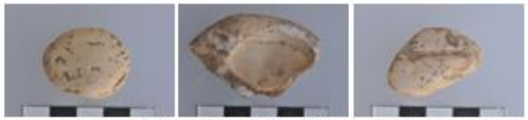
BUILDING-7 **Phase II** **Trench/unit: BB14/ B2, 3, 4, 5**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		Beads from Uğurlu archive Decorated pots from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	444		
Total of animal bones (kg)	Unknown		
Total of flint	24		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead	3		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	2		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel	1		
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object	1		
Seashell object	1		
Awl			
Muller-Spatula	1		
Spatula			
Worked bone			
Worked horn			

BUILDING-7 (continued)

Worked tooth		Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive	**CERAMICS FROM BUILDING**
Fishhook			
Sling ball			
Grinding stone	1		
Stone axe	1		
Stone chisel	1		
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: ca. 5 x 6 m, ca. 30 m² Orientation: N / S			

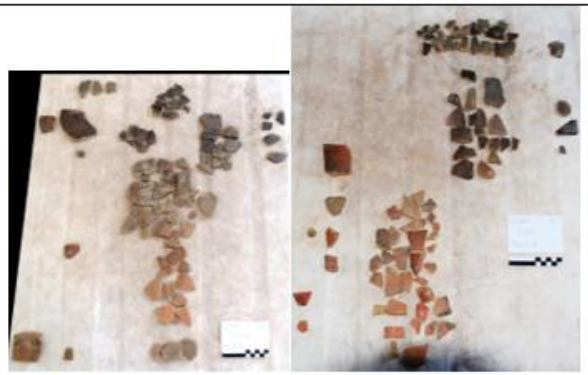
BUILDING-8 **Phase IV** **Trench/unit: P5/ B146, 149, 150, 152**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		Bead from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	778		
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown	Decorated vessel from Uğurlu archive	
Total of flint	173		
Obsidian	6		
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	5	Awl from Uğurlu archive	
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel		 Spondylus objects from Uğurlu archive	
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object			
Seashell object	3		
Awl	1		
Muller-Spatula			
Spatula			

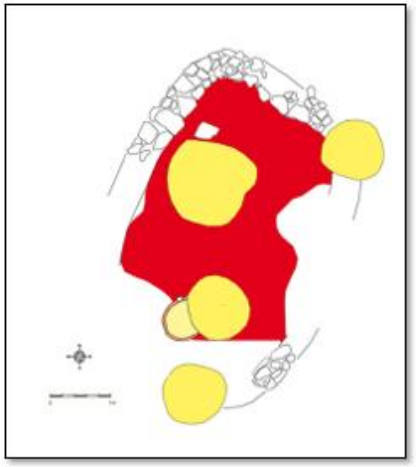
BUILDING-8 (continued)

Worked bone			CERAMICS FROM BUILDING
Worked horn			
Worked tooth			
Fishhook			
Sling ball	1		
Grinding stone			
Stone axe			
Stone chisel			
Stone vessel			
Worked stone			

BUILDING-8 (continued)

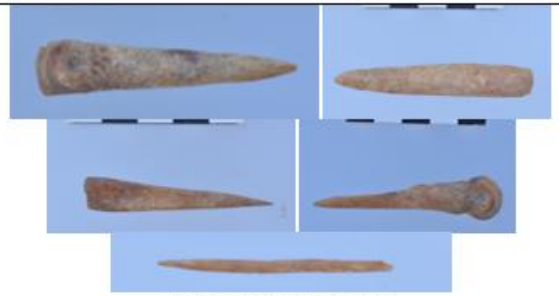
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING		

BUILDING-9 **Phase IV** **Trench/unit: O5/ B25, 33, 36, 38; O5/6 B9**

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS	PHOTO OF BUILDING
Total of human bone		Decorated vessels from Uğurlu archive	
Total of pot sherds	1013		
Total of animal bones (kg)	*Unknown*		
Total of flint	147		
Obsidian			
Figurine			
Bead	1		
Spindle whorl			
Decorated pot	8		
Eared pots			
Polypod vessel			
Miniature vessel			
Face decorated vessel			
Ceramic disc			
Clay object			
Spondylus object	1		
Seashell object			
Awl	6		
Muller-Spatula	1		
Spatula			

BUILDING-9 (continued)

Worked bone	2
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	1
Stone chisel	2
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	1



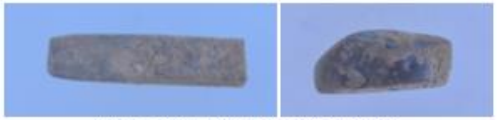
Awls from Uğurlu archive

Muller-Spatula from Uğurlu archive

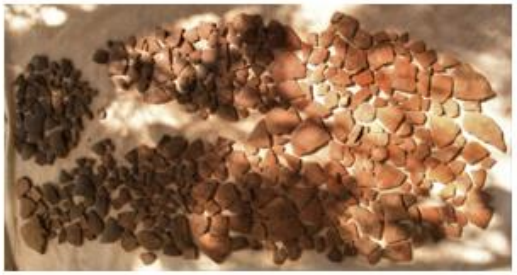
Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

CERAMICS FROM BUILDING

BUILDING-9 (continued)

		 Spondylus object from Uğurlu archive  Stone chisels from Uğurlu archive Stone axe from Uğurlu archive	

BUILDING-9 (continued)

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF BUILDING Measures: ca. 3.5 x 4 m, ca. 14 m² Orientation: NW / SE	

