



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Pathways to Complexity and Imperial "Resistance". Three Seasons of Excavations at Gird-i Matrab (Iraqi Kurdistan)

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Abstract

This paper discusses the results of three seasons of excavations carried out at the site of Gird-I Matrab, in the plain of Erbil, in Iraqi Kurdistan. The Gird-I Matrab Archaeological Project (GMAP) addresses questions related to the response and adjustments of rural communities and their economies to moments of social, political, and cultural transformation in the history of Mesopotamia. Stratigraphic excavations in three different areas have yielded important insights into the development of the first settlement at Matrab during the long Late Chalcolithic period (5th – 4th millennium BCE) as well as its spatial reconfiguration in the wake of the Assyrian collapse, in the Hellenistic and early Parthian periods (late 1st millennium BCE). Through the analysis of its material culture and its surrounding landscape we will tentatively retrace the formation, development, and socio-economic dynamics of a small, rural site of Mesopotamia and its relationship with local and global cultural trends and traditions.

Keywords

Mesopotamia, Iraq, Kurdistan, Chalcolithic, Hellenistic

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