

# Time-line

Almost all dates are approximate.

	BC
Sammu-ramat, the first Semiramis	floruit 805
Sennacherib built SW Palace and garden at Nineveh	c.700
Ashurbanipal showed garden on palace sculpture	c.660
Fall of Nineveh to Babylonians and allies	612
Nebuchadnezzar II built palace in Babylon	before 562
Fall of Babylon to Cyrus the Great	539
Nakht-hor's journey through Assyria	c.410
March of Xenophon's Ten Thousand	401
Xenophon's <i>Anabasis</i> written	c.370–367
Alexander at battle of Gaugamela	331
Berosus	floruit c.290
Stratonice became queen of Seleucus I	c.290
Archimedes	floruit c.287–212
Latest known copy of <i>Gilgamesh Epic</i>	c.127
Philo of Byzantium the Engineer	floruit c.200
Apollonios altar inscription at Nineveh	c.100–200?
Tigranes of Armenia conquered Nineveh	90
Diodorus Siculus	floruit c.56–30
Rome defeated at battle of Carrhae (Harran)	53
Apollonophanes <i>strategos</i> at Nineveh	c.31
Herod built palaces in Palestine	ruled 73–04
Antipater, poet, writing	c.4
Strabo	64 BC–after AD 24
	AD
Quintus Curtius Rufus	floruit c.43
Mithridates captured Nineveh	c.50
Nero built Domus Aurea	c.64–68
Josephus wrote	c.93
Deiogenes sculptor of Heracles' statue at Nineveh	c.100 (?)
Deiogenes graffito on bas-relief in N. Palace at Nineveh	c.100 (?)
Plutarch	floruit 100
Trajan made Mesopotamia a province	115–17
Statue of Hermes from Nineveh	c.200
Bahram II (rock carvings)	ruled 276–93
Philo of Byzantium the Paradoxographer	c.350?
Ammianus Marcellinus	c.330–395



Fig. 1 Sketch map showing rainfall zones and rivers around Mesopotamia

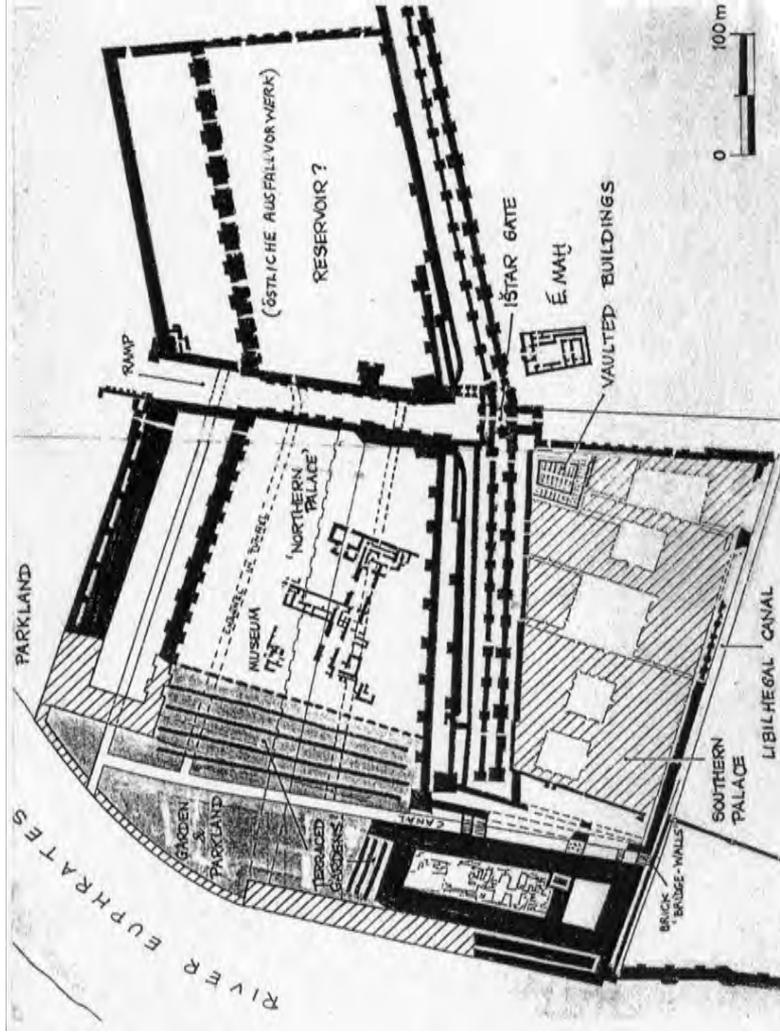
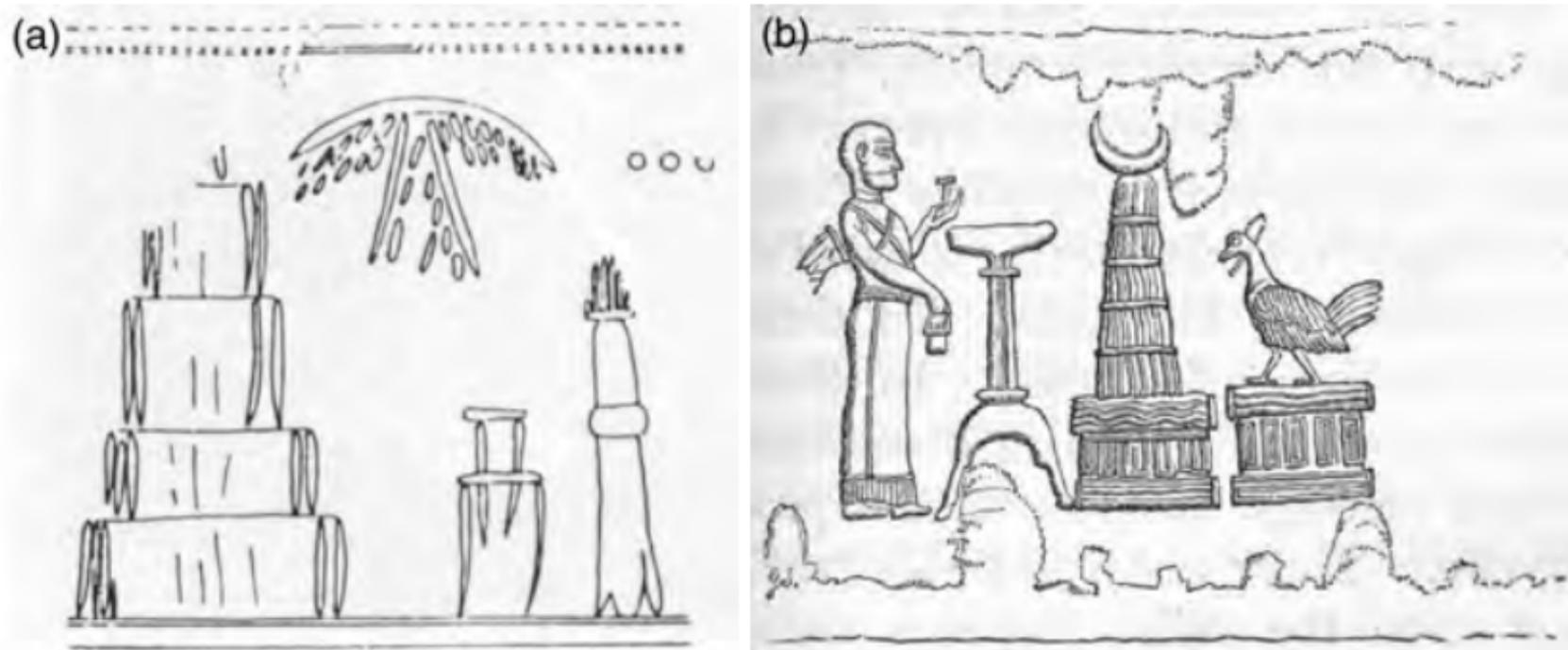
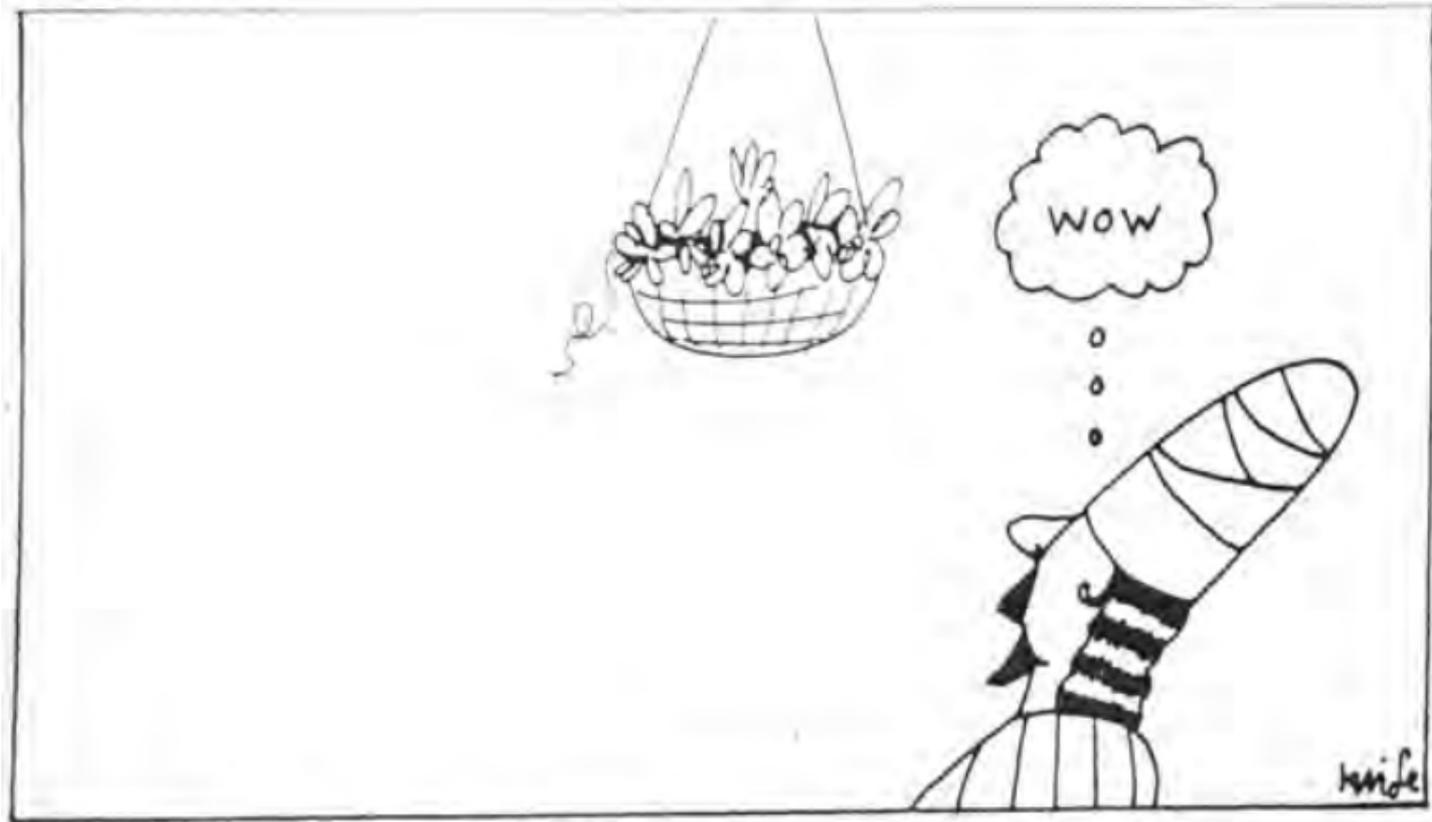


Fig. 3 Plan showing the location of Nebuchadnezzar's Southern Palace on the citadel of Babylon with suggested locations of the garden: in the palace and in the Western Outwork.

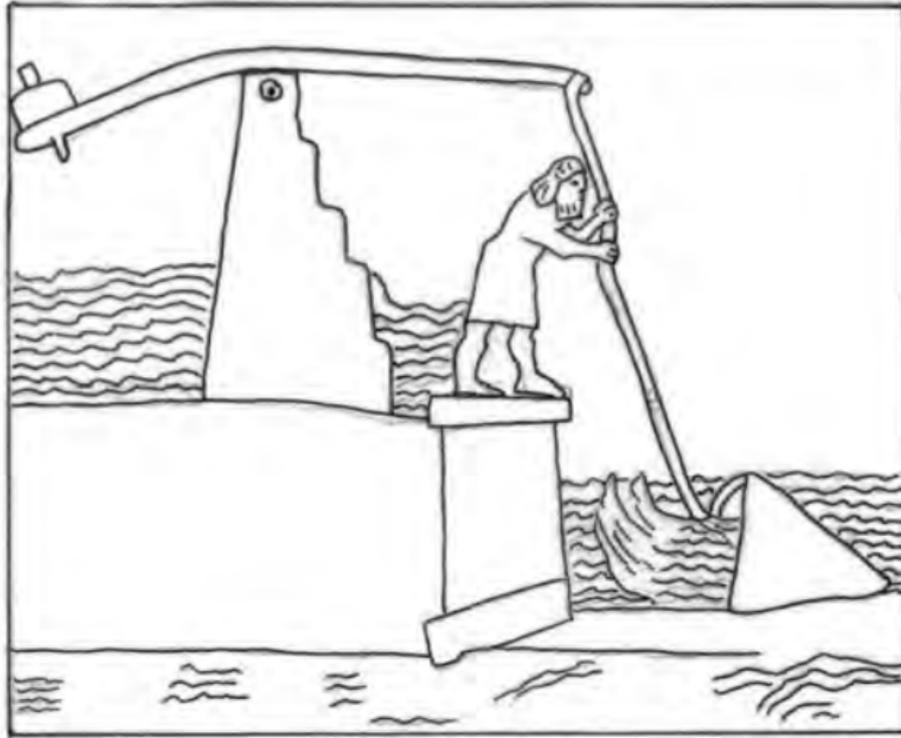


**Fig. 5** Cylinder seal impressions showing ziggurats without any plants on their terraces. (a) From Tell Muhammed Arab, Late Bronze Age. (b) Provenance unknown, Babylonian Iron Age. Ht. 3.85 cm.

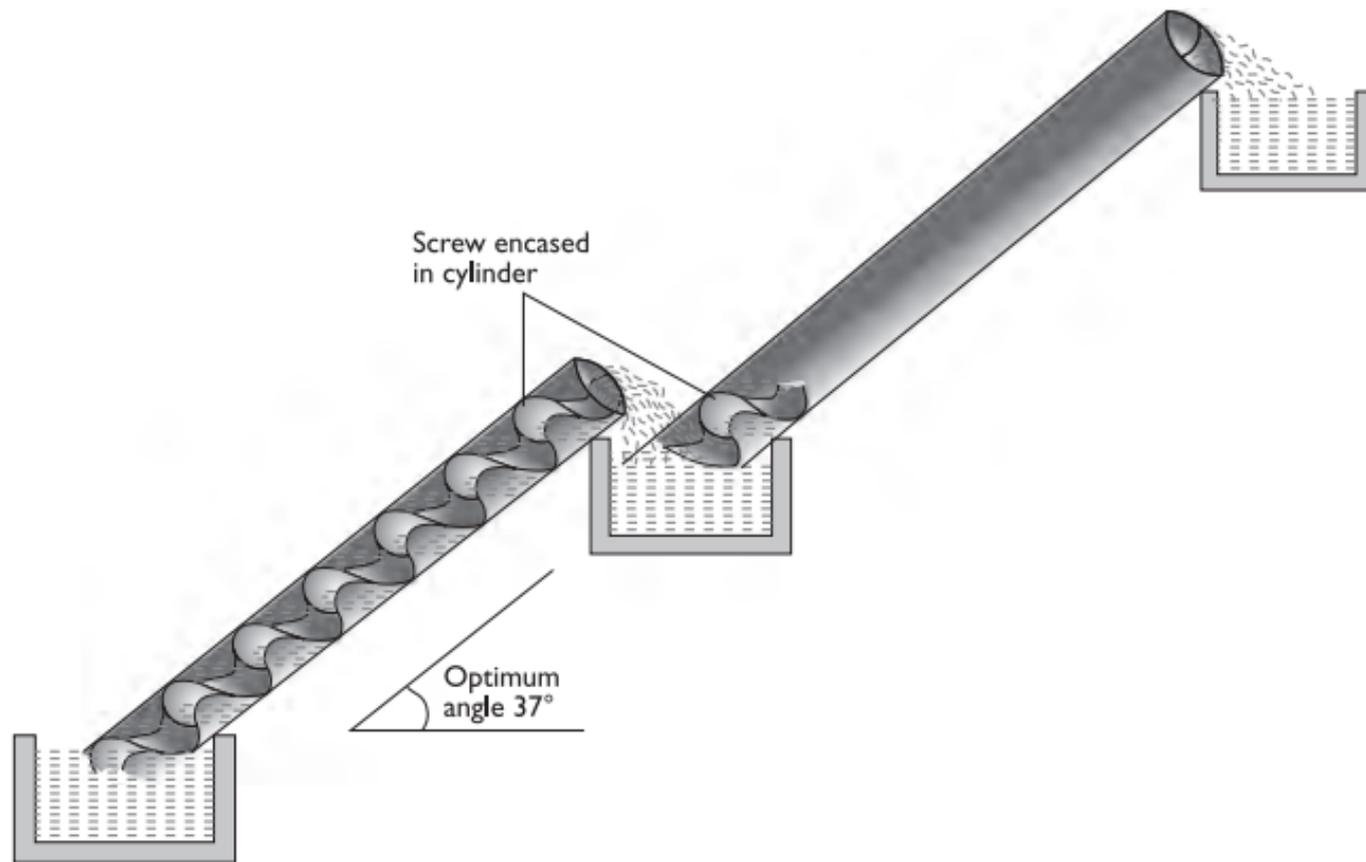


THE HANGING BASKET OF BABYLON

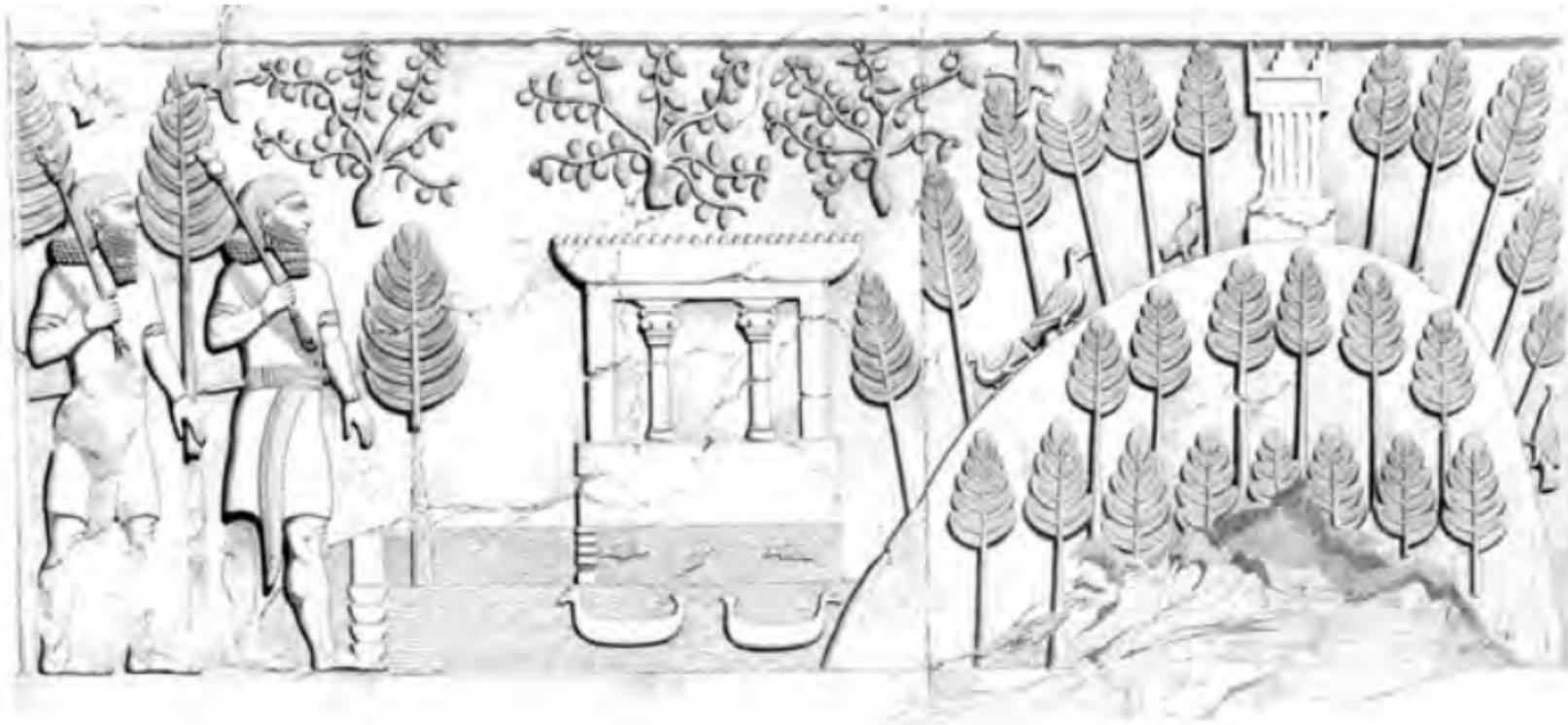
Fig. 6 Cartoon by 'Knife'. The word 'hanging' has caused much confusion.



**Fig. 9** Drawing showing a man raising water by shaduf, from a bas-relief found in Sennacherib's South-West Palace.

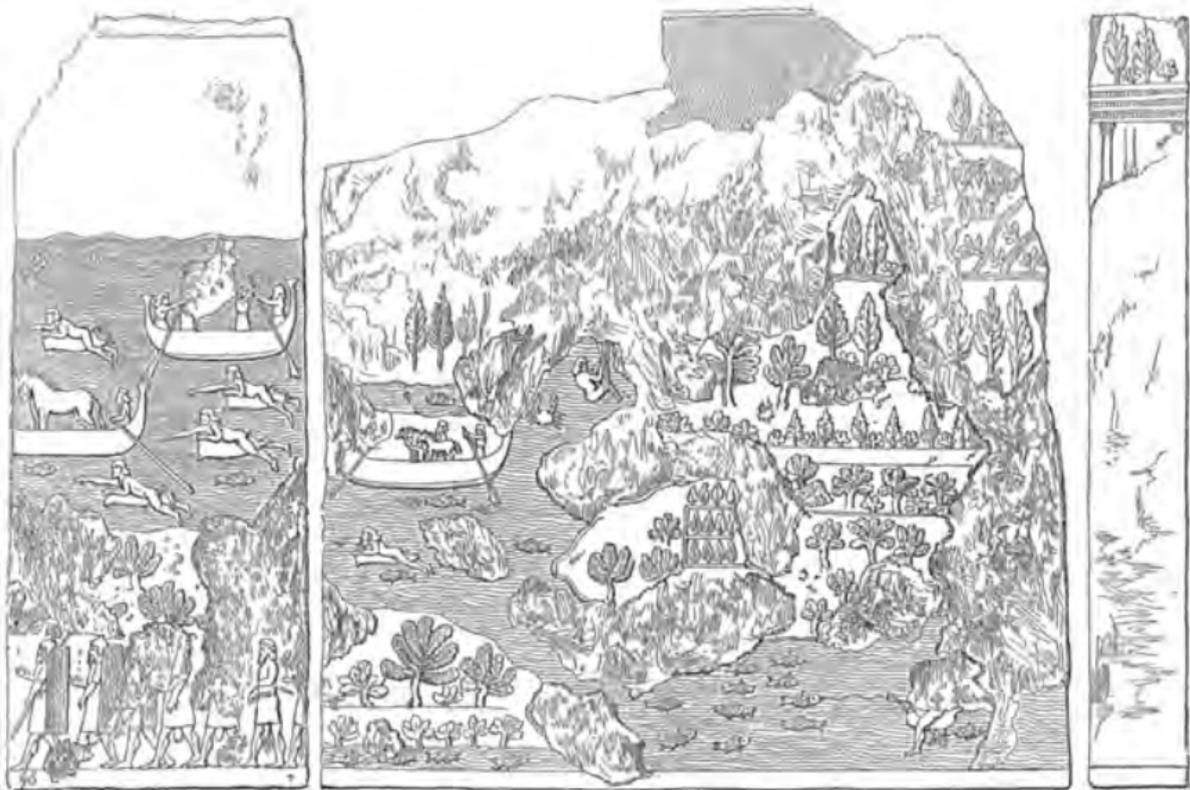


**Fig. 10** Sketch to show a water-raising (Archimedean) screw.

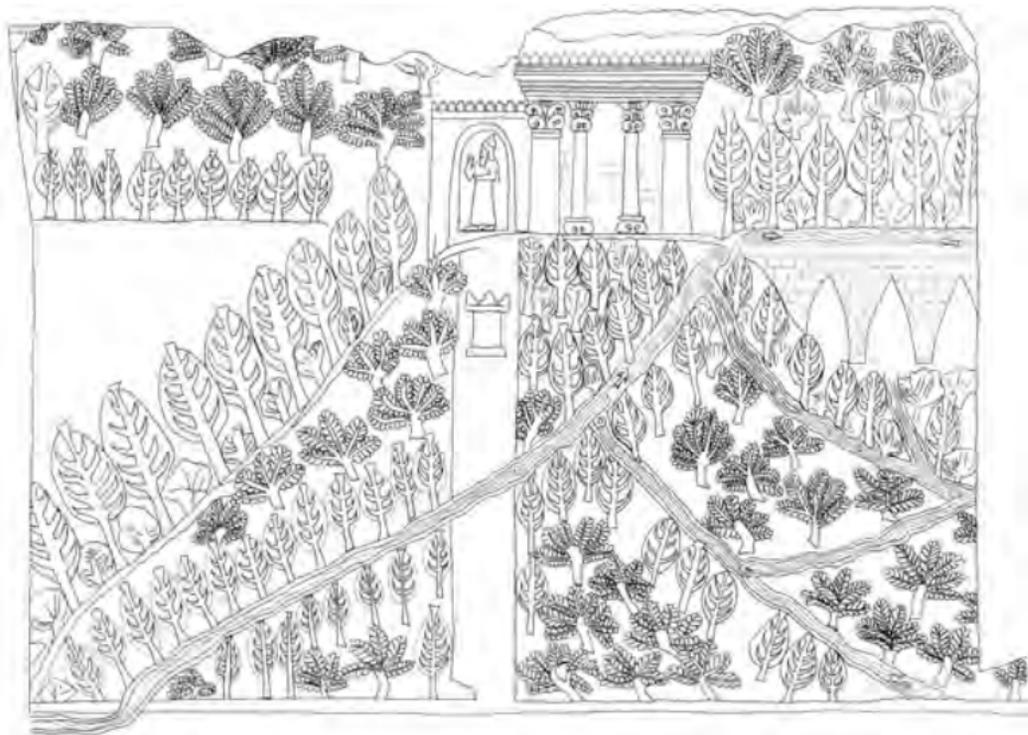


**Fig. 11** Drawing of a stone panel carved in bas-relief, found in the palace of Sargon at Khorsabad, showing his garden. Ht. 98 cm.

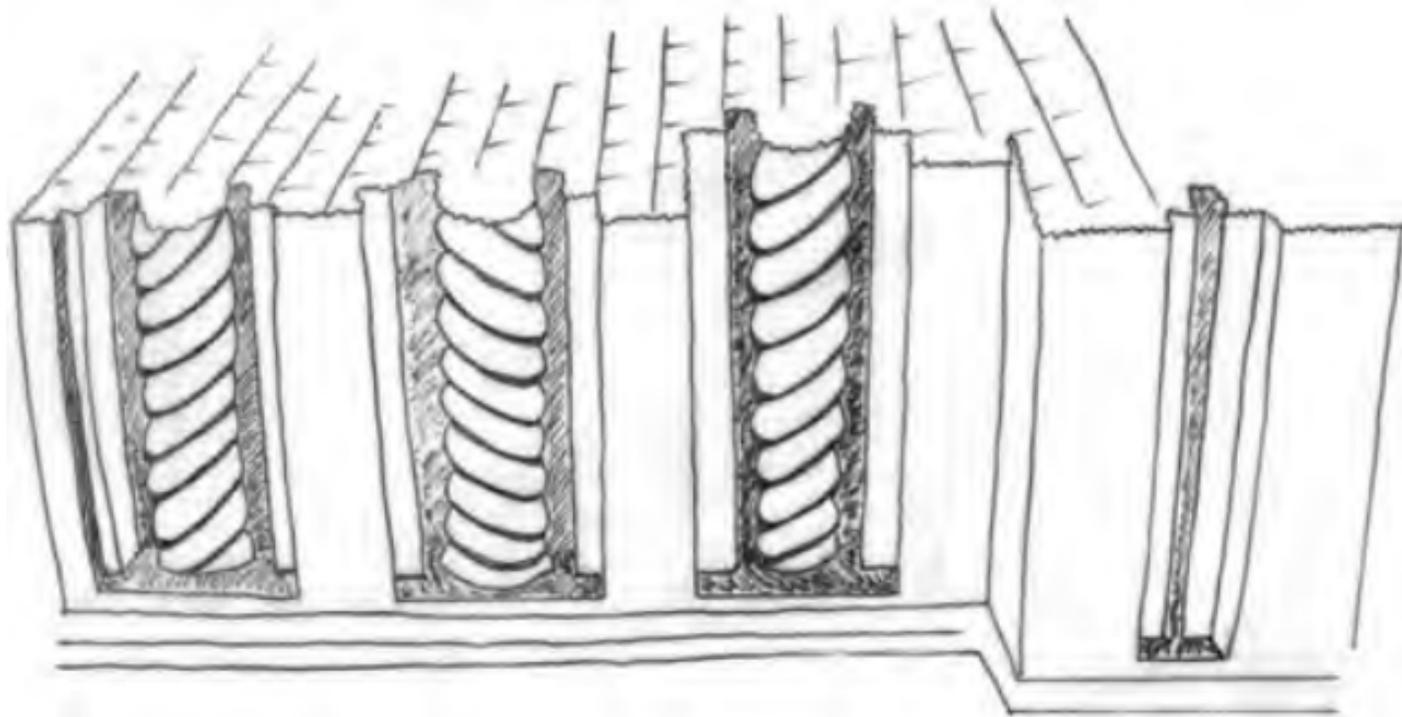




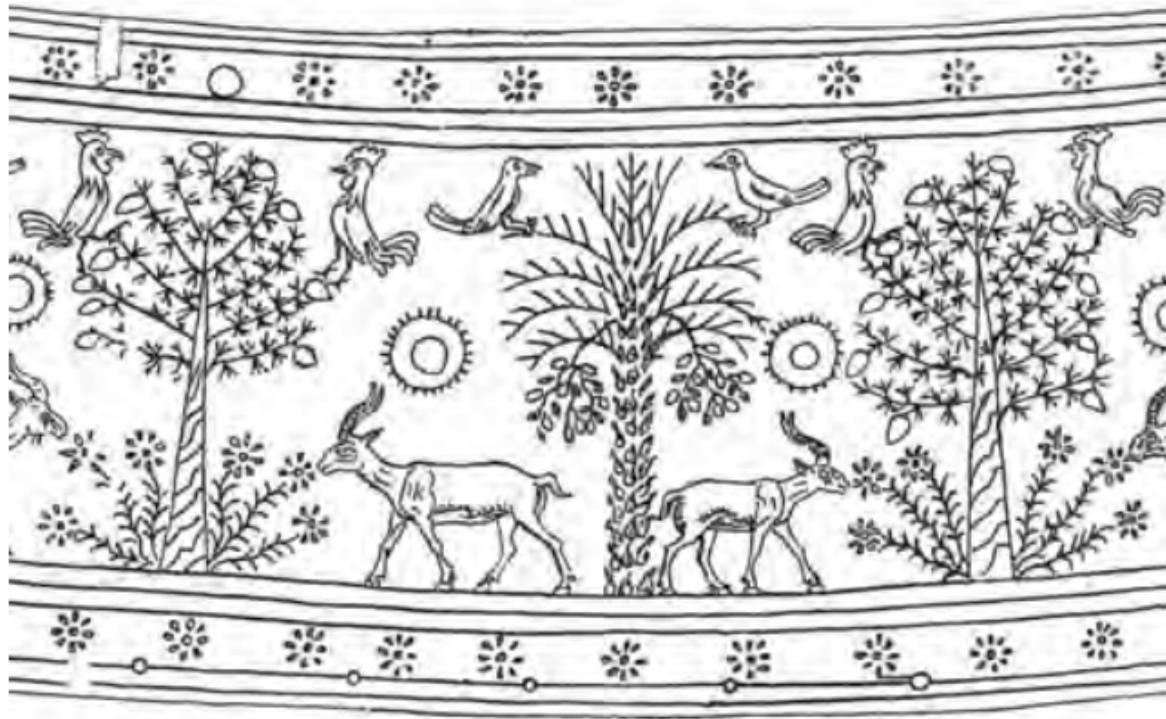
**Fig. 13** A garden at Nineveh, drawn from damaged stone panels of bas-relief, now lost, which lined the walls of a room in the South-West Palace. The pillared walkway surmounted by trees is shown top right.



**Fig. 14** Part of the garden at Nineveh two generations after planting, damaged stone bas-relief from walls inside the palace of Ashurbanipal. Length 208.3 cm.



**Fig. 19** Spiral-patterned engaged columns of mud brick in a temple façade at Tell Leilan in NE Syria.



**Fig. 21** (b) Drawing of part of a design incised on an ivory pyxis found at Ashur, showing a tree with spiral trunk, marked as male by perching cockerels. Dated *c.*1400 BC. Ht. (whole pyxis) 9 cm.

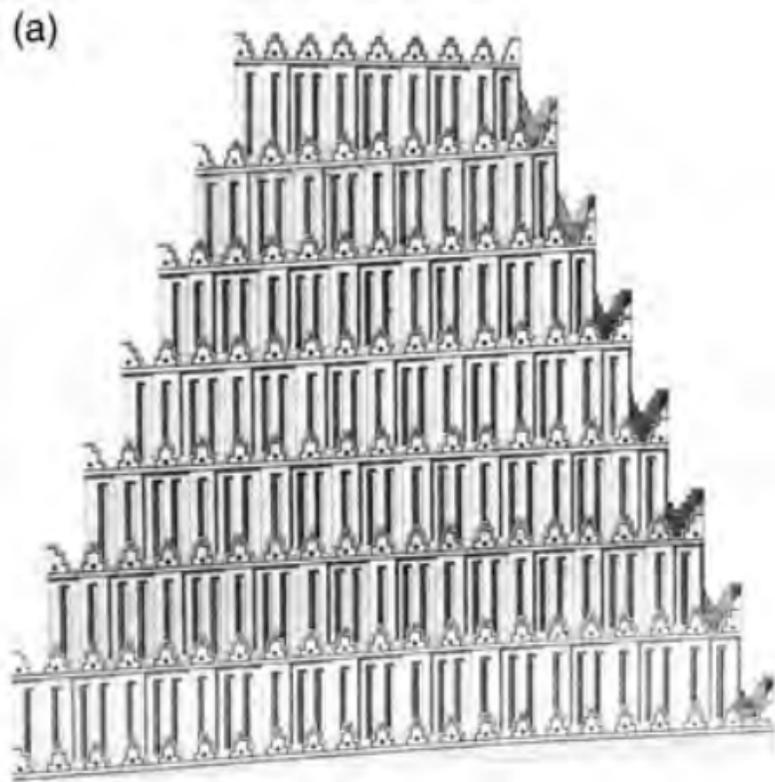


Fig. 23 (a) Reconstruction drawing of ziggurat at Khorsabad with an external spiral staircase. (b) Minaret with external spiral staircase at Samarra, near Baghdad.



**Fig. 24** Sketch of an eroded rock sculpture at Ayni on the upper Euphrates, set beside a Latin inscription recording the installation of a water-raising screw in the reign of Vespasian. The river-god reclines with a pot from which water flows.

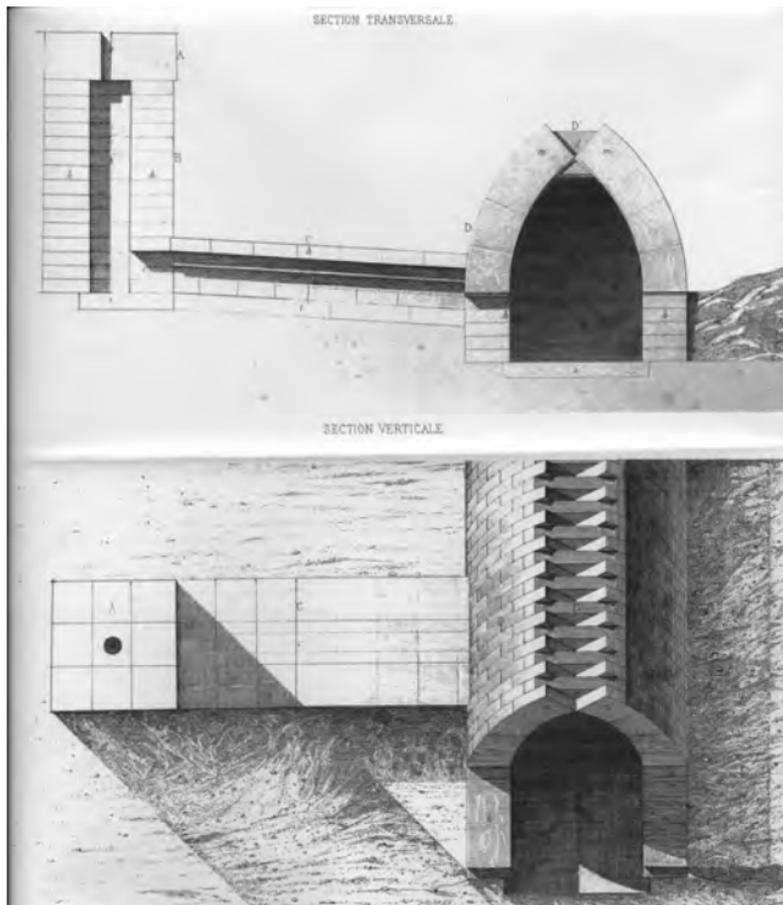


Fig. 25 Brick-built drains in Sargon's palace at Khorsabad.

## Engineering for Water Management

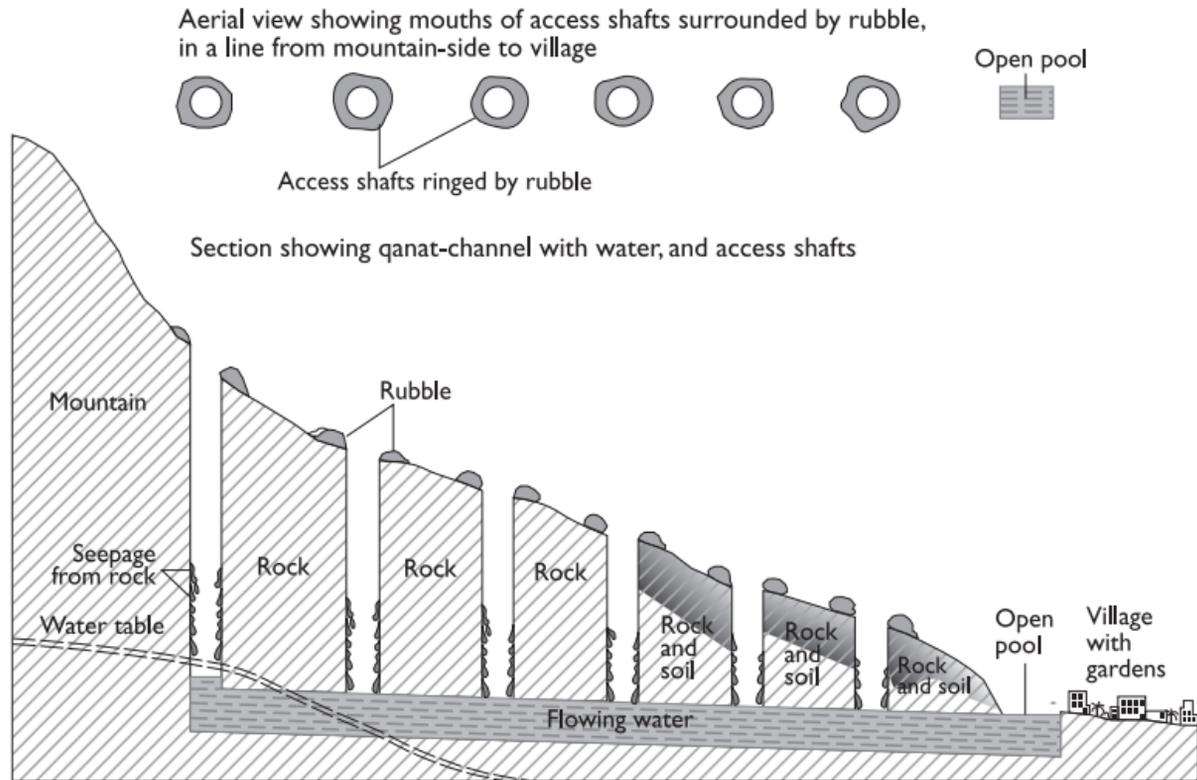


Fig. 27 Diagram to show a qanat: aerial view and side section.

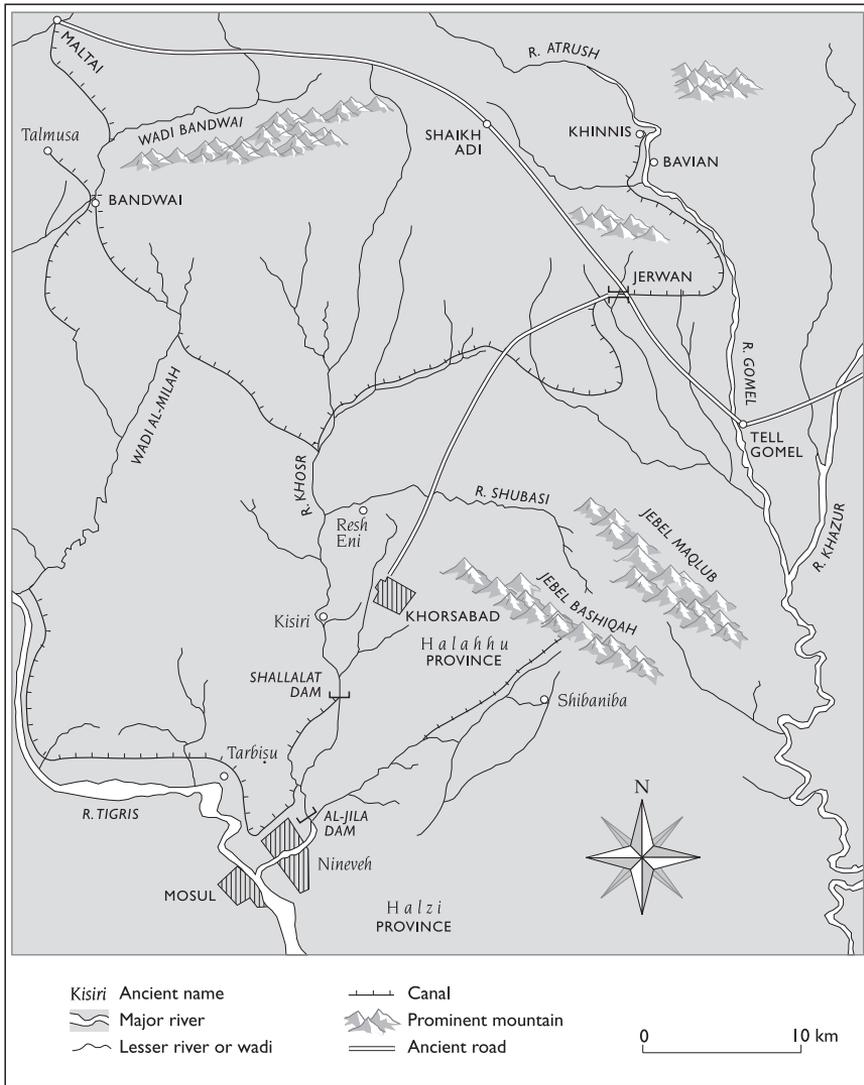
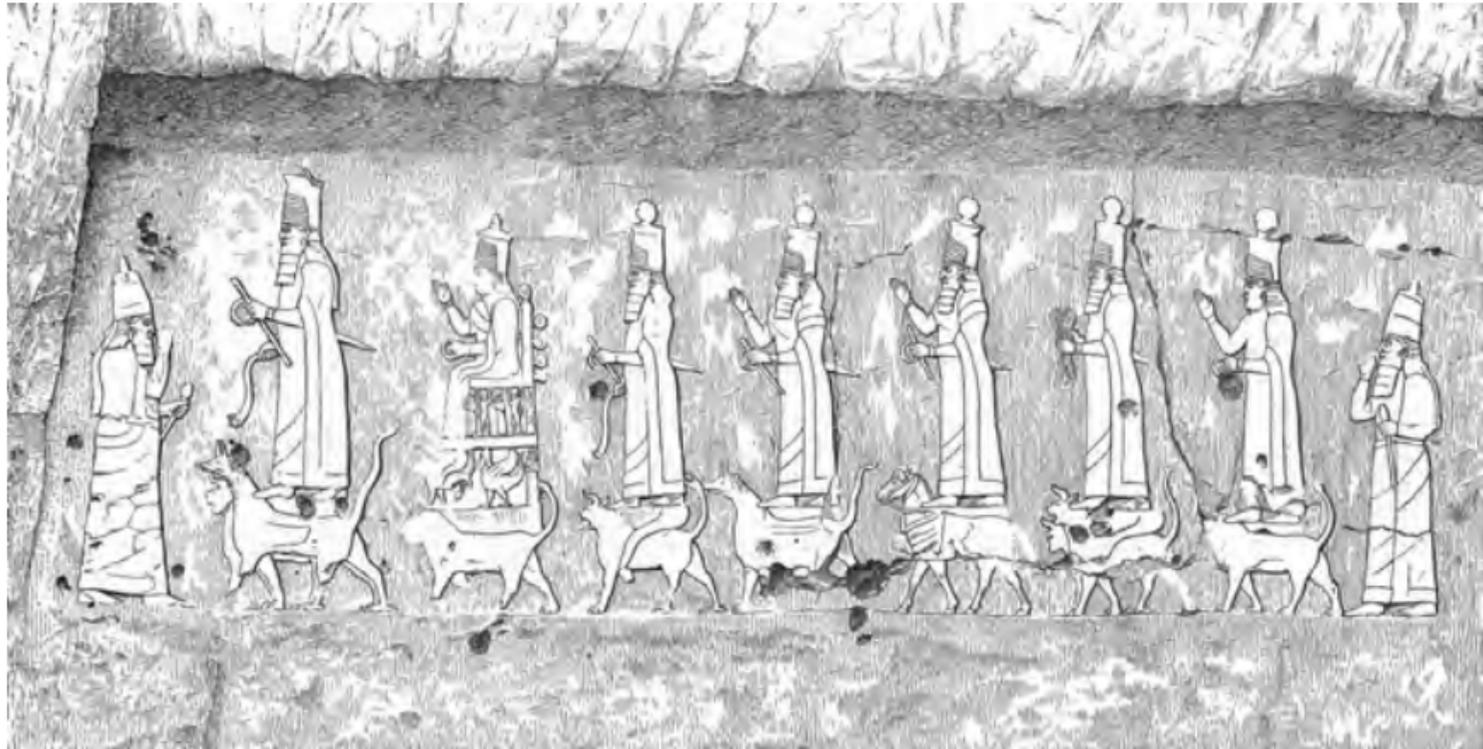


Fig. 28 Sketch map to show rivers, canals and roads to the north-east of Nineveh.



**Fig. 29** Drawing of a great rock sculpture at Malta, showing Sennacherib in the assembly of gods.



Fig. 30 (b) Reconstruction drawing of the panel.

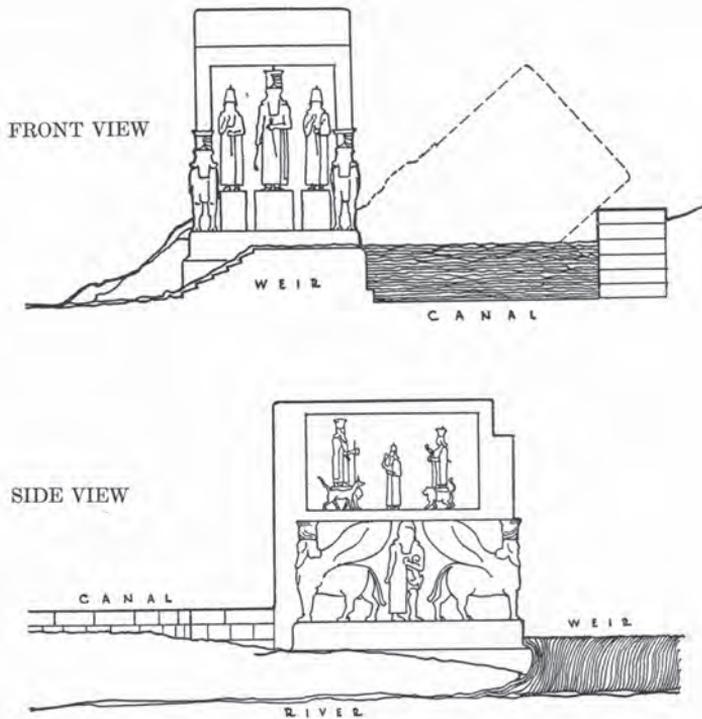


Fig. 32 (a) Tentative reconstruction of the stone block at the weir where the canal led off, showing Sennacherib in company with deities, front and side views.

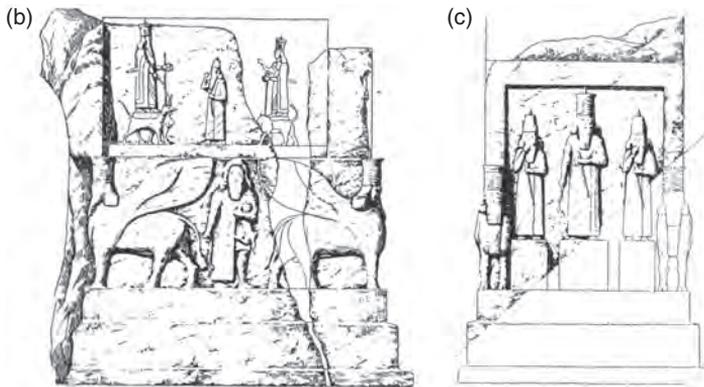


Fig. 32 (b and c) Reconstruction drawings, front and side views of the sculptured block that stood between the canal and a weir at Khinnis, showing the king in the company of great gods.

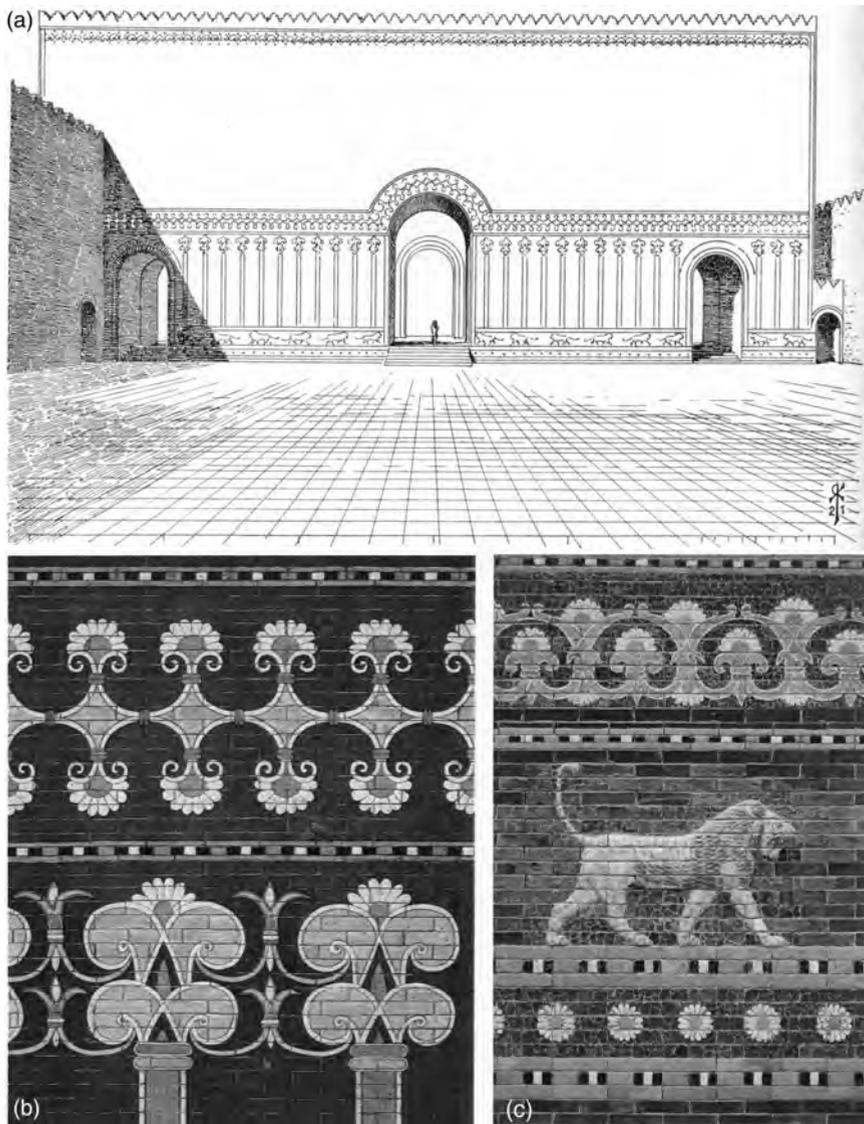


Fig. 33 (a-c) Decorative scheme of colour-glazed brick in the main court of Nebuchadnezzar's palace in Babylon: a continuous band of stylized plant motifs over long pillars; below the pillars, a continuous row of striding lions between bands of stylized plant motifs.

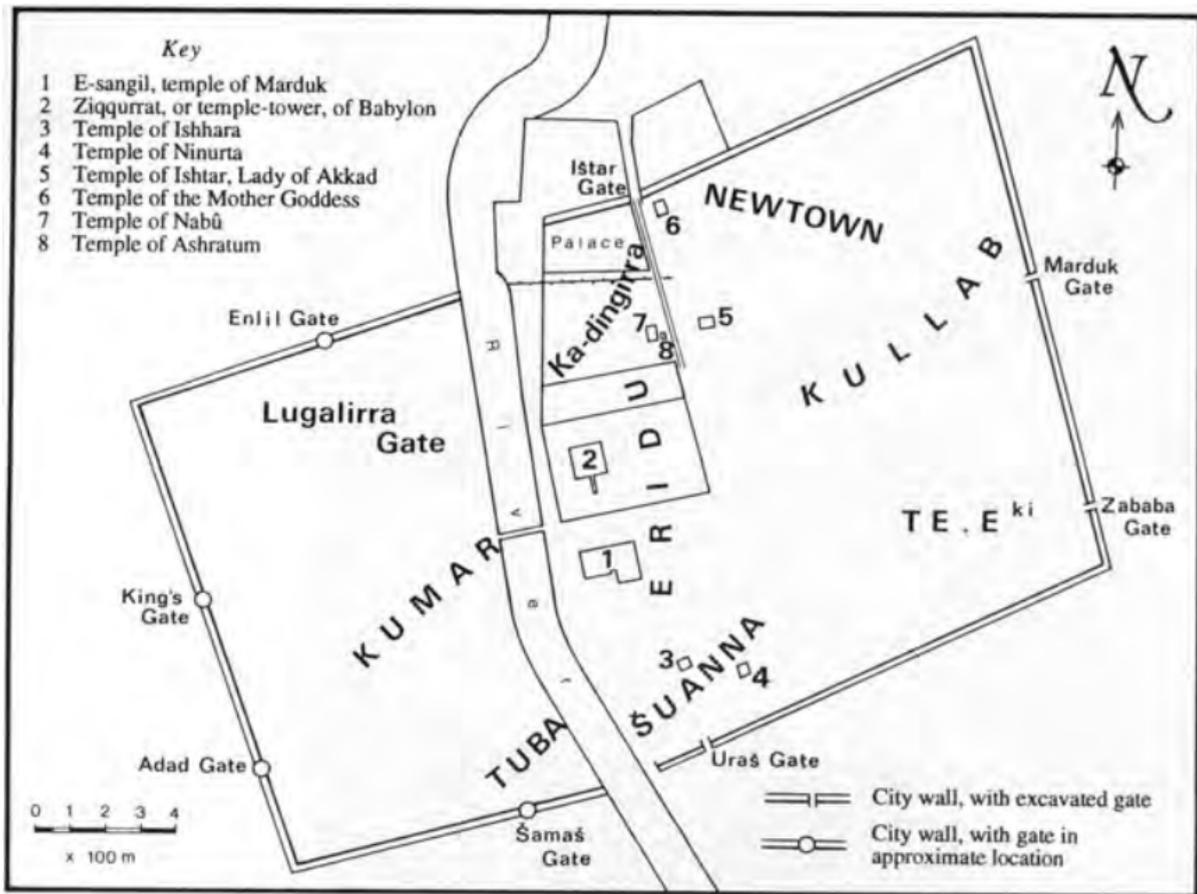
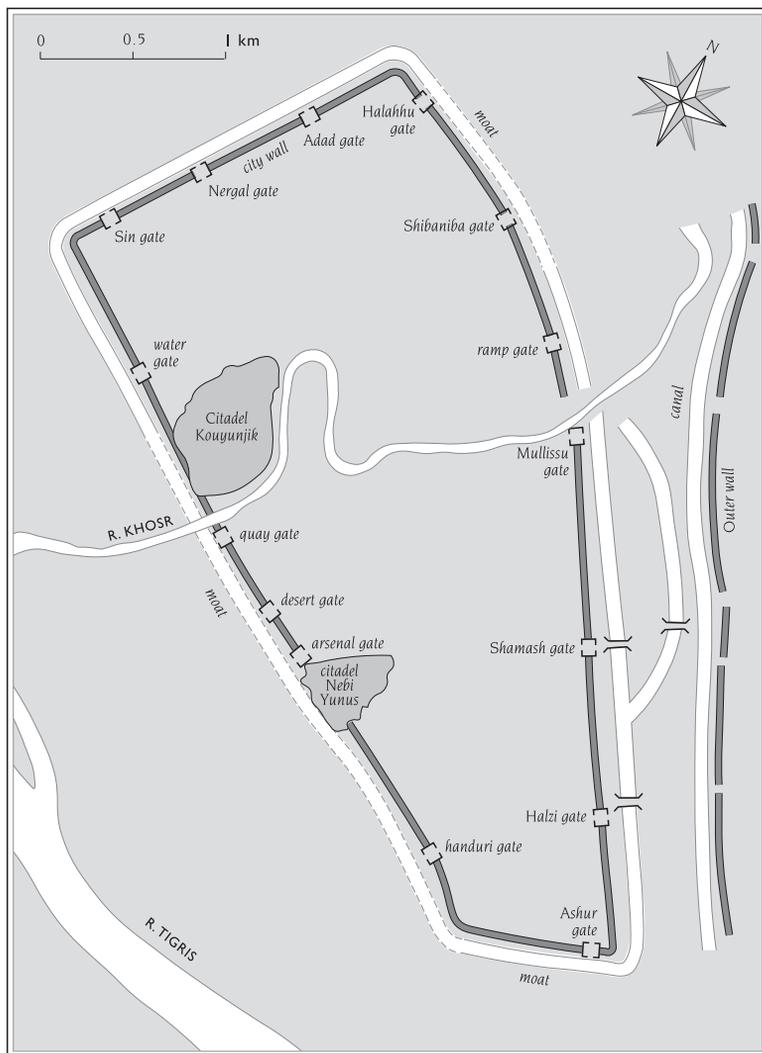


Fig. 34 (a) Sketch plan of the citadel of Babylon showing names of city gates.



**Fig. 34** (b) Sketch plan of the citadel of Nineveh showing names of city gates in the time of Sennacherib.

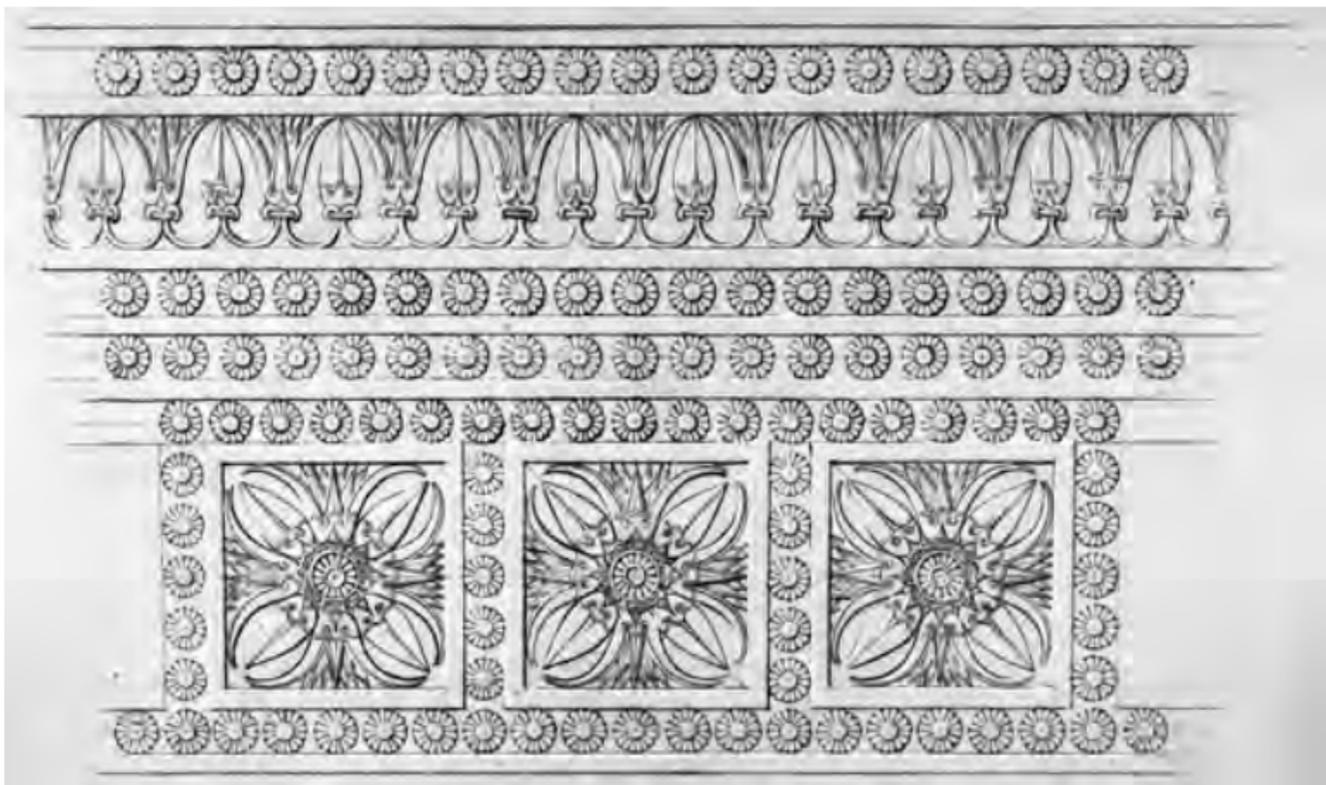


**Fig. 35** Drawing from a sculpture panel from Khorsabad showing models of cities carried as tribute.



Fig. 38 Sargon II with his son Sennacherib.





**Fig. 42** Pattern carved on a stone threshold slab from the South-West Palace. Compare the pebble mosaic shown on Plate 6.



**Fig. 43** Sennacherib presiding over the capture of Lachish, south of Jerusalem, detail. His face was chiselled out deliberately after the fall of Assyria. Max. Ht. 178 cm.



Fig. 44 Drawing showing the innovative triangular design for the sculpture of the siege when Sennacherib captured Lachish. Length of central panel 190.5 cm.



Fig. 45 Demonic gods who guarded palace entrances, windows, and air-shafts from snakes, sneak-thieves, and sicknesses.

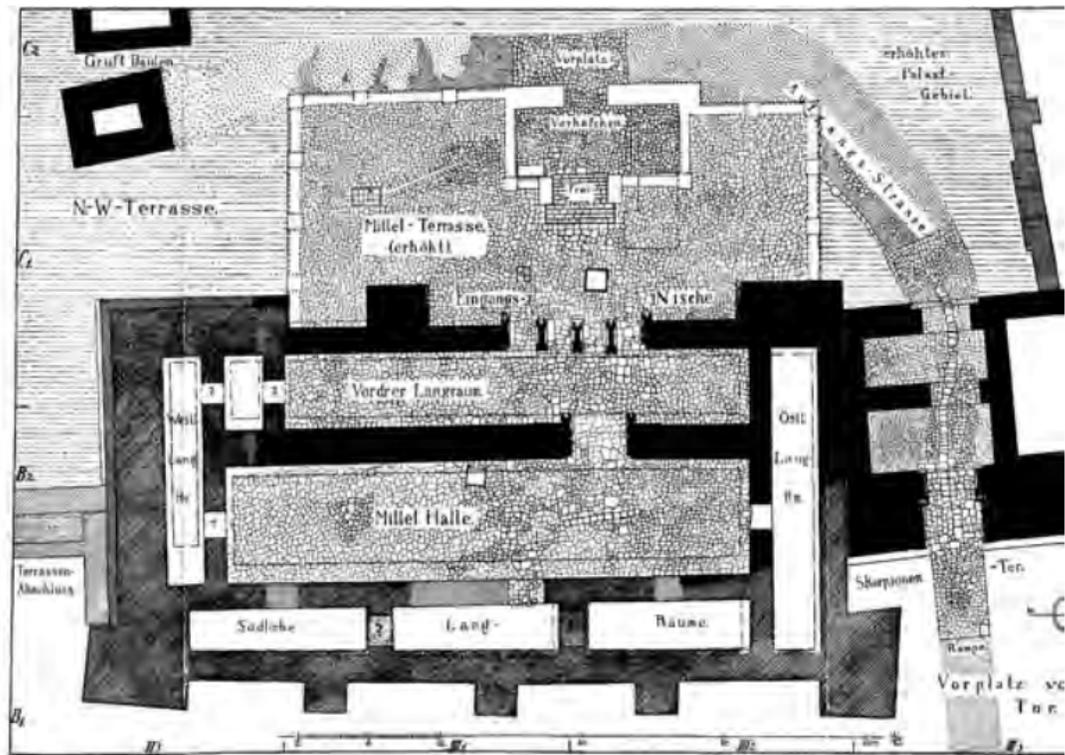


Fig. 46 Plan of the *bit hilāni*, a palace with pillared portico at Tell Halaf in N. Syria. The city became an Assyrian provincial capital.



**Fig. 48** Reconstruction drawing of a portable hearth with wheels, made of iron and bronze, for heating a palace at Nimrud. Width c.80 cm.

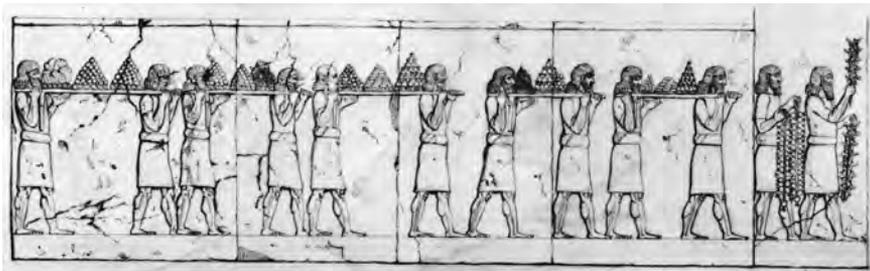


Fig. 49 (a) Palace attendants bringing cakes, grapes, pomegranates, and locusts in the South-West Palace.



Fig. 49 (b) Palace attendants bringing drink, drawn from a panel found in Sargon's palace at Khorsabad.



Fig. 51 Fish-man as sage, sculpture found at the entrance to a temple at Nimrud.



**Fig. 53** Attendants bringing vases of flowers into the South-West Palace.



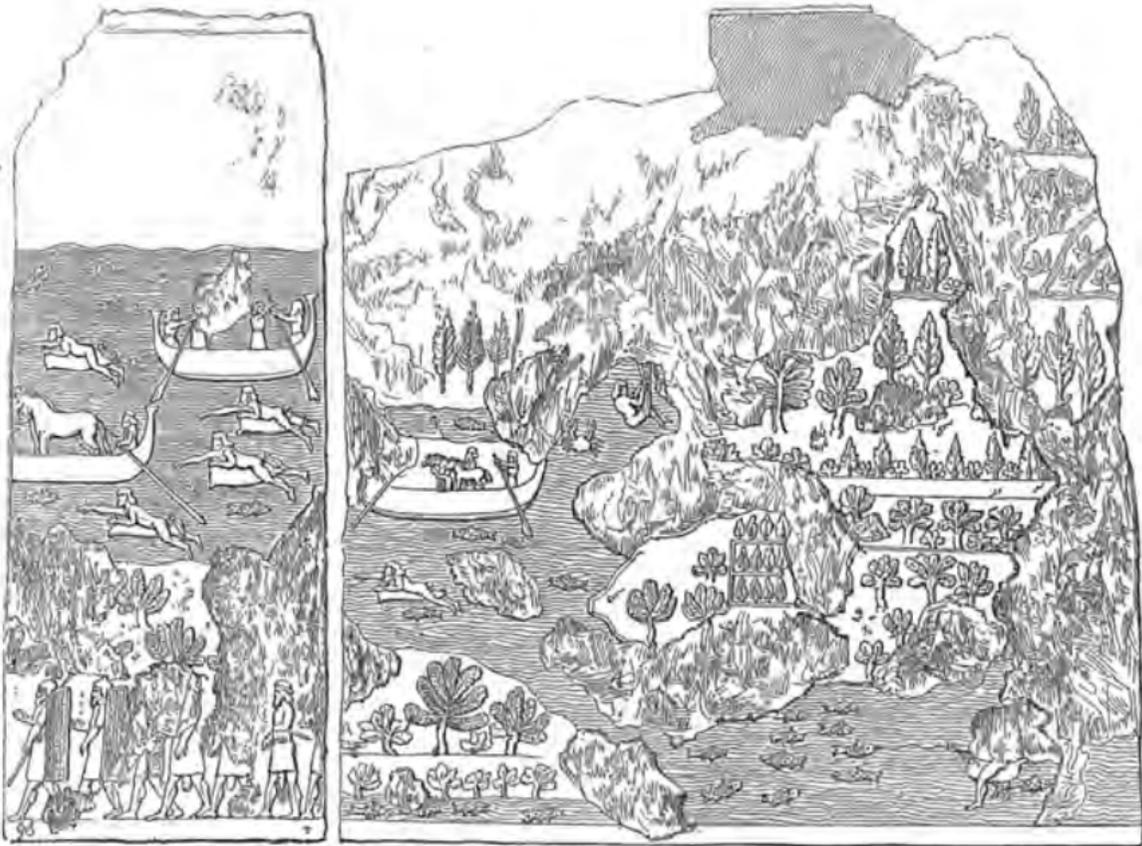
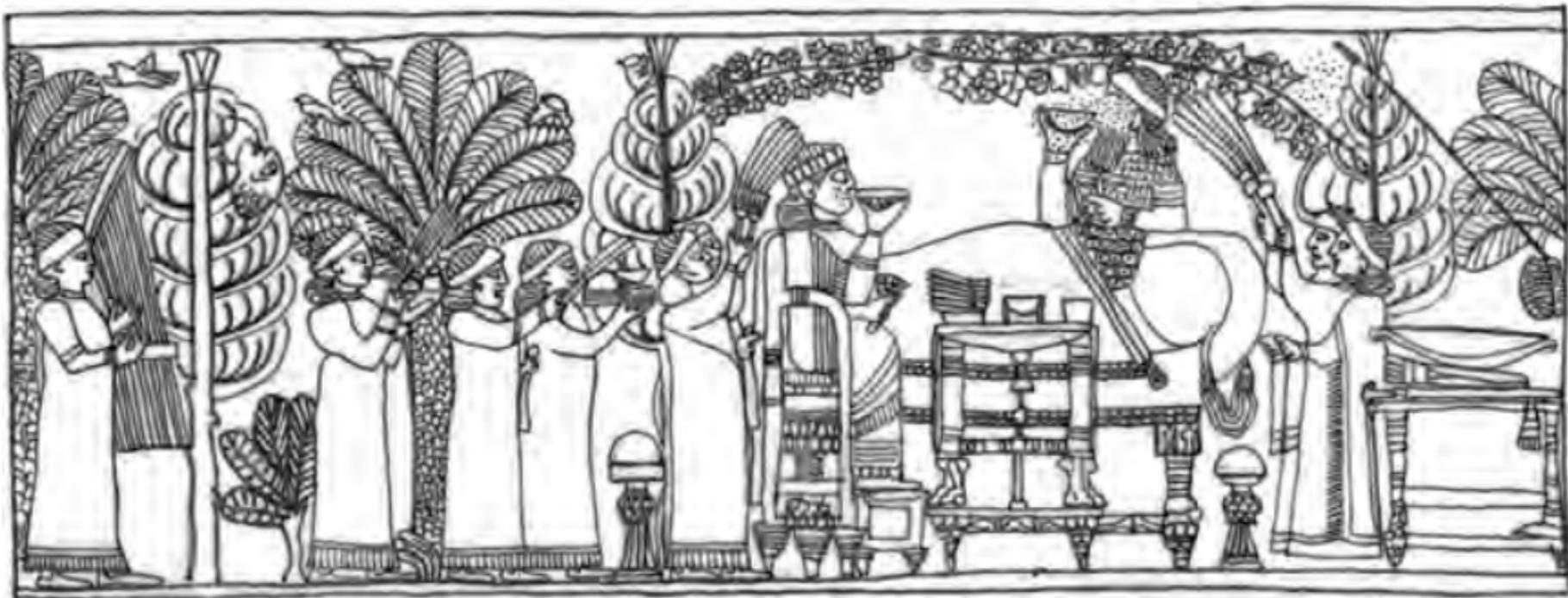


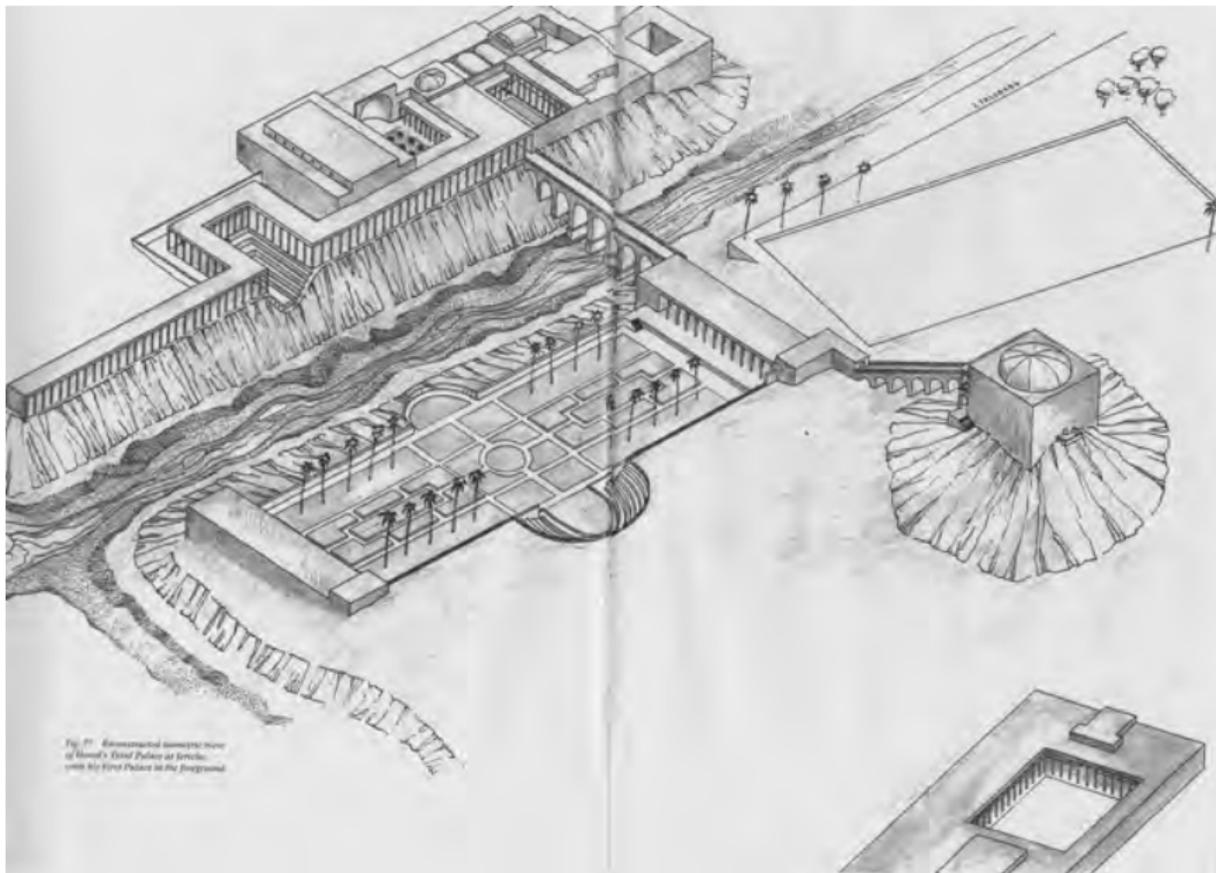
Fig. 57 Detail of Original Drawing IV 77 showing sporting events taking place in the palace garden at Nineveh.



**Fig. 58** Ashurbanipal and queen with trophies, celebrating with a drink in a garden. The faces and the king's hand were chiselled out after the fall of Assyria. Ht. 56 cm.



**Fig. 59** Idealized landscape on a stone panel fragment showing lions with flowers growