



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

From Pottery Workshop to Residential Quarter and Back: New Insights from the Area H Sequence at Lagash, (2023-2024 Seasons)

PIZZIMENTI S.^{1*}, *PITTMAN H.*²

¹ University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

² Upenn, Philadelphia, United States

*Corresponding author

Abstract

The archaeological investigations conducted by the Lagash Archaeological Project in Area H at Lagash have revealed a continuous occupation sequence from the late Early Dynastic I to the ED IIIB period, providing important insights into the functional transformation of the area over time. The evidence suggests a shift from a centre for large-scale ceramic manufacturing with substantial architecture, to a domestic neighbourhood, and back to an area dedicated to pottery craft production. During the 2023 and 2024 archaeological campaigns, the extension of Trench 3 allowed for a more comprehensive understanding of the 'public eatery' building initially investigated during the 3LAP and 4LAP seasons. Meanwhile, a deep sounding provided further insight into the earlier history of the area, revealing the remains of an earlier large-scale pottery workshop. Finally, the opening of a new trench in the pottery production area revealed a well-organised production system, reflecting changes in production dynamics over time. This paper presents the results of the 5th and 6th seasons of excavation in Area H at Lagash, offering a new interpretive framework for Area H as a model of adaptability and resilience within the urban landscape of Lagash.

Keywords

Mesopotamia, Pottery craft production, domestic architecture, Early Dynastic, public architecture

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