

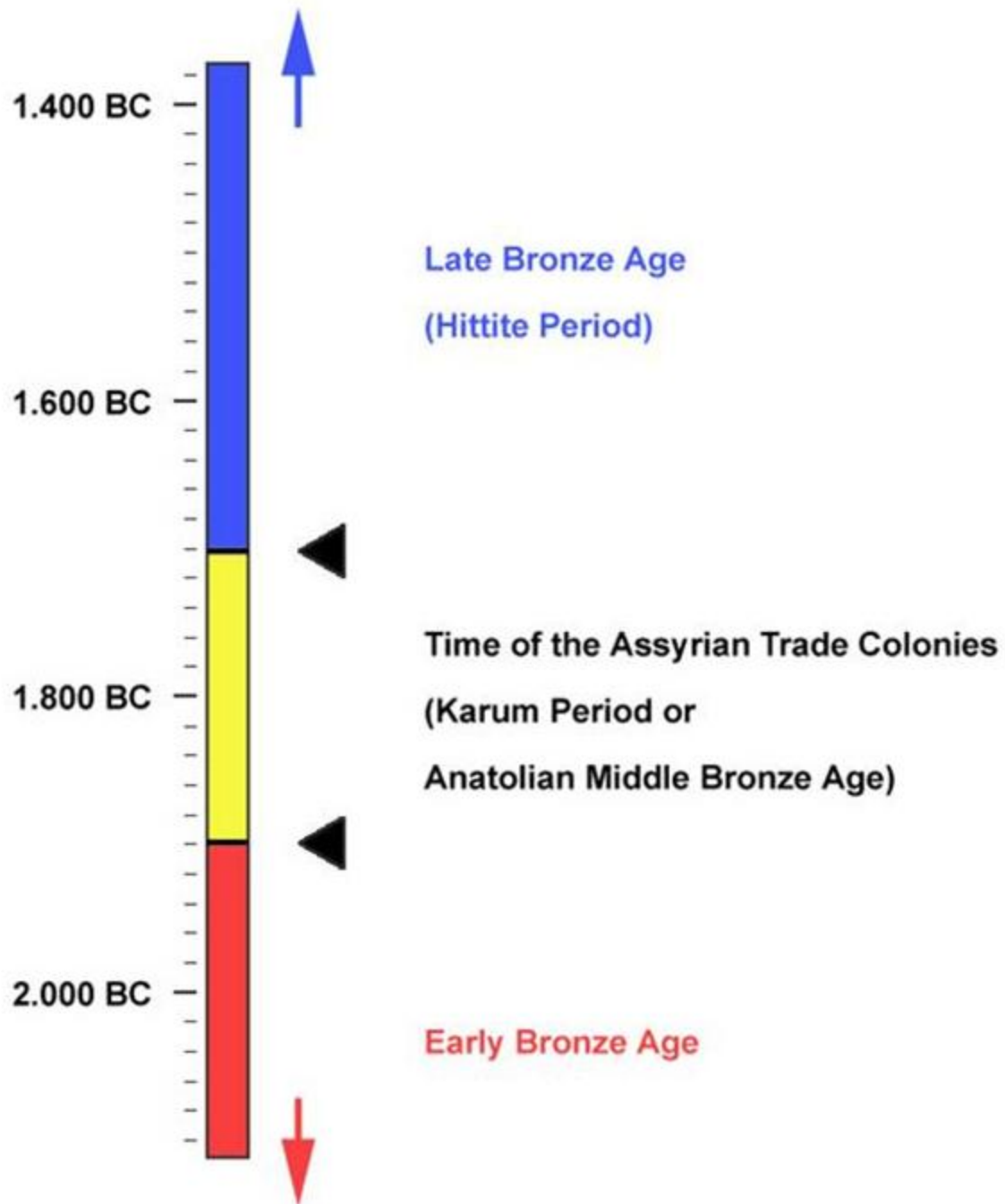


**The Mound Kültepe = The Ancient Karum Kaneš**



**Kültepe**  
**Finds of Clay Tablets with Cuneiform**  
**Inscriptions**



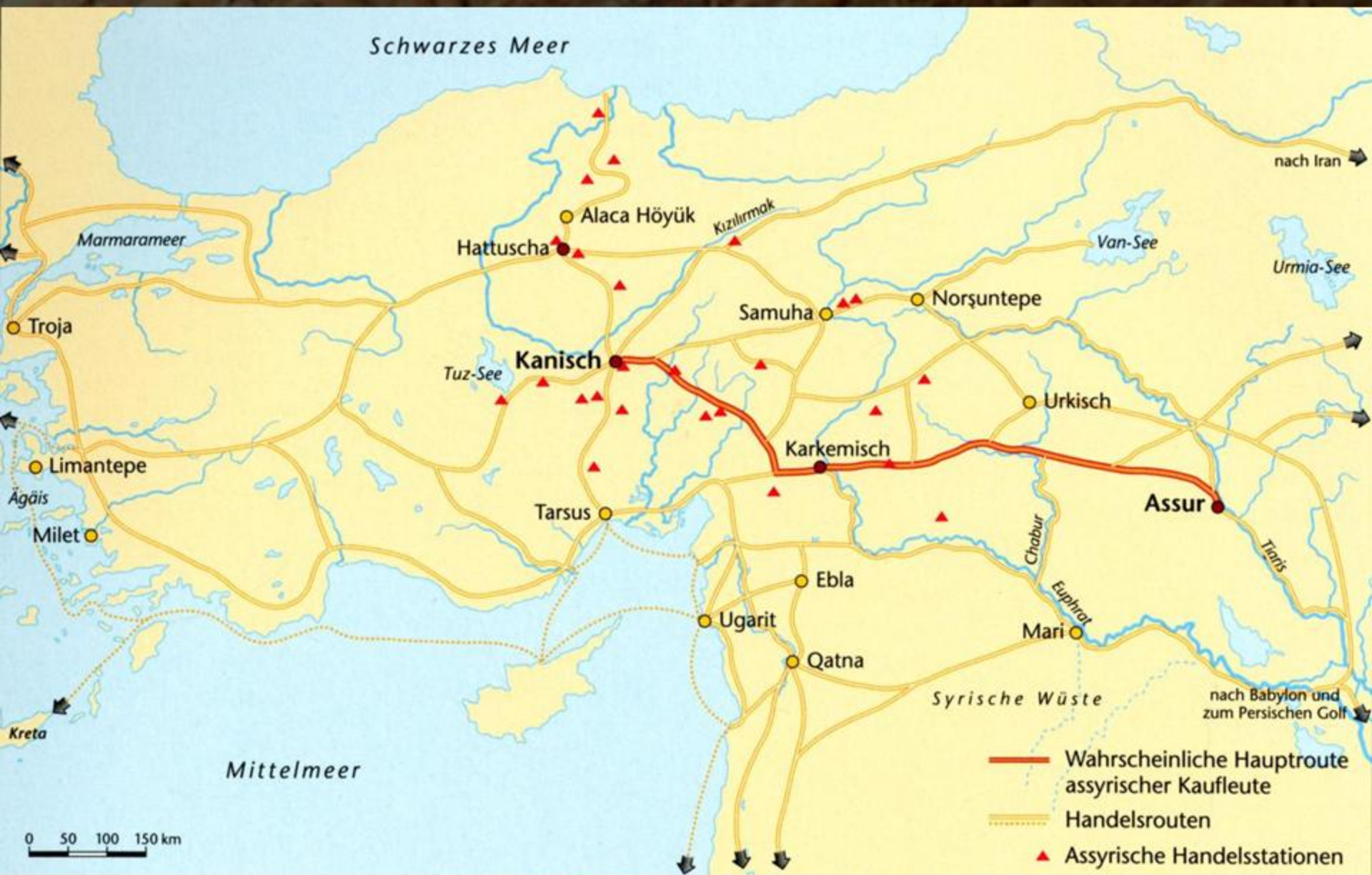


## Corner Dates for the Presence of Mesopotamian Traders in Anatolia

- ca. 1950 BC: First written documents from Anatolia in Akkadian language from Kültepe Level II
- First Destruction of Assyrian Colony Settlements c. 1836 BC
- Re-establishment of Network
- Final Destruction of Colonies and End of Trade System ca. 1725 BC (= Kültepe Ib)

# Textual Finds in early 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC Anatolia

- Clay tablets from Kültepe, Acemhöyük, Boğazköy & Alişar
- Kültepe: 20.000 texts have been found, ca. 5.000 are published



## Assyrian Colonies in Anatolia

- Establishment of “colonies” attached to native centres
- Larger settlements known as “Karum”. 21 known by name, only a few are localised (*karum* Kaneš = Kültepe; *karum* Hattuš = Boğazköy).
- Other (unnamed) establishments at Alişar, Acemhöyük and Kamankale Höyük).
- Smaller trade posts known as “Wabartum” (none excavated).

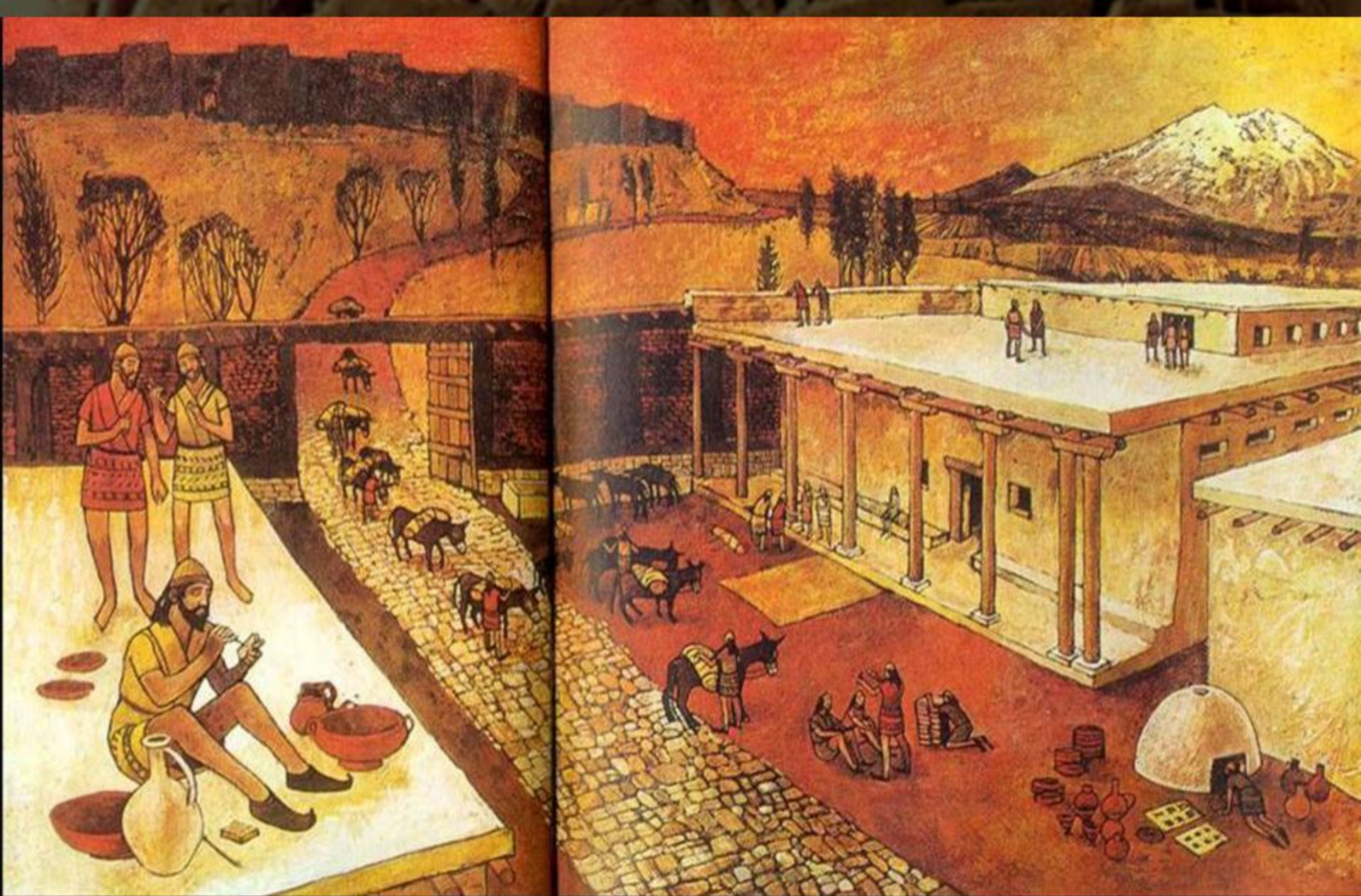
## Assyrian Colonies in Anatolia

- “Karum” = “Harbour” *sensu* “Port of Trade”
- Privately organised trade, no military element involved
- Establishments were legally autonomous, protected by treaties with native rulers.
- *Karum Kaneš* was “mother colony”.
- Control by the Assyrian state through the institution of the *Bit Alim* = “City House”



## Assyrian Trade With Anatolia

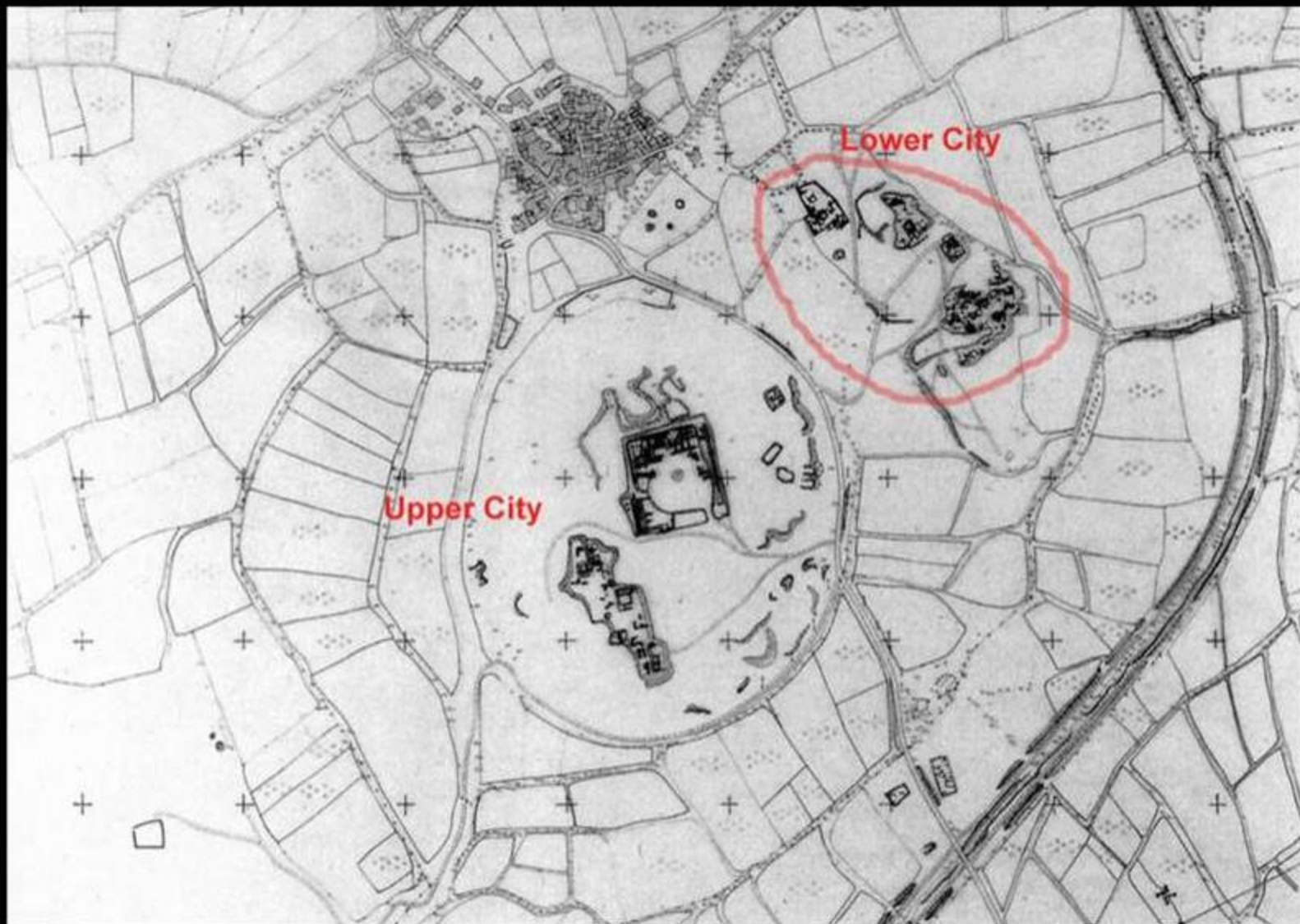
- Caravans organised by family-based trading houses in Aššur.
- Bulk of trade consisted of Afghan tin and Southern Mesopotamian textiles.
- Assyrians acted as intermediary traders.
- Expected profit for tin 100%, for textiles 200%.
- In Anatolia exchanged for silver and gold.
- “Currency” was silver.



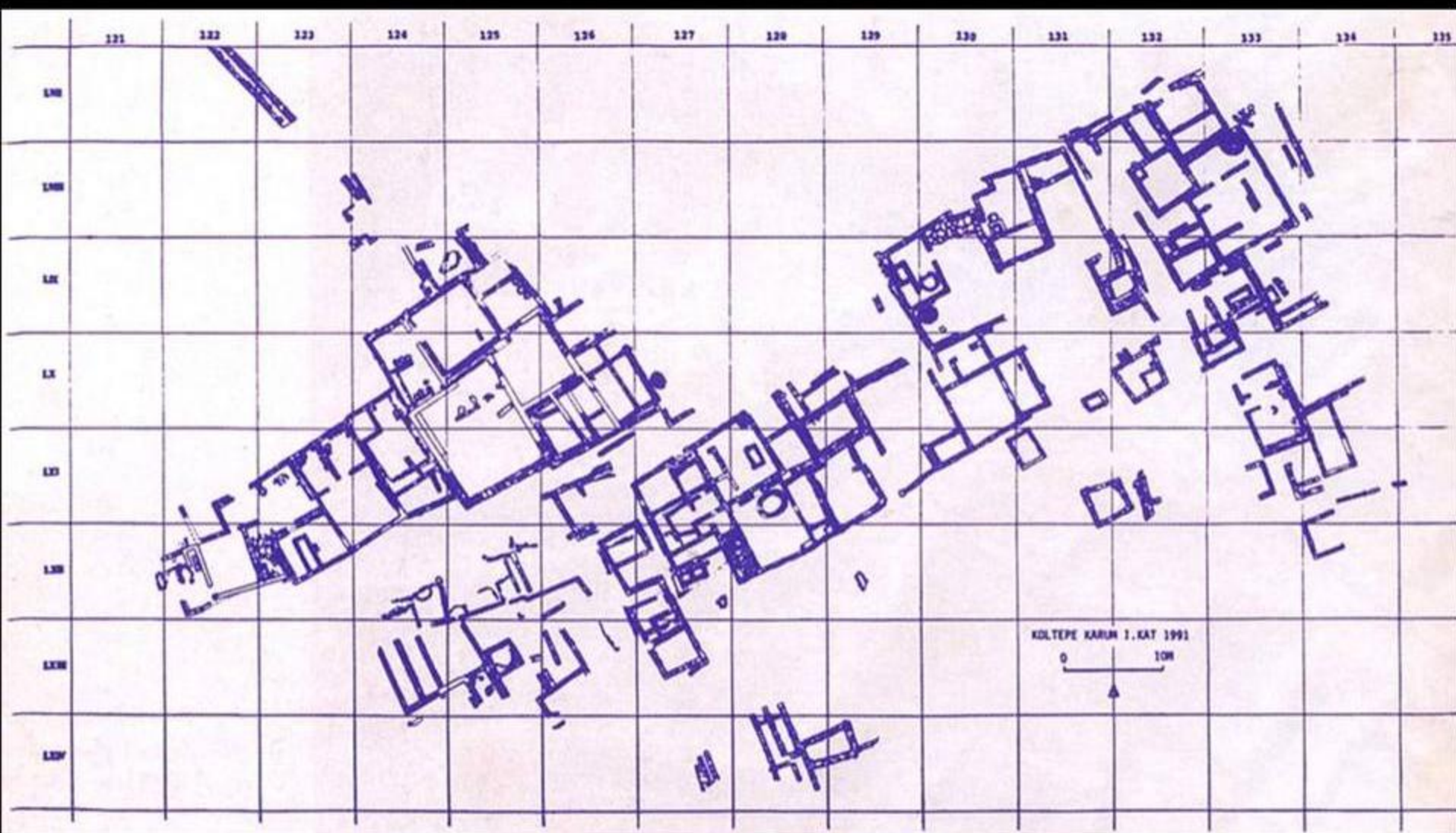
**Reconstruction Drawing of Daily Life in the Karum at Kültepe  
(The Native Anatolian Centre in the Background)**

## Attempts to Break the Agreements Between the Local Rulers and the Foreign Merchants Could Have Very Negative Consequences...

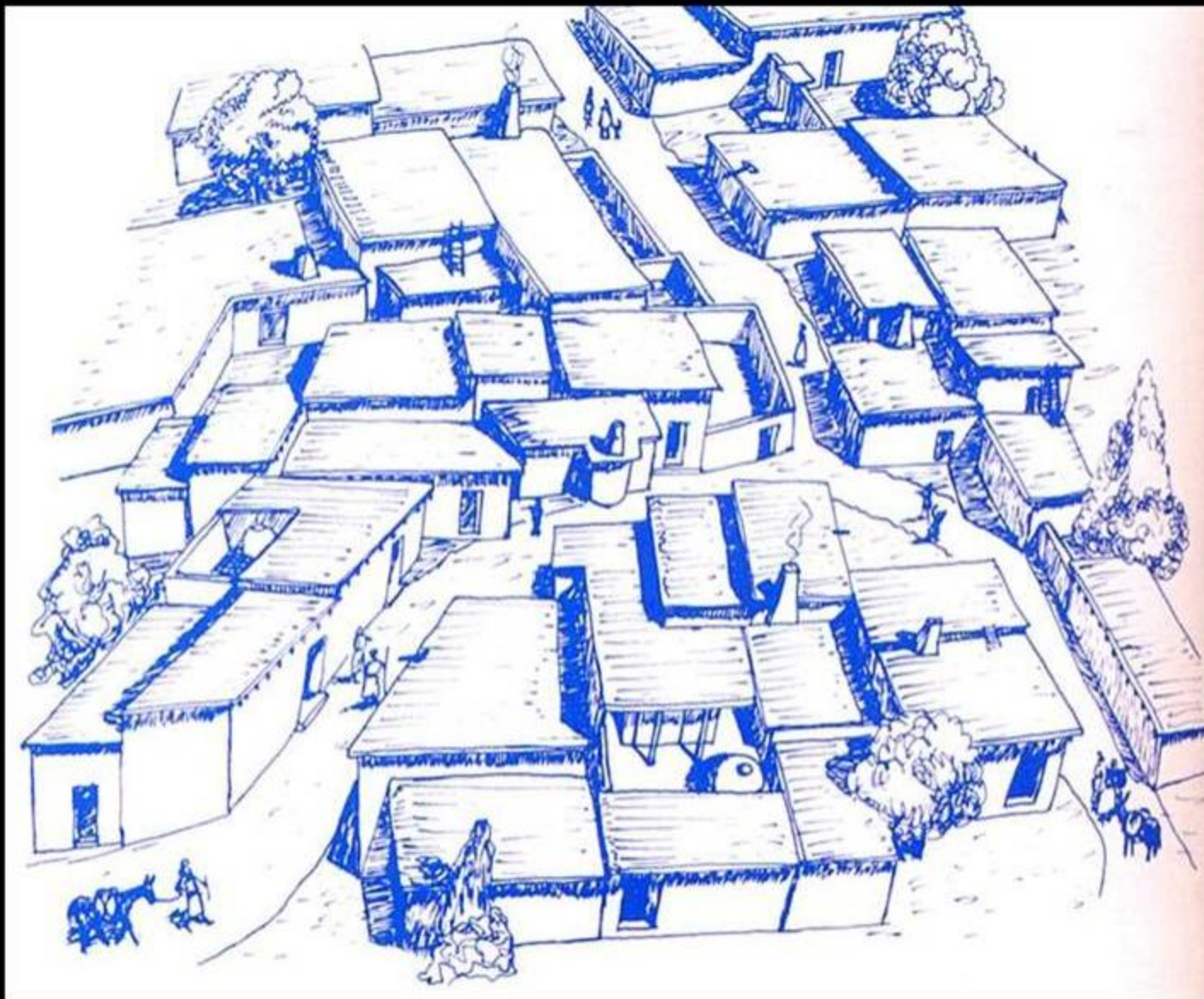
“The son of Irra sent his smuggled goods to Pusu-ken, but his smuggled goods were caught whereupon the Palace seized Pusu-ken and put him in jail. The guards are strong. The queen has sent messages to Luhusaddia, Hurrama, Salahsuwa and to her (own) country concerning the smuggling, and look-outs have been posted. Please do not smuggle anything!”



**The mound of Kültepe (Kayseri)  
with Upper and Lower City**



**Kültepe Lower City - Foundation Plan**



**Kültepe Lower City - Reconstruction Drawing**

# HATTUŠA

ZUR ZEIT DER ALTASSYRISCHEN HANDELSKOLONIEN

■ NACHGEWIESEN □ VERMUTET

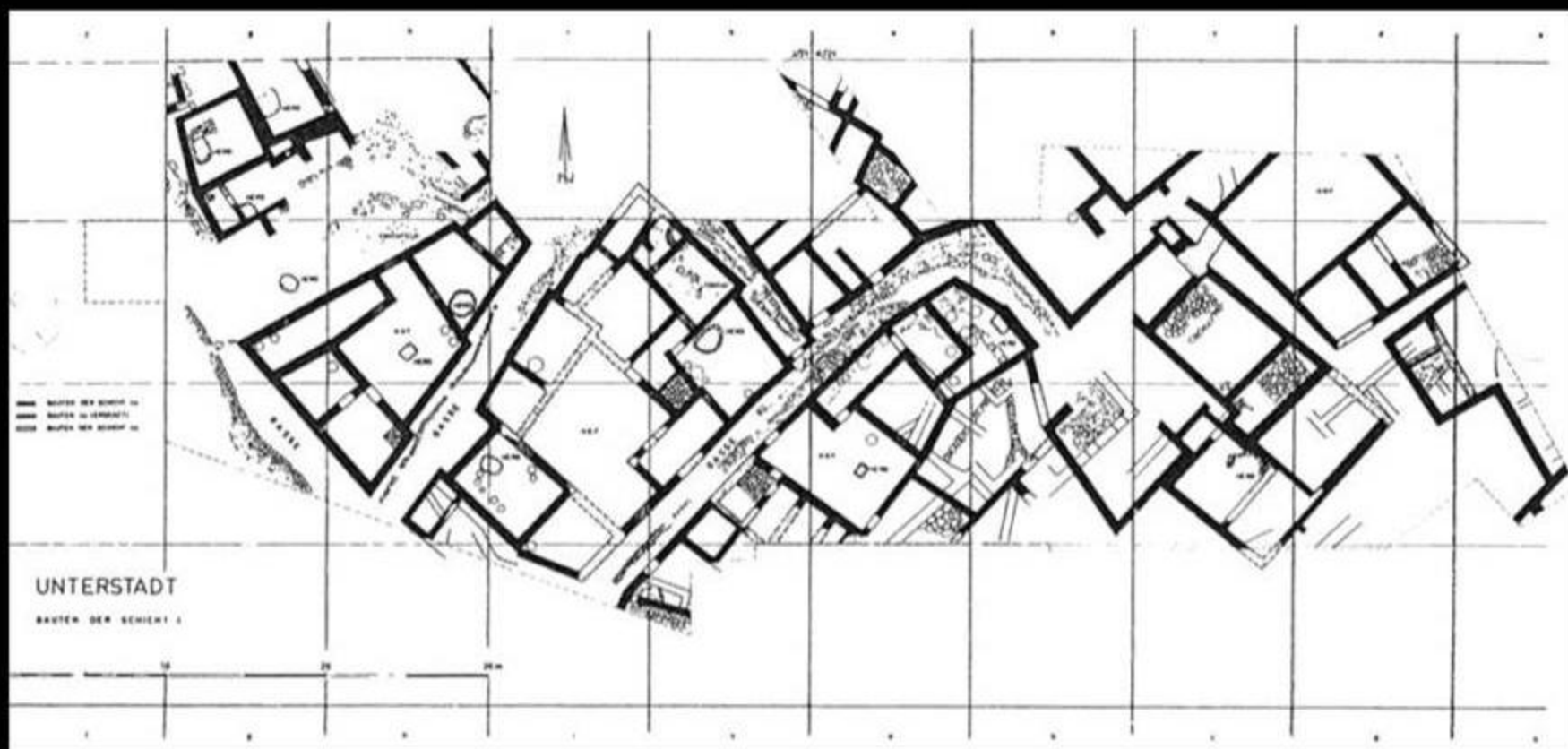


0 100 200 300 400 500m

Hattusa in der Karumzeit

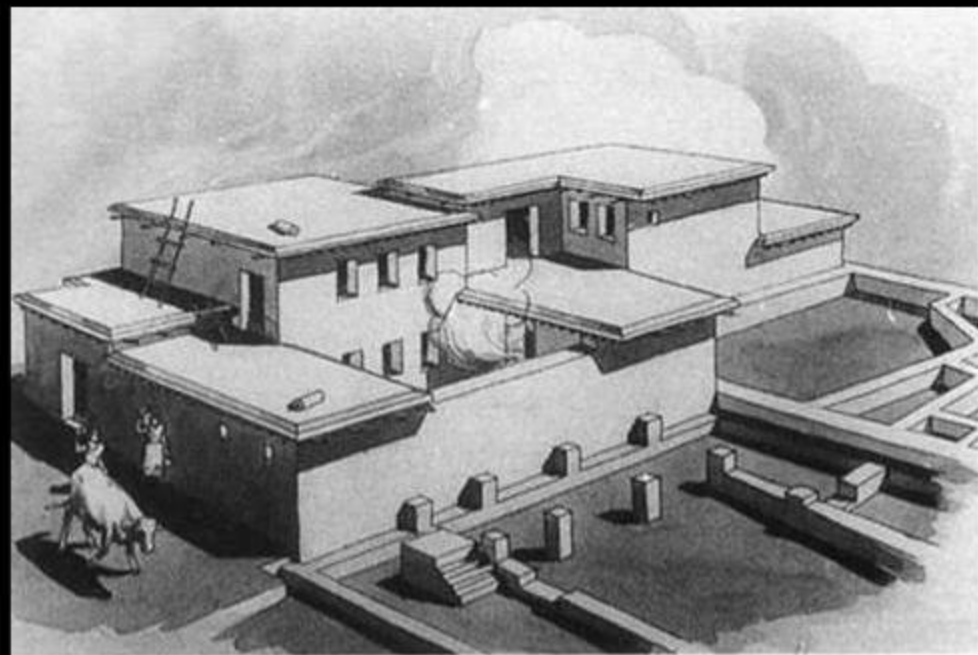
The MBA (Karum Period) Settlement  
at Boğazköy

Upper and Lower City

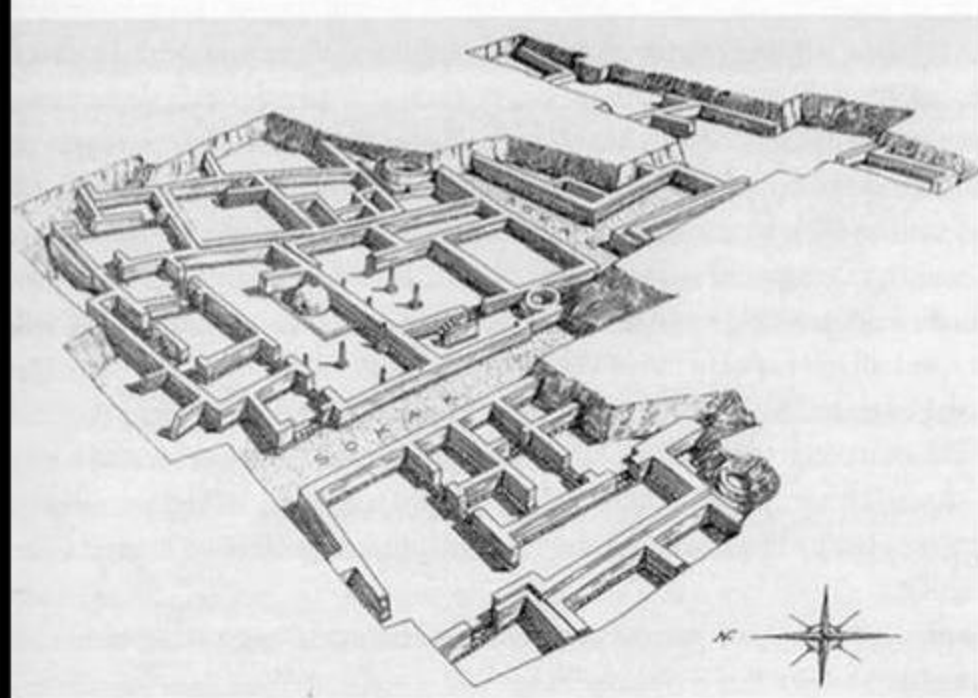


**The Lower City of Boğazköy in the Karum Period**





**Kültepe Lower City**  
**Typical House Complex**





**Kültepe - Lower City**



**Kültepe Lower City**

**Basement with  
Storage Vessels**

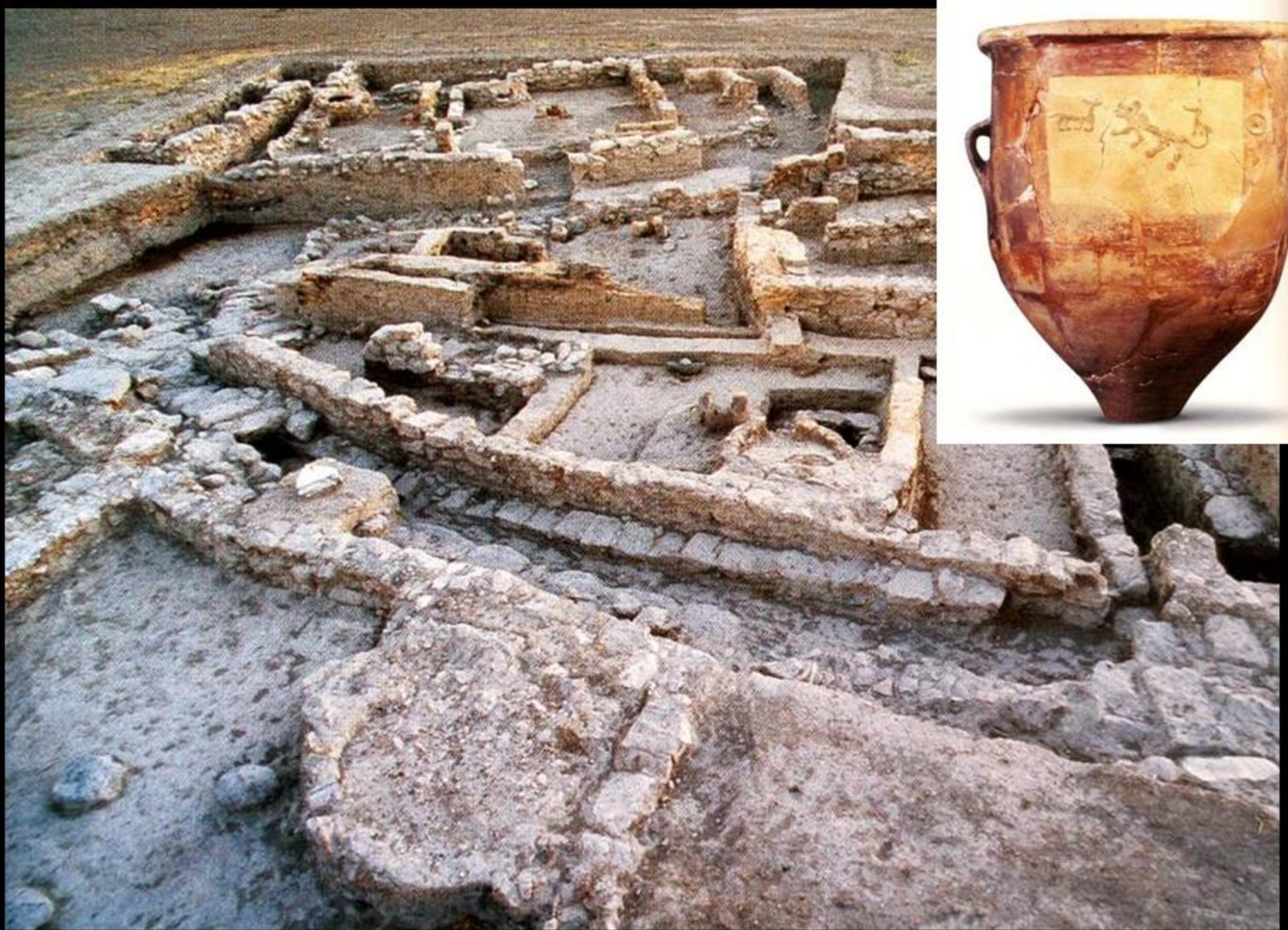




Kültepe Lower City

Finds of written clay tablets  
partly baked together



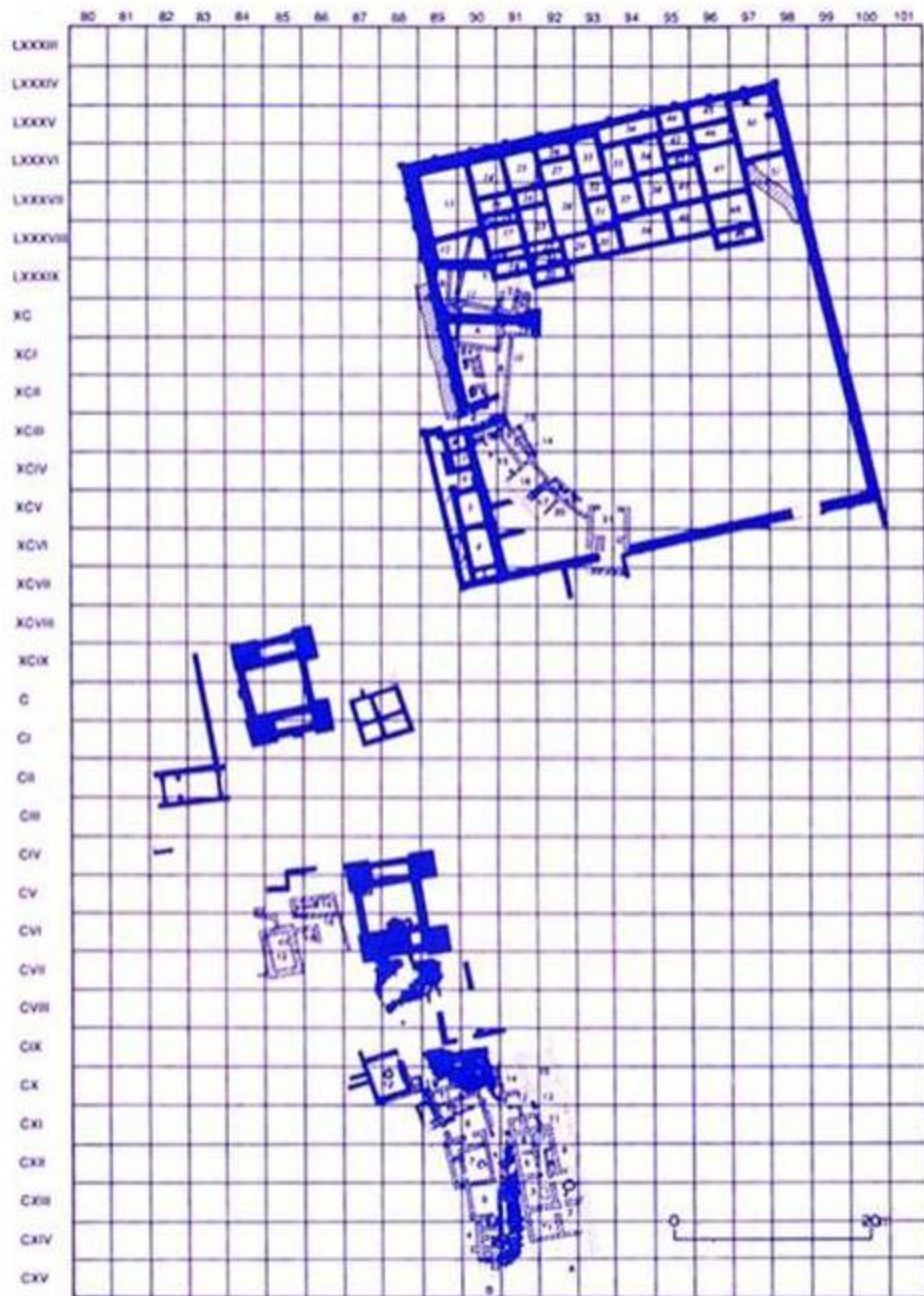


**Kültepe Lower City: urban houses and street with a drainage channel underneath**



**Kultepe**

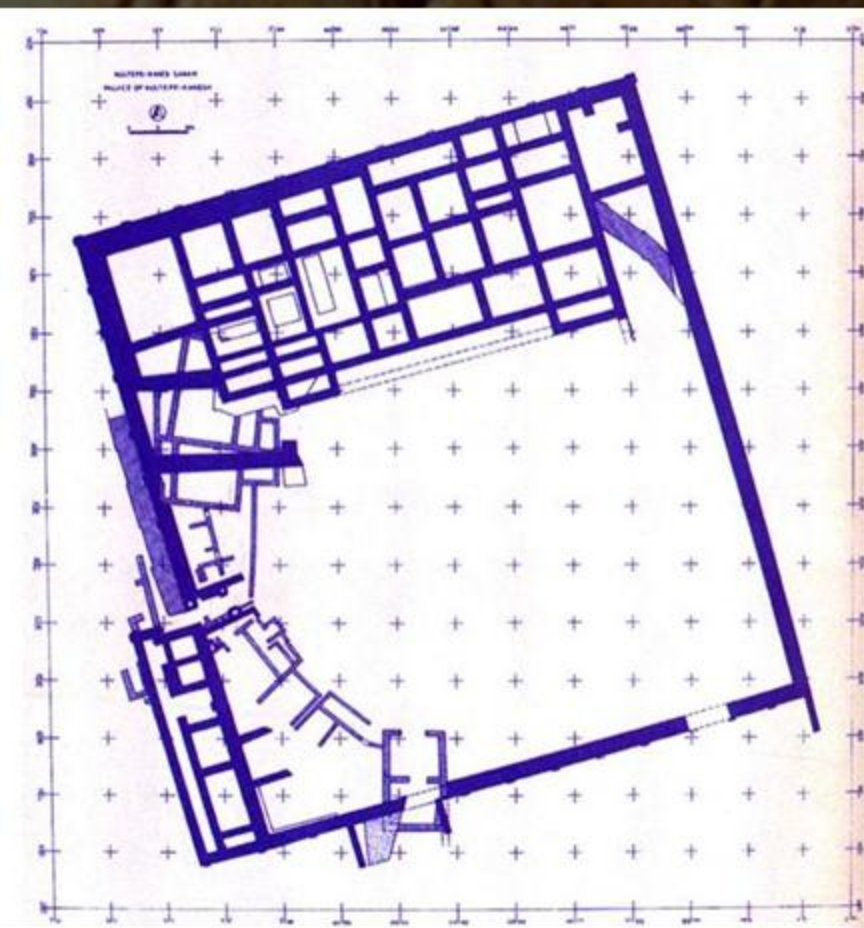
**Aerial View of the Mound  
(Upper City)**



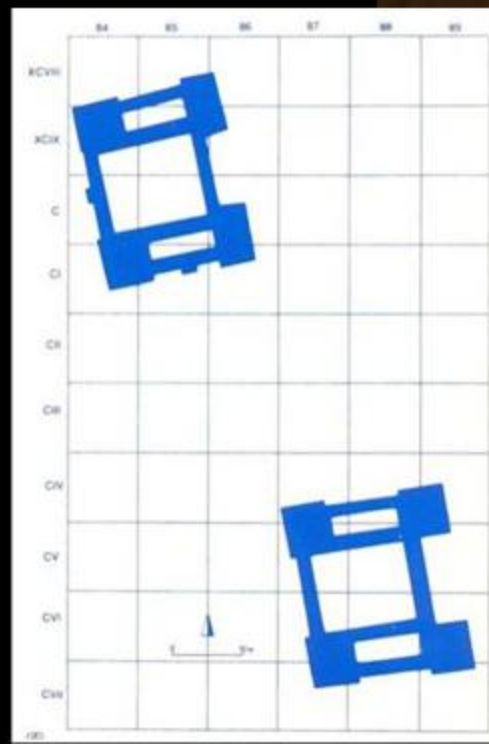
PLAN 11

## Kültepe Upper City

### Plan of Palace Building and Surrounding Architecture

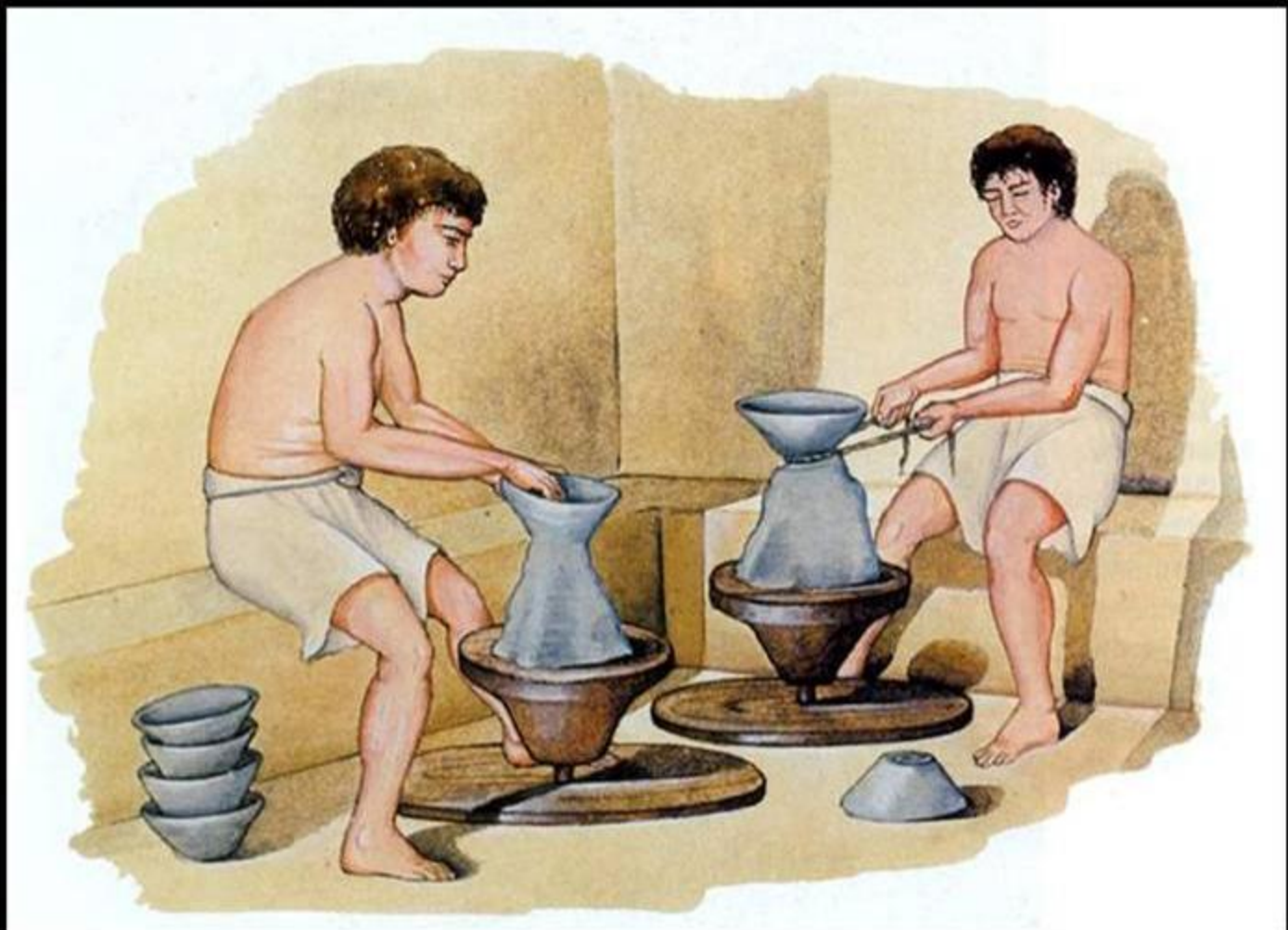


**Palace Building  
on the Mound of Kültepe  
(Upper City)**



**Kültepe Upper City  
so-called Twin Temple**





**Starting from the Karum Period, the Potter's Wheel is in General Use**

**This means: no household production of ceramics anymore**



**Beak Spouted Jugs  
from the Karum Period**



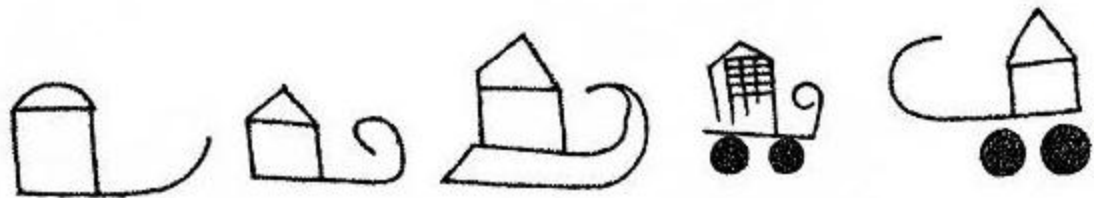


Sculpted Pottery from  
Kultepe in the Assyrian  
Colonies Period

This artwork is of Anatolian,  
not Mesopotamian origin!





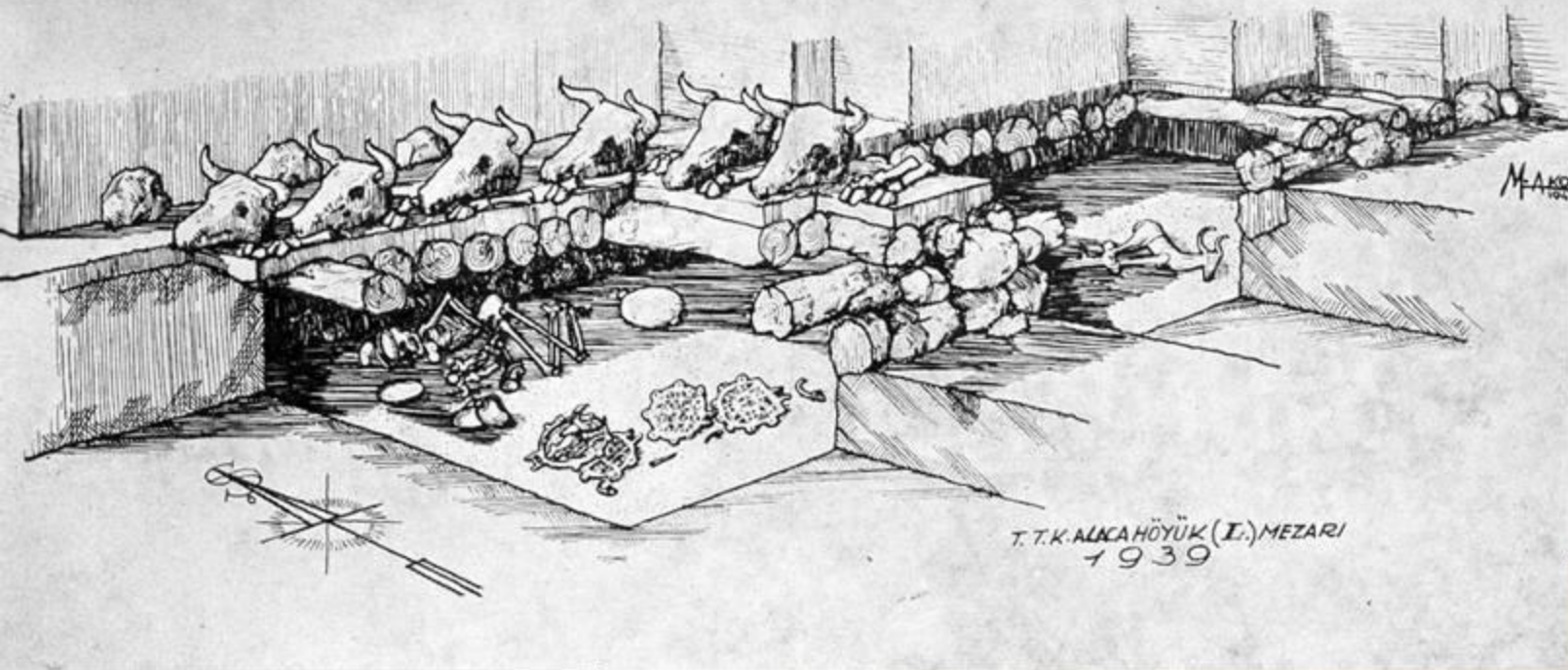


Uruk (Iraq) Pictograms  
4th mill. BC

Arslantepe, SE Turkey  
Seal Impression  
4th mill. BC



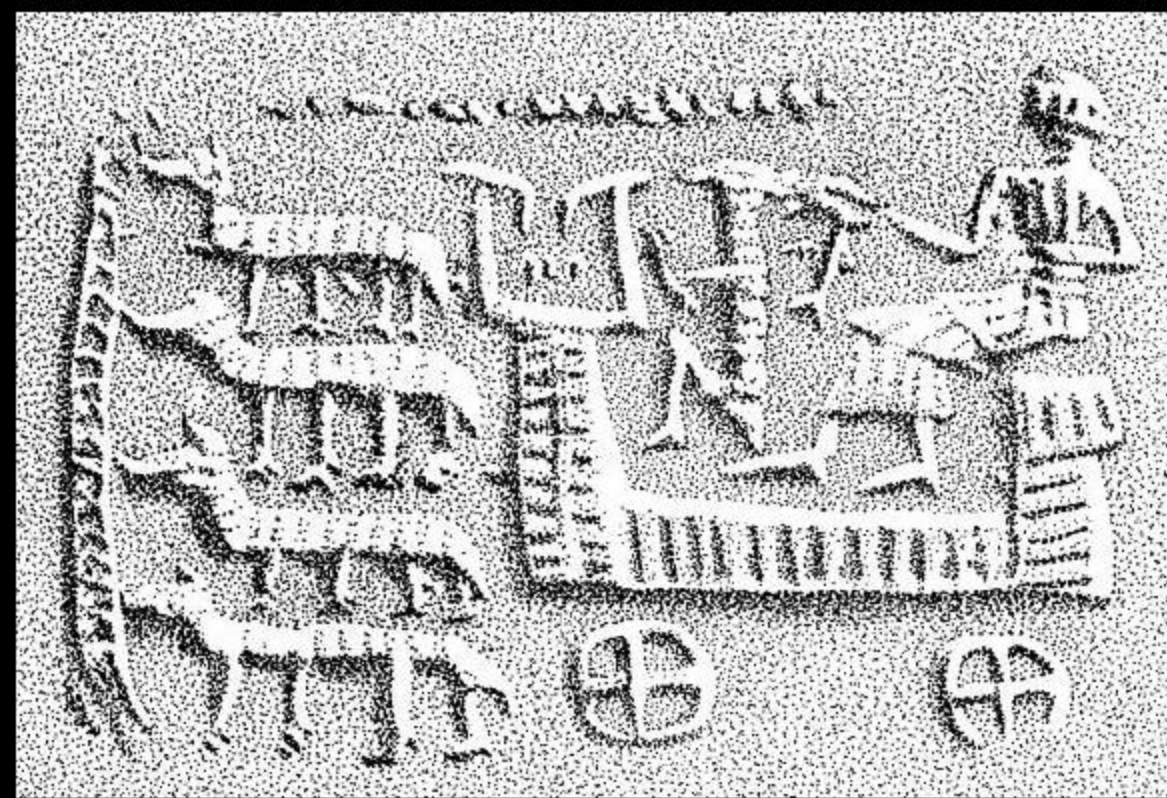
Sculptured Stone Plaque  
Mesopotamia  
4th mill. BC



Alaca Höyük Grave K  
3rd mill. BC

Central Anatolia  
3rd mill. BC (?)





Kültepe  
Seal Impressions  
Early 2nd mill. BC  
Karum Period





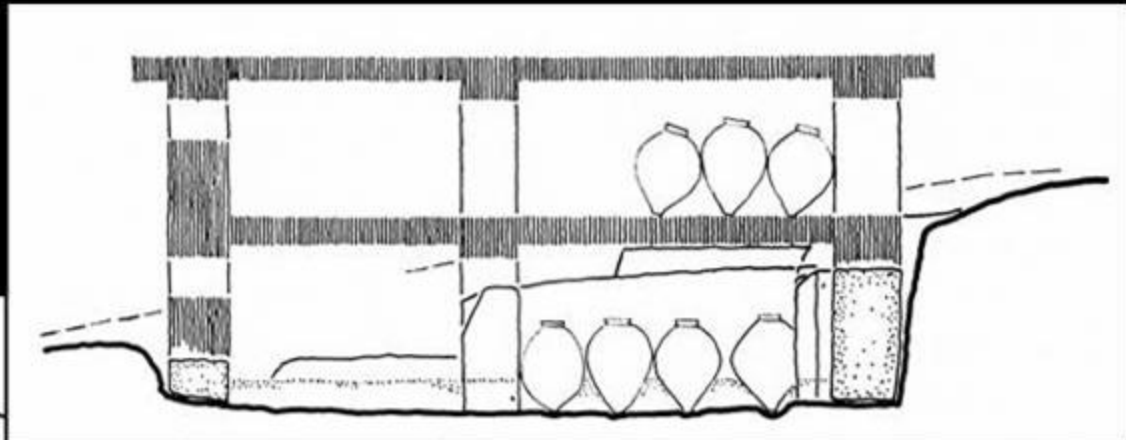
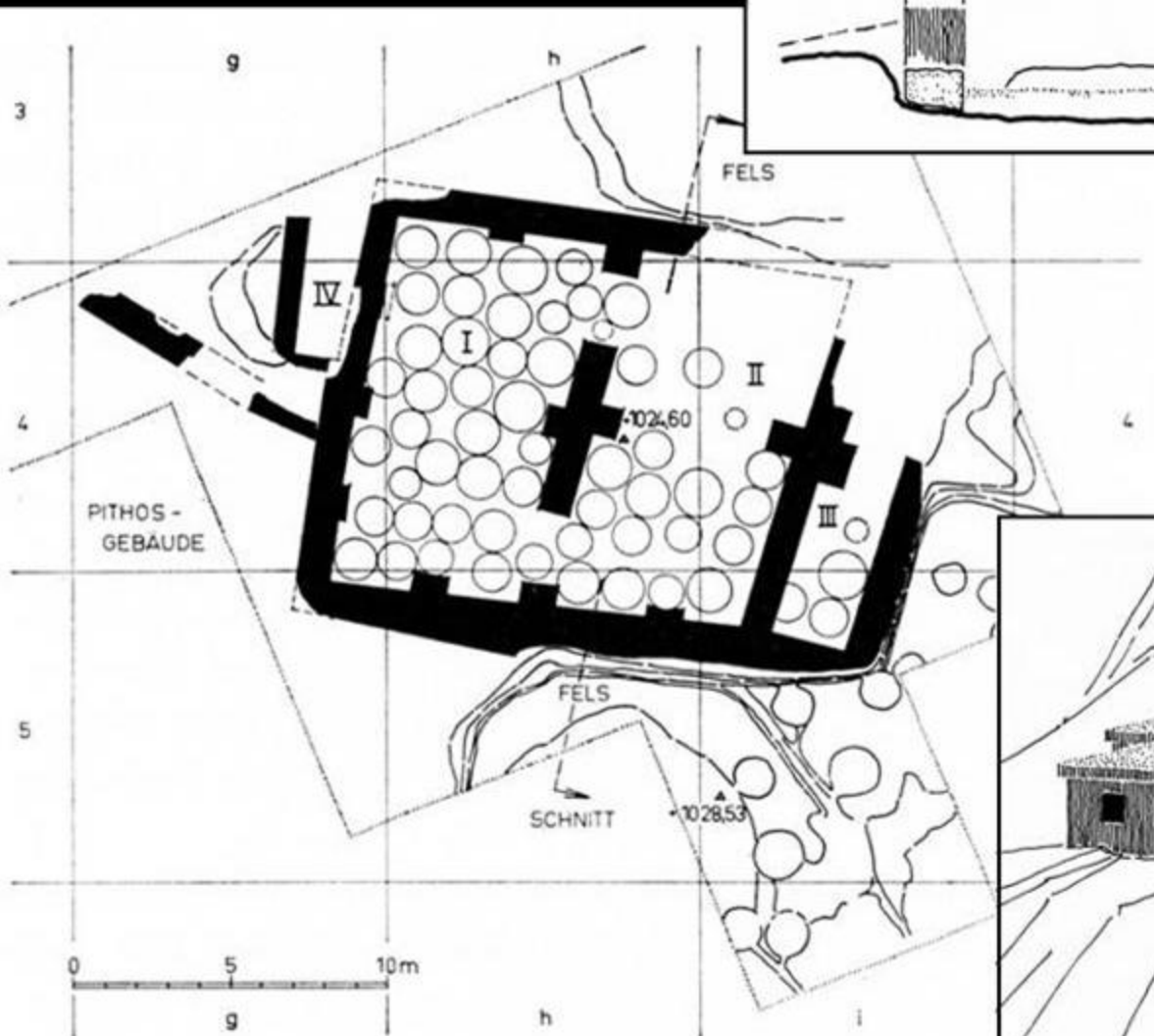


Teams of Horses as Artwork from Kültepe

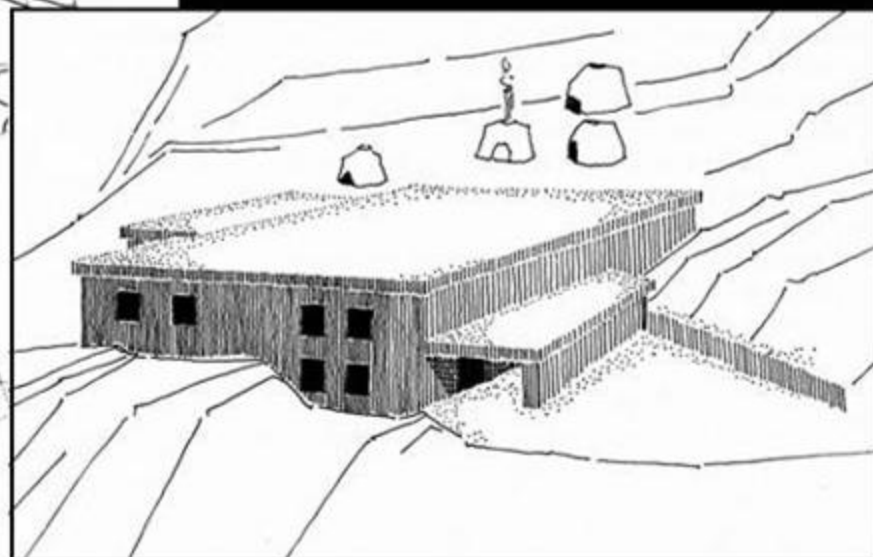
## The Karum Period "Pithos Building" at Boğazköy



# The Karum Period "Pithos Building" at Boğazköy



Section  
Plan  
Reconstruction





Pot Bellow for increasing Heat During the Smelting Process



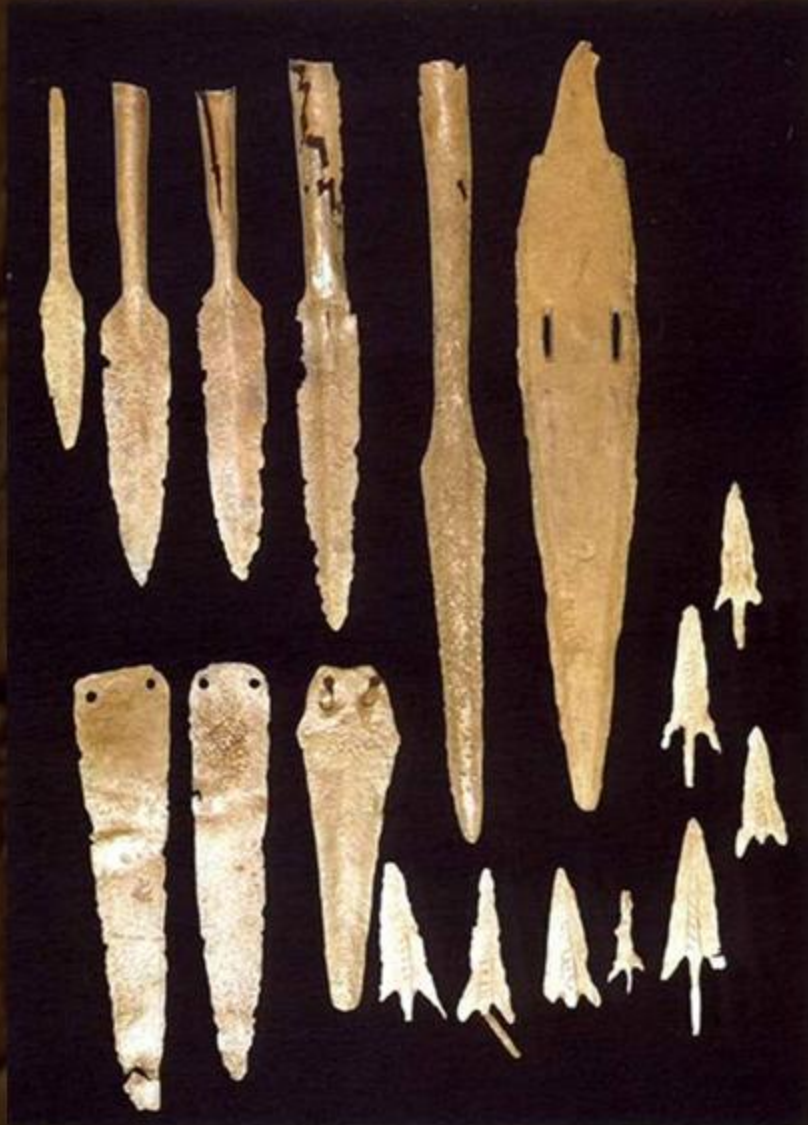
Smelting Metal using a Pot Bellow



Casting Metal Objects  
in a  
Two-Partite Mould



Casting Metal in Two-Partite Moulds





Gold Ring with Lapislazuli Inlay





Lead  
Figurine

Ivory  
Figurine



Religious Iconography  
Mostly Small Dimensions  
New: Appearance of a Male "Deity"





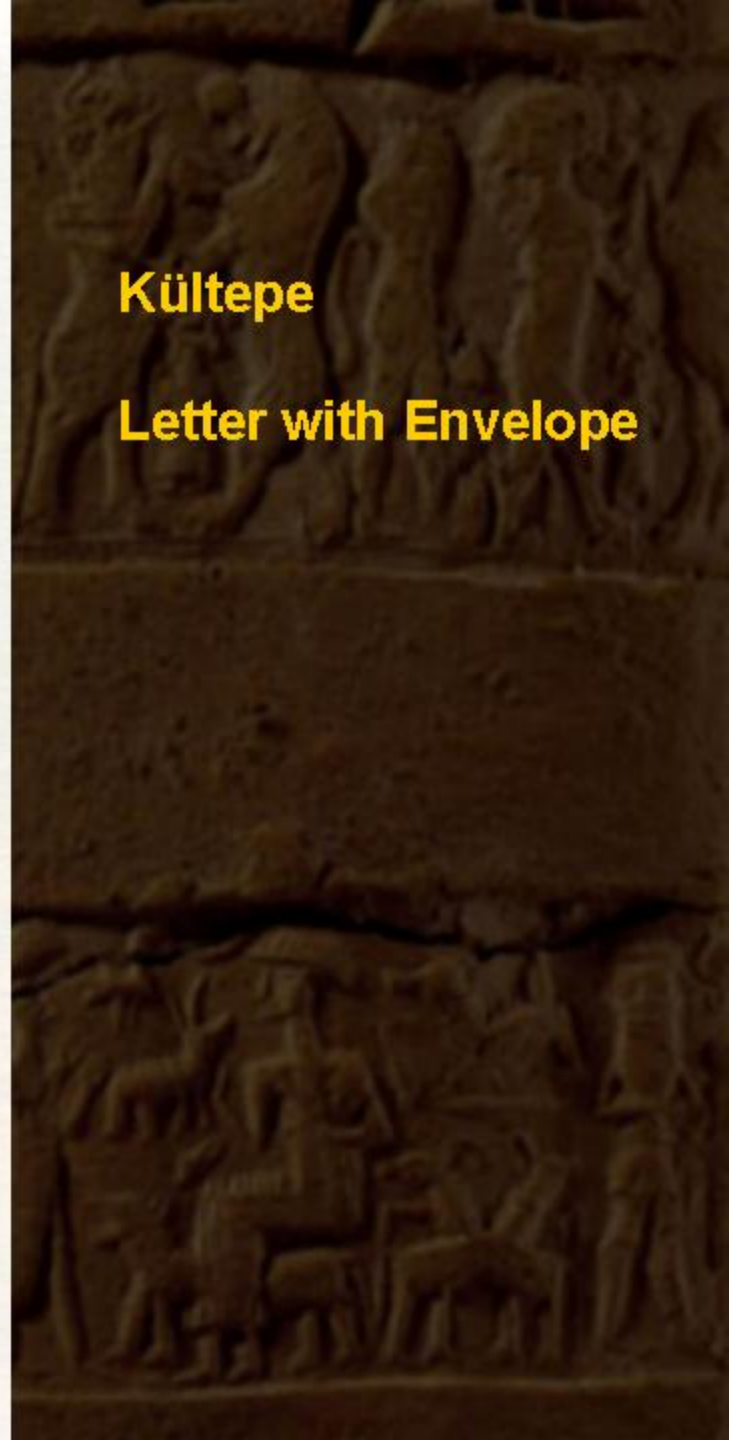
“Mesopotamian” Cylinder Seals vs. “Anatolian” Stamp Seals





**Kültepe**

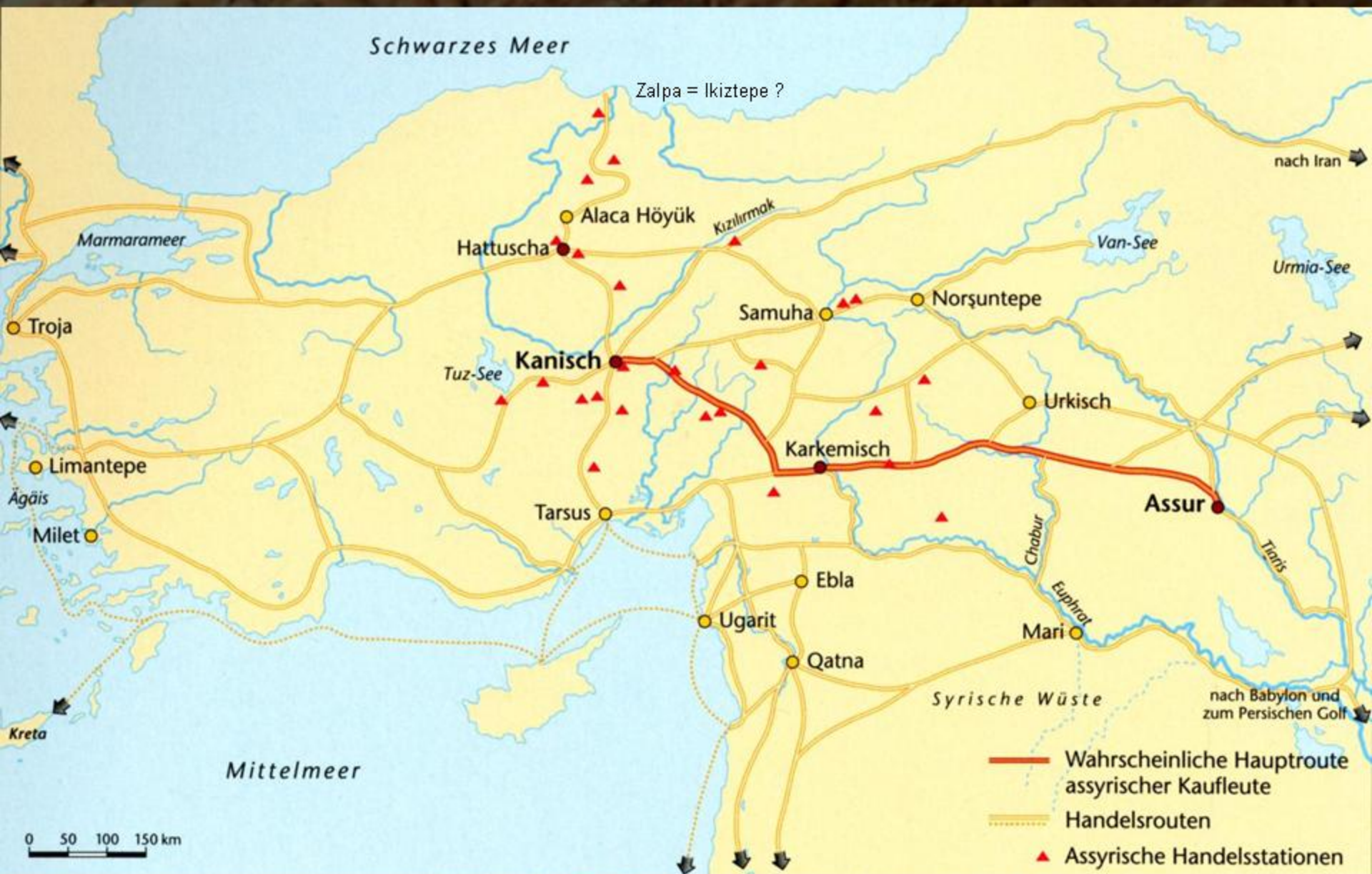
**Letter with Envelope**



- 
- **Some Later Hittite Texts Refer to the Karum Period**
  - **They Describe Only the Later Stages of This Phase**
  - **The Assyrian Traders Are Not Mentioned**

# Historical Events Mentioned in the Hittite Sources

- War of the Northern Cities Zalpa and Hattuš against Neša (= Kültepe-Kaneš)
- Neša is destroyed by Uhna, King of Zalpa
- Rise of the Dynasty of Kuššara
- King Pithana from Kuššara Conquers Neša and Makes it his Capital
- His Son Anitta Unifies the Northern and Southern Kingdoms
- Breakup of Anitta's Kingdom





**Dagger With Assyrian Inscription Found on the Kültepe Mound  
“Property of the Palace of Anitta, the King”**

## Anitta's Capture of Hattuš

“In the night I came down and I took the city with force.  
On its site I sowed weeds. May the Storm God of Heaven  
strike down anyone who becomes king after me  
and resettles Hattuša.”

3-tier settlement system  
cities and urban infrastructure  
class-based hierarchy under king  
ideology of kingship/royal imagery  
palaces  
temples / official state cult  
public storage  
bureaucracy  
writing / record keeping  
legislation  
standards  
market economy  
military



## State Features in Karum Period Anatolia ?

only when  
dealing  
with the  
Assyrians ?



## **Kültepe Mound**

**The vitrified remains of the palace**