Ö191 (floor) **Phase III** **Trench/Unit: P5/B191; Q-P5/B3**

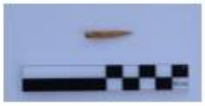
SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS
Total of human bone		Figurines from Uğurlu archive
Total of pot sherds	1102	
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown	
Total of flint	53	
Obsidian		
Figurine	3	
Bead		
Spindle whorl		
Decorated pot	12	Polypod vessel from Uğurlu archive
Eared pots	6	
Polypod vessel	1	
Miniature vessel		
Face decorated vessel		Some of decorated pots from Uğurlu archive
Ceramic disc		
Clay object	1	
Spondylus object		
Seashell object	1	
Awl	2	
Muller-Spatula		
Spatula		

Ö191 (floor) (continued)

Worked bone	2
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	

Eared pot from Uğurlu archive

Worked bone from Uğurlu archive

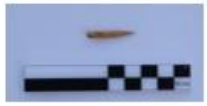


Awls from Uğurlu archive

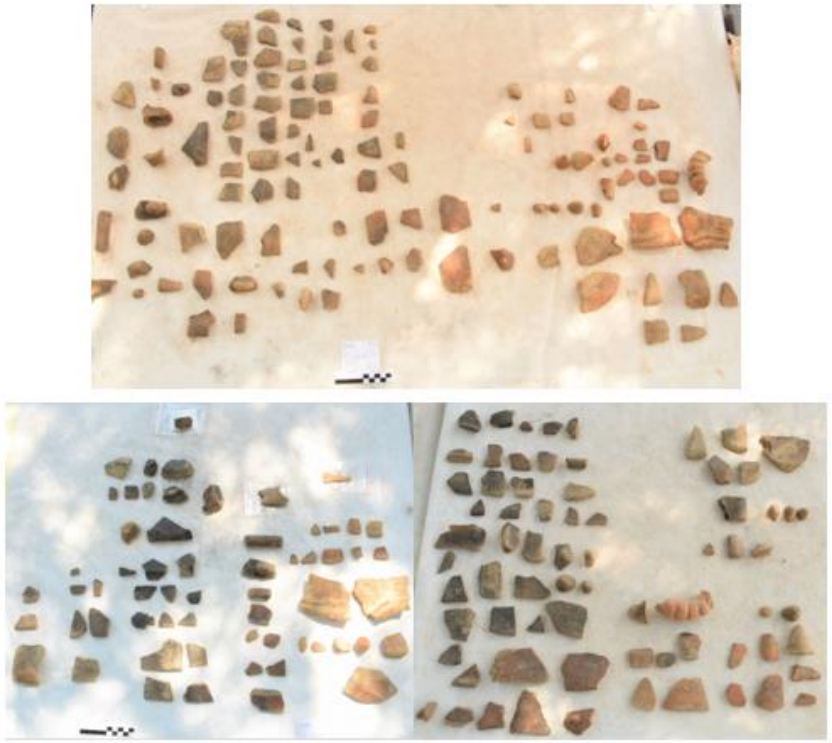
Seashell object from Uğurlu archive

Clay object from Uğurlu archive

Ö191 (floor) (continued)

Worked bone	2	Eared pot from Uğurlu archive Worked bone from Uğurlu archive  Awls from Uğurlu archive Seashell object from Uğurlu archive Clay object from Uğurlu archive
Worked horn		
Worked tooth		
Fishhook		
Sling ball		
Grinding stone		
Stone axe		
Stone chisel		
Stone vessel		
Worked stone		

Ö191 (floor) (continued)

	CERAMICS FROM FLOOR 

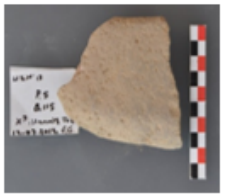
Ö194 (floor) Phase III Trench/unit: O5-6/P5-6 B10

SMALL FINDS	SUM	CERAMICS FROM FLOOR
Total of human bone		
Total of pot sherds	22	
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown	
Total of flint	1	
Obsidian		
Figurine		
Bead		
Spindle whorl		
Decorated pot	1	
Eared pots		
Polypod vessel		
Miniature vessel		
Face decorated vessel		
Ceramic disc		
Clay object		
Spondylus object		
Seashell object		
Awl		
Muller-Spatula		
Spatula		

Ö194 (floor) (continued)

Worked bone		
Worked horn		
Worked tooth		
Fishhook		
Sling ball		
Grinding stone		
Stone axe		
Stone chisel		
Stone vessel		
Worked stone		

Yellow Floor Phase V Trench/Unit: P5 B113,115, 118,121,122,137,138; P6 B39

SMALL FINDS	SUM	PHOTOS OF FINDS
Total of human bone		Awl from Uğurlu archive
Total of pot sherds	353	
Total of animal bones (kg)	unknown	
Total of flint	45	Worked bone from Uğurlu archive
Obsidian		
Figurine		
Bead		
Spindle whorl		
Decorated pot	1	
Eared pots		
Polypod vessel		
Miniature vessel		
Face decorated vessel		 Worked stone from Uğurlu archive
Ceramic disc		
Clay object		
Spondylus object		
Seashell object	1	
Awl	4	
Muller-Spatula	3	
Spatula		

Yellow Floor (continued)

Worked bone	1
Worked horn	
Worked tooth	
Fishhook	
Sling ball	
Grinding stone	
Stone axe	
Stone chisel	1
Stone vessel	
Worked stone	1

CERAMICS FROM FLOOR

Yellow Floor (continued)

APPENDIX B – TURKISH SUMMARY / TÜRKÇE ÖZET

GEÇ NEOLİTİK VE ERKEN KALKOLİTİK DÖNEMLERDE
RİTÜEL VE SOSYAL YAPI: GÖKÇEADA-UĞURLU HÖYÜK
ÇUKUR RİTÜELLERİ

Bu çalışmanın amacı, Gökçeada Uğurlu Höyük tarihöncesi yerleşiminde, Geç Neolitik – Erken Kalkolitik dönemlerine (MÖ 5900-4900) tarihlenen çukurların işlevini anlamaktır. Çukurlar sözlükte genellikle delik veya zeminden daha derinde bulunan bir alan olarak tanımlanırlar. Çukurlar en az insanlık tarihi kadar eski olduklarından dolayı sözlükteki bu basit tanımın tersine arkeolojide çok daha karmaşık oluşumlar olarak bilinirler. Çukurların en erken kullanımlarından birisi, insansılar tarafından ölülerini gömmek için kullanılmasıdır. Bir o kadar eski kullanımı ise barınak veya konut olaraktır. Ayrıca, çukurlar besinlerin diğer insanlardan, hayvanlardan ya da böcek ve mantar gibi tehlikelerden korunmaları ve saklanmaları için besin deposu/silo olarak kullanılmıştır. Çukur kazmak için bir başka teşvik edici etmen de yaşam alanını temiz tutma ihtiyacıdır. Bu doğrultuda çukurlar çöplük olarak kullanılmışlardır. Ayrıca, çukurlar besinleri ve seramikleri pişirmek için bir çeşit ateş yakma alanı olarak da kullanılmışlardır. Çukurların tüm bu kullanım alanlarına ek olarak ritüel aktivitelerin bir parçası olarak kullanılmışlardır. Örneğin bir yeri kutsamak için ya da bir yer ya da bir kişi ile sembolik bağ kurmak için çukurlar açılmış, içine nesneler atılmış ve kapatılmışlardır. Çok çeşitli kullanımlarının olması sebebiyle, çukurlar arkeolojik kazılarda en sıklıkla bulunan yapılardan birisidir. Ancak bu durum çukurların işlevini tespit etmede büyük güçlüklere sebep olmaktadır.

Yukarıda anlatılan tüm kullanım şekilleri göz önünde tutulduğunda, çukurların özellikle Neolitik yaşam şeklinin benimsenmesinden sonra yoğun bir şekilde kullanılmaya başlandığı görülmektedir. Bundan dolayı, çukurların işlevleri arkeologların Neolitik dönüşümü nasıl anladıkları ile doğrudan ilişkili hale gelmiştir. Neolitik dönüşümü anlamak için yapılan ilk kuramsal çalışmalar Gordon Childe'a

aittir. Onun sentezlerinden yapılan çıkarımlara göre, yerleşik yaşamın ve tarımsal üretimin sonucu olarak Neolitik yaşam bir çeşit ekonomik geçiş olarak yorumlanmaktadır. Bundan dolayı, Neolitik dönem boyunca insanların artı ürünü depo etmeye ve atık maddeleri de habitattan uzaklaştırmaya ihtiyaçları vardı. Bu açıdan bakıldığında, çukurlar yaygın olarak depolama araçları, silo, çöplük, ateş yakma yeri, olarak kabul edilmiş ve arkeologlar da çoğunlukla bu işlevsel yaklaşımları tercih etmiştir. Ancak domestik ile ritüelin birbirinden tamamen ayrı tutulması çelişkili bir durumu meydana getirmektedir. Hodder ve Moore'un (1982) belirttiği gibi, besin üretme-tüketme veya çöpleri atma gibi günlük rutin eylemler, toplumsal ve sembolik düzenler ve kaideler tarafından şekillendirilirler. Ek olarak, Thomas (2000, 2002, 2012) da toplumların bir ucu dünyevi bir diğer ucu ruhanilik olan gri bölgelerde yaşadıklarını ileri sürer. Bunlardan yola çıkarak domestik ve ritüelin aslında bir bütünün ayrılmaz parçaları olduğu noktasına varılır. Bu iki kavramın birbirinden kopuk ele alınmasına ek olarak, arkeolojide, ritüel tanımı üzerinde de anlaşmazlıklar söz konusudur. Çünkü ritüel aktiviteler genellikle doğaüstü olaylar ile ilişkilendirilir. Ancak, ritüeller, tarihöncesi topluluklarda, sosyal düzeni ayarlayan ve meşrulaştıran mekanizmalar olarak kullanılmaktaydı. Ayrıca, sosyal kimlikler ve ilişkiler ritüeller tarafından yaratılırdı (Turner, 1969; Atakuman, 2014; Bell, 1992; Rappaport, 1999; Kuijt 2000, 2008; Bradley, 2005; Hodder, 1982, 1986, 1987, 1991, 2016; Hodder & Cessford, 2004). Ritüel ve domestik arasındaki ayrım ve ritüelin tanımındaki karmaşa çukur mevzusuna da yansımış durumdadır.

Literatürdeki en erken çukur çalışmaları 20. yüzyılın başında görülür. Özellikle 1980'lere kadar Kültür – Tarihsel ve Süreçsel yaklaşımlar, çukurların işlevlerini anlamak için yapılan çalışmalarda çok yoğun biçimde etkili olmuştur. Bunun sonucu olarak, kazılarda bulunan çukurlar silo, çöplük veya barınak olarak yorumlanmışlar. Ancak 1980'lerin başında az sayıda arkeolog bu yaygın işlevselci yaklaşımın arkeolojiyi, merkezinde insan olan bir alandan uzaklaştırdığını iddia etmeye başladı (Leone, 1986). Bu olay bir çeşit farkındalık yaratmış ve insan yaşamı işlevsel ve sembolik kavramların bir kombinasyonu olarak düşünülmeye başlanmıştır. Ayrıca, ideolojik ve toplumsal dinamiklerin materyal kültür ögeleri üzerinden okunabileceğinin ortaya atılmasının ardından yapılan çalışmalarda bazı nesnelerin

belli bir düzene/örüntüye referansla depolandığı fark edildi (Hodder, 1982a). Kasten seçme ve yapılandırılmış depozit gibi önemli kavramlar ortaya atıldı (Richards & Thomas, 1984; Chapman, 2000). Bu gelişmelere ek olarak, bazı arkeologlar yapılandırılmış depozitin yalnızca anıtsal bağlamda değil ayrıca domestik/evsel bağlamlarda da bulunabileceğini ortaya koymuşlardır (Cleal, 1984).

1990'lar ve 2000'lerde yapılandırılmış depozit ve çukur konularının derinlik kazandığı gözlemlenmektedir. Julian Thomas özellikle bu dönemlerde yaptığı çalışmalar ile ön plana çıkmaktadır. Thomas, literatürde çukurlar için sıklıkla ifade edilen besin deposu/silo ve çöplük yorumlarına karşı çıkmıştır. Yaptığı çok sayıdaki araştırmada, çukur içerisindeki dolguların bilinçli bir şekilde yapılandırıldığı ve çanak-çömleklerin belli kısımlarının bilerek seçildiği ve gömüldüğünü tespit etmiştir. Bu davranışın, sembolik-toplumsal bir eylemle ilişkili olarak yad etme/anma sürecinde önemli bir faktör olduğu belirtmiştir. Ayrıca, çukur kazma eyleminin, kişiler ve mekanlar arasında hem fiziksel hem de metaforik bir bağ kurulmasına vesile olduğunu eklemiştir (1991, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2011, 2012).

Bir diğer araştırmacı John Chapman da çukurlar için yaygın olan çöplük algısına karşı çıkmıştır. Çalışmalarında 20. yüzyılın çöp algısı ile tarihöncesi topluluklarının çöp algısının birbiriyle örtüşemeyeceğini ve bunun da kavram karmaşasına sebep olduğunu ileri sürmüştür. Çukurların içindeki depozitin rasgele atıklara göre çok daha yapılandırılmış birikintiler olduğunu eklemiştir. Ayrıca, çukur kazmanın geçmiş ile şimdikini birbirleriyle ilişkilendirme, bir başka deyişle, atalar ile yapılan bir tür alışveriş/etkileşim olduğunu ileri sürmüştür (2000b, 2012).

Çukur incelemeleriyle ilgili önemli yöntemsel gelişmelerin olduğu İngiliz Arkeolojisi literatürünün de incelenmesinin ardından Balkanlar, Yunanistan ve Anadolu prehistoryası bağlamlarında çukur çalışmaları incelenmiştir. Özellikle Bulgaristan'da çok sayıda çukur alanları mevcuttur ve buralardaki çukurlar ritüel merkezi ya da tapınak olarak yorumlanmaktadır. Genellikle Ana Tanrıça kültü ile ilişkilendirilmişlerdir (Nikolov, 2011, 2015). Yunanistan'daki bazı çukurlar, ziyafet aktivitesinin bir parçası olarak görülüp, kolektif kimliğin toplumsal ve toplumlararası

düzlemlerde tanımlanması ve devam ettirilmesi ile ilişkili olduğu düşünülmektedir (Tsoraki, 2007).

Ancak özellikle Anadolu prehistoryası bağlamında çukurların gerçek işlevi üzerine yapılan sistematik çalışmalar, birkaç örnek dışında, yok denecek kadar azdır. Bu çalışmalardan biri Domuztepe'deki çukurlar ve ilişkili kompleksler üzerinedir. İçinde çukurların da olduğu bu alan kamusal ritüel alanı olarak önerilmiştir. Bu alandaki çukur kazma eylemlerinin temelinde kimlik ve toplumsal üyelikleri beyan eden yerleri önemli mekanlar olarak öne çıkarmak olduğu ileri sürülmüştür (Atakuman & Erdem, 2015). Literatür çalışmasının doğrultusunda geliştirdiğimiz yöntemler çerçevesinde Uğurlu çukurları incelenmiş ve bu çukurların ritüel eylemlerle ilişkili olduğu anlaşılmıştır.

Yöntemsel olarak öncelikle kapsamlı bir çukur kronolojisi oluşturulmuş ve daha sonra çukurların içinden, diğer mimari ögelerden ve bunların dışındaki dolgulardan gelen küçük buluntularla beraber çanak-çömlek, çakmaktaşı, hayvan kemiği ve insan kemiği buluntularının zaman ve mekândaki dağılımı incelenmiştir. Bu sayede Uğurlu P5-P6 açmalarında, Geç Neolitik 'ten itibaren çukur alanının ortaya çıkışı mekânsal planlar üzerinde ayrıntılarıyla tartışılmış ve çukur alanının ortaya çıkış sürecine bir bütün olarak bakıldığında birkaç kritik nokta tespit edilmiştir. İlk olarak, çukur açma pratiği P5-P6 açmalarında Faz-IV'ten itibaren ortaya çıkmakta, Faz III'te ortaya çıkan özel kamusal Megaron planlı Bina 4'ün avlusunun önünde artarak yoğunlaşmakta ve bu fazın sonunda çukur pratiği de sonlanmaktadır. Bu alanda insan gömülerinin bulunduğu çukurlar bulunmakta ve bununla beraber birçok ince işçilikli malzeme, figürin, kutu kap, kulakçıklı kap gibi özel buluntular da bu alanda yoğunlaşmaktadır.

Öncelikle stratigrafinin daha detaylı bir biçimde incelenmesi sonucunda, çukurların kronolojik konumları netleştirilmiştir. Daha sonra bu kronolojik konumlama çerçevesinde, çukurlar içlerinden gelen malzemenin yoğunluğu, çeşitliliği, yapım tekniklerinde gözetilen sıvama ve hacim gibi kriterler kapsamında değerlendirildiler. Bu değerlendirme sonucunda, her kronolojik Çukur Evresi'nde en az bir çukurun sıva kalınlığı, buluntu yoğunluğu, buluntu varyasyonu, ince işçilikli seramik yoğunluğu gibi inceleme kriterlerinin çoğunluğunu bünyesinde barındıran özellikler gösterdiği

tespit edilmiştir.

Çalışma kapsamında yapılan tüm analizler, mekân planları bağlamında değerlendirilerek, P5-P6 açmalarındaki çukurların tarihsel süreçte konumlarının birbirleriyle ve diğer mimari ögelerle gelişimini etkileyen faktörler incelendi. Buna göre, çukurların çekirdek bölgesinin; Faz IV'ün ilk aşamalarından itibaren P5-P6 alanında birbirinin üzerine inşa edilen Bina 8, çukurlar, Sarı Taban ve Bina 5 mimari ögelerinin bulunduğu bölge olduğu anlaşılmıştır. Daha sonraki aşamalarda da çukur faaliyetleri bir önceki safhalarda yapılan çukurlara referansla gerçekleşmektedir ki bu durum mekânda çukurlar aracılığıyla müzakere edilen bir sosyal gruplaşma ve sınırlar ile ilgili görünmektedir.

Faz IV'ün mimari ögelerinden Bina 8'in hemen üstünde küçük bir çukur (Ö149), içinde az miktarda hayvan kemiği, taş nesne ve çakmaktaşından oluşan bir grup malzeme bulunmaktadır. Bina 8, muhtemelen bir kapatma ritüelini takiben terkedilmiş ve üzerine sarı renkli toprakla defalarca sıvanarak oluşturulmuş bir platform (taban) yapılmıştır. Bu platformun erken evresinde, orta kısmında açılan küçük bir çukur (Ö142) ile içinde bol miktarda çakmaktaşı, bir işlenmiş kemik obje ve taş balta bulunmuştur. Faz IV'ün son aşamasında, Sarı Taban'ın üzerine Bina 5 inşa edilmiştir. Bu bina ile eş zamanlı fakat mekânsal olarak bu çekirdek bölgeden uzakta O5 açmasında Bina 9 inşa edilmiştir. Bina 5'in kullanımının sonlanmasını takiben burada açılan Ö52 çukuru Çukur Evresi-2 aşamasının diğer çukurları (Ö125, Ö190) arasında kalın sıvalı ve derin olması, muhtemelen figürin sokmabaşı olarak kullanılmış iyi işçilikli kemik bızların bolluğu, çakmaktaşı buluntuların bolluğu ve öğütme taşı bulunmasıyla ön plana çıkmaktadır. Daha sonraki aşamalarda tekrar karşımıza çıkacağı ve yorumlanacağı üzere, kalın sıvalı çukurlar genellikle bir önceki safhanın çukur pratiklerinin çeşitli açılardan değişimi, ya da bir diğer deyişle bir safhanın kapatılması ve yeni bir safhanın başlatılması gibi bir gelişmeyle ilgili görünmektedir.

Her ne kadar çukur faaliyeti, Faz-IV mimari ögelerinin bulunduğu alanda ortaya çıkmış olsa da Çukur Evresi-2 aşamasında meydana gelen önemli değişikliklerden biri; iki yeni çukurun (Ö125, Ö190) bu çekirdek alandan ortalama 2 metre uzaklıkta ayrı

sektörlerde açılmasıdır. Bu aşamada oluşan çukurlar arası mekânsal ayrışma, daha sonraki aşamalarda, çukur açma faaliyetinin tarihsel gelişimini şekillendirecektir. Bu bağlamda, P5-P6 çukur alanı sektörlere ayrıştırılarak incelenmeye devam edilmiştir. Ayrıca bu evrede komünal ve Megaron planlı Bina 4 ortaya çıkmıştır.

Nitekim Çukur Evresi-3'te I. Sektör 'de Ö52 etrafında 3 farklı noktada yeni çukurların (Ö58, Ö126, Ö150 ve Ö122) açıldığı görülmektedir. II. Sektörv'de açılan Ö121 çukuru, mekânsal olarak Ö190 ile ilişkilenirken aynı sektörün farklı bir noktasında Ö48 açılmıştır. Burada II. Sektör 'de Ö121 figürin, öğütme taşı, çakmaktaşı, seramik ve çap-derinlik açısından ön plana çıkmaktadır. Ancak I. Sektör 'deki Ö122 malzeme miktarı, seramik ve derinlik açısından Ö121 ile kıyaslanabilir niteliktedir. Ö58, Ö126 ve Ö150 neredeyse boş çukurlardır. Bu boşluğun nedeni sonraki safhalarda Ö29, Ö31-32, Ö26, Ö25 çukurları açılırken, alt seviyede kalan çukurların malzemelerinin taşınmış, dağıtılmış ve aktarılmış olmasıyla ilgili görünmektedir.

Çukur Evresi-4'te yukarıda sözü edilen üç sektör içinde oluşan alt kümeler çerçevesinde çukur faaliyeti belli alanlarda devam etmektedir. II. Sektör 'de Ö178, Ö48'in hemen üzerine açılan ve içinde yok denecek kadar az buluntu olan bir çukurdur. III. Sektör 'de oldukça büyük hacimli Ö119, Ö125'in yanında bulunan ve figürin ve öğütme taşı barındıran bir çukurdur. Ancak bu aşamanın en önemli çukuru, Faz-IV mimari yapılarının bulunduğu I. Sektör 'deki Ö29'dur. Ö29 çukuru, bu sektörde daha önce açılan Ö58'in kısmen üzerindedir. Oldukça kalın sıvalı ve kendi dönemsel çukur grubunun en büyük hacimli çukuru olan Ö29, içinde çok miktarda hayvan kemiği, çakmaktaşı, çanak çömlek ve diğer küçük buluntular tespit edilmiştir. Bu çukurun içinden ayrıca iki adet insan parmak kemiği ele geçmiştir. I. Sektör 'de bu aşamada bir çukur (Ö31-32) daha göze çarpmaktadır. Bu çukur, Ö126 çukurunun doğrudan üzerinde olup, oldukça kalın sıvalıdır ancak içinden gelen malzeme oldukça azdır.
Ö29 çukuru, her açıdan bu alanda gerçekleşen tüm çukur açma eylemlerinin en önemli ögesi olarak belirginleşmektedir. Yukarıda belirtilen çukur sıvama, hacim, buluntu yoğunluğu ve varyasyonu gibi kriterler açısından tüm zamanların en zengin çukuru olan Ö29, aynı zamanda, bu alandaki çukur pratiğinin dönüşmeye başlamasının da öncülüdür.

Nitekim, bir sonraki aşama olan Çukur Evresi-5'te daha önceden beri varlığını sürdüren sektörler içinde açılan çukurların (Ö35, Ö118) yanı sıra, yeni mekânsal sektörlerin sınırları içerisinde (IV. Sektör ve V. Sektör) yeni çukurların açıldığı görülmektedir (Ö117, Ö131). Bu yeni sektörlerin Bina 4 ile mekânsal olarak daha yakın olması ve özellikle II. Sektör 'deki Ö188'in Bina 4'ün avlusuyla yakın ilişkisi dikkat çekmektedir. Ö188, içinde 13 bireyin tespit edildiği ölü çukurudur. Öte yandan, I. Sektör 'de bulunan Ö35'in, Faz-IV'te açılan ilk çukurlar olan Ö142 ve Ö149'un doğrudan üzerine açılmış olması ilginçtir. Ö118 de, kendi sektörü içinde daha önce birbirine yakın konumlandırılmış çukurlardan nispeten daha uzaktadır. Ayrıca Ö35'te ele geçen bir miktar ince işçilikli seramik, az miktarda Spondylus nesne ve hayvan kemiği dışında, bu aşamanın çukurlarının hemen hepsi malzeme açısından boşa yakındır.

Çukur Evresi-6'da çukur faaliyeti I. ve II. Sektörler 'de devam etmektedir. Ancak değişim ve dönüşümlerin sürekliliği de gözlenmektedir. I Sektör 'de Ö29 ile Ö35 arasında, buluntu ve diğer özellikler açısından ön planda olmayan Ö33; II. Sektör 'de ise Ö188, Ö48 ve Ö178 kümesinin içinde yer alıp, ayrıca bezemeli ve kulakçıklı kap buluntusu açısından en zengin çukur Ö177'dir. Ancak, en ilginç bölge, I. Sektör 'ün güneyinde Ö126, Ö150 ve Ö31-32 nolu çukurların kümelendiği alanının, 4 yeni çukurla oldukça yoğun bir faaliyet alanı olmasıdır. Bu 4 çukurun 3'ü (Ö26, Ö27, Ö28) oldukça kalın sıvalı ve hacim olarak nispeten büyüktürler; ancak, Ö26 ve Ö27 malzeme açısından zayıfken, Ö28 çeşitli açılardan ön plana çıkmaktadır. I. Sektör 'ün güneyinde kalın sıvalı çukurların yoğunlaştığı mikro bölgede bu aşamadan sonra tekrar çukur faaliyeti görülmediği düşünülecek olunursa, buradaki yoğunlaşmanın, özellikle de çukurların kalın sıvalı olmasının Neolitik Dönem'de yaygın olarak görülen bina kapama ritüellerine benzer bir sembolik önem taşıdığı söylenebilir.

Çukur Evresi-7'de çukur faaliyeti I., II. ve IV. Sektör 'lerde devam etmektedir; ancak, bu aşamada I. Sektör 'de açılan Ö24 ve Ö25 ile çukur faaliyeti bu sektörde sona ererken, Bina 4'e yakın olan II. Sektör ve IV. Sektör 'de çukurların devamlılığı bir sonraki safhaya taşınacaktır. I. Sektör 'de Ö58 ve Ö29 kümesinin üstünde yer alan Ö25, bu aşamanın en önemli çukuru olarak göze çarpmaktadır ve daha önceki safhalarda

(örneğin Çukur Evresi-4'te Ö29 ve Çukur Evresi-6'da Ö26, Ö27 ve Ö28) görülen kapama ritüellerine benzer nitelikte bazı unsurlar barındırmaktadır. Oldukça kalın sıvalı olan Ö25, içinde barındırdığı yarım insan iskeletinin yanı sıra bol miktarda seramik, çakmaktaşı, hayvan kemiği ile beraber çok çeşitli küçük buluntular barındırmaktadır. I. Sektör 'de açılan diğer çukur Ö24 ise neredeyse boştur. IV. Sektör IV 'de açılan 3 çukur (Ö102, Ö103 ve Ö136) hacimsel olarak kısmen büyüktür. Aslında bu büyüme genel olarak bu aşamalarda belirginleşmeye başlayan bir özelliktir. Ö102 ve Ö136 çukurları, küçük buluntu, seramik, çakmaktaşı açısından Ö25 ile kıyaslanabilecek niteliktedir.

Bu noktaya kadar yazılanlara bakıldığında, malzeme bolluğu, buluntu varyasyonu, sıva kalınlığı, hacim açısından farklı sektörlerde olmakla beraber birbiriyle kıyaslanabilir çukurların olduğu Çukur Evresi-3'ten itibaren gözlemlenen bir olgudur. Örneğin, Çukur Evresi-3'te I. Sektör 'de Ö122 ve II. Sektör 'de Ö121, Çukur Evresi-6'de I. Sektör 'de Ö28 ve II. Sektör 'de Ö177 ve Çukur Evresi-7'de I. Sektör 'deki Ö25 ile IV. Sektör 'deki Ö102 sektörler arası ayrışmanın adeta rekabetçi unsurlar barındırdığını da düşündürmektedir.

Çukur Evresi-7'de, çukur açma eylemlerinin son aşamalarına gelindiğinde, I. Sektör 'de yeni bir platform (Ö191) ortaya çıkmıştır. Aynı şekilde II. Sektör 'de de bir platform (Ö194) görülmektedir. Bu platformlar, bu sektörlerin kullanımının sona yaklaşması ile ilgili bir eylemin parçası olabilirler. Nitekim, daha önce Faz-IV'te Çukur Evresi-1/b'de görülen Sarı Taban (platform), Bina 8'in kullanımının sona ermesiyle ilgili bir unsur olarak ön plana çıkmıştı.

Çukur faaliyetinin sonlandığı evre olan Çukur Evresi-8'de toplam iki çukur bulunmaktadır (Ö116 ve Ö176). Bunlardan Ö116 I. ve II. Sektör 'ün kesişiminde bulunan çukur, hacim açısından büyük bir çukurdur. Bu çukur daha önceki aşamalarda küçük buluntu miktarı ve çeşitliliği açısından ön plandaki çukurlara göre fakir olmakla beraber, içinden bol miktarda seramik, çakmaktaşı ve hayvan kemiği ele geçmiştir. Ayrıca, içinde obsidyen bulunan tek çukurdur. IV. Sektör 'de Ö102'ye yakın açılan Ö176 ise küçük bir çukur olup, seramik buluntu açısından oldukça fakirdir.

Yukarıda açıklanan gelişme süreci bağlamında Uğurlu Höyük P5-P6 açmalarında görülen çukur pratiği ile ilgili şu çıkarımlar yapılabilir: çukur faaliyetleri, tarihsel olarak mimari süreklilik gösteren bir çekirdek alanda başlamakta ve ardışık safhalarda yapılan çukurlar, daha önceki safhalarda yapılan eylemlere göre konumlandırılmaktadır. Diğer bir deyişle, çukurlar arası mekânsal ayrışma veya kümelenmenin tarihsel geçmişi, çukur açma faaliyetinin geleceğini şekillendirmektedir. Bu durum, mekânda çukurlar aracılığıyla müzakere edilen bir sosyal gruplaşma ve sınırlar ile ilgili görünmektedir.

Kronolojik olarak, her bir Çukur Evresi ’nde açılan çukurun eş zamanlılık ilişkisini daha ince bir detayda anlayabilmek ne yazık ki mümkün olmadığından, yukarıda sözü edilen mekânsal sektörler ve bu sektörler içindeki alt kümelenmeleri oluşturan sosyal grupların yapısı, büyüklüğü ve çeşitliliği hakkında gerçekçi bir çıkarıma ulaşmak çok zordur. Her bir safhanın çukurları eş zamanlı olarak bir grup tarafından açılmış olabilir, eş zamanlı olarak birden fazla grup tarafından açılmış olabilir, ya da farklı zaman aralıklarında tek bir grup veya farklı gruplar tarafından açılmış olabilirler.

Her ne kadar grup kompozisyonu ve yapısı hakkında net bir fikir edinilemese dahi, çukurların yapım özellikleri ve içlerinden gelen buluntuların çeşitliliği ve zenginliği açısından değerlendirildiğinde, bazı çıkarımlar yapmak mümkündür. En azından, bir Çukur Evresi içinde, birden fazla sektörün kullanımda olması ve bu sektörlerin her birinde birbirine benzer nitelikte zenginlik ve yapım özellikleriyle kıyaslanabilir çukurların olması, Uğurlu mekânı bağlamında birbiriyle ilişkili bir topluluk ve bu topluluğu oluşturan haneler veya hane kümeleri gibi farklı sosyal grupların varlığını çağrıştırmaktadır. Diğer yandan, her sektörde kıyaslanabilir bir çukur olsa da bu çukurlardan biri diğerine göre daha ön plandadır ve bu durum gruplar arası rekabet ilişkilerini de akla getirmektedir.

Bu bağlamda, çukurların açıldığı alan devingen bir sosyal müzakere alanı olarak tanımlanabilmektedir. Bu devingenlik, çukur pratiklerinin çeşitli aralıklarla önemli dönüşüm ve değişimler geçirmesiyle de izlenebilmektedir. Örneğin, farklı Çukur Evreleri ’nde bulunan kalın sıvalı çukurlar, kendi sektörlerinde çukur faaliyetinin

dönüşümü veya bitirilmesi ile ilişkilidir. Sıva bilindiği gibi, Neolitik Dönem ’de bina içlerinde ve kafatası alçılama uygulamalarında kullanılan önemli bir malzemedir. Neolitik Dönem’ in erken aşamalarından itibaren yaygın olarak görülen “ata kült” lerinde, ölü gömme aynı zamanda binaların yapımı, yemek ziyafetleri gibi ögelerle beraber kutlanan bir rejenerasyon (yeniden doğum) ritüelinin de parçasıdır (Kuijt, 2008). Muhtemelen mevsimsel döngüleri takip eden bu ritüellerde, ölü gömmenin ardından binaların sürekliliğini sağlayacak kişi ve grupların bulunmaması durumunda binalar terk edilmekteydi. Bu anlamda, kille sıvama, buluntu grupları, mekânsal süreklilik, kümelenme ve ayrışma gibi çeşitli unsurlarıyla M.Ö. 6. bin yılda Uğurlu’da görülen çukur açma eylemleri, Erken Neolitik ’te görülen ata kültü rejenerasyon ritüelleriyle benzer özellikler göstermektedir. Aynı zamanda, bu ritüeller sırasında ortak besin tüketiminin gerçekleştiği, çeşitli hayvan kemiği kalıntılarından ve çanak-çömlek kullanımının yoğunluğundan anlaşılmaktadır.

Literatür taramasında da bahsedildiği gibi, çukur açma, bina kapama gibi eylemler Mezopotamya’dan Anadolu ve Balkanlar’a birçok M.Ö. 6. bin yıl yerleşiminin ön plana çıkan unsurudur. Her ne kadar Erken Neolitik ’in ata kültü bağlamında gerçekleşen ölü gömme ritüellerinin unsurlarını barındırsa dahi, M.Ö. 6. Bin yılın çukur açma ve kapama ritüelleri, ölü gömme geleneklerinde meydana gelen değişimlere paralel olarak gerçekleşmiştir. Nitekim, Orta Anadolu, Mezopotamya ve Levant bağlamındaki verilere göre, M.Ö 7. bin yıla kadar yerleşim içi binalarla ilişkili olarak gerçekleşen ölü gömme eylemlerinin, M.Ö. 6. bin yıla geldiğimizde binalarla ilişkisi zayıflamıştır (Atakuman, 2014, 2015a). Bunun yerine sınırlı sayıdaki ölülerin topluca gömüldüğü çukurlar bazı yerlerde tespit edilmekle beraber, aslında ölülerin çoğunluğunun yerleşim dışındaki mezarlara gömüldüğü tahmin edilmektedir. Figürin gibi nesnelerin bu safhada yaygınlaşarak artması ve Uğurlu bağlamında çukurlarla ilişkili alanlarda yoğunlaşması, bu nesnelerin ve çukurların ölüm-yeniden doğum ilişkisini yeni oluşmakta olan sosyal peyzaj bağlamında metaforik olarak temsil ettiğini düşündürmektedir. Nitekim, Uğurlu’da çukur alanında bulunan figürinlerin çoğu simetrik olarak kırılmış biçimde ele geçmiştir. Bu durum Ö25’te bulunan yarım insan iskeleti ile beraber düşünülmesi gereken bir durumdur.

Genel olarak baktığımızda, M.Ö. 6. bin hem Mezopotamya ve Anadolu'da hem de Balkanlar'da benzer süreçlerin yaşandığını göstermektedir. Örneğin, Kuzey Mezopotamya'yı etkisi altına alan Hassuna-Samarra-Halaf boyalı seramik kültürlerinin ortaya çıkışıyla beraber taşınabilir küçük ve sembolik anlamı yüksek figürin ve mühür gibi nesnelerin çeşitlenerek artışı söz konusudur. Ian Kuijt'a göre tarım ekonomisinin başat geçim stratejisi haline gelmesiyle, ortaya çıkan yeni "hane" yapısı, sosyal ihtiyaçlarını, taşınabilir küçük nesnelerin görsel olarak ön plana çıkarıldığı yemek paylaşımı ortamlarında müzakere etmekteydi (2008). Mekânda ölülerle müzakere edilen sosyal aidiyet ve toplum yapısının kuruluşunun, metaforik olarak nesneler üzerinden müzakere edilmeye başlanması, şüphesiz beraberinde birçok farklılık getirmektedir. Bunlardan biri de sosyal gruplar arasında rekabet ilişkilerinin artmasıyla politik merkezileşmenin hızlanmasıdır.

Bu bağlamda Uğurlu Höyük örneği önemlidir. Çünkü bu süreç ne Kuzey Mezopotamya'da Halaf bağlamında ne de Anadolu Kalkolitik 'i bağlamında süreklilik gösteren bir biçimde izlenememektedir. Oysa, Uğurlu Höyük 'te Geç Neolitik/Erken Kalkolitik 'te çukur alanının gelişimi ve Megaron planlı bir ritüel yapı olduğu anlaşılan Bina 4 ile ilişkilenmesi, ritüel merkezileşmenin safhalarını görmemizi sağlayan ender örneklerden birini oluşturmaktadır. Küçük buluntularda ve seramiklerde çeşitlenme, merkezileşme öncesi ortaklaşma ve rekabet ilişkilerinde haneyi ön plana çıkarırken, merkezileşme sonrasında bu tarz küçük buluntulardaki düşüş ve seramik işçiliğinin kabalaşması, merkezileşen ve hanenin bu yeni yapı içerisinde ritüel ve ekonomik bağımsızlığını ve ifade gücünü kaybetmesiyle ilgili olduğu düşünülmektedir.

APPENDIX C – TEZ FOTOKOPİSİ İZİN FORMU

ENSTİTÜ

Fen Bilimleri Enstitüsü ☐

Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü ■

Uygulamalı Matematik Enstitüsü ☐

Enformatik Enstitüsü ☐

Deniz Bilimleri Enstitüsü ☐

YAZARIN

Soyadı : KARAMURAT
Adı : Cansu
Bölümü : Yerleşim Arkeolojisi

TEZİN ADI (İngilizce): Ritual and Social Structure During the Late Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic: Pit Rituals of Uğurlu Höyük-Gökçeada

TEZİN TÜRÜ : Yüksek Lisans ■ Doktora ☐

1. Tezimin tamamından kaynak gösterilmek şartıyla fotokopi alınabilir. ☐
2. Tezimin içindekiler sayfası, özet, indeks sayfalarından ve/veya bir bölümünden kaynak gösterilmek şartıyla fotokopi alınabilir. ☐
3. Tezimden bir (1) yıl süreyle fotokopi alınamaz. ■

TEZİN KÜTÜPHANEYE TESLİM TARİHİ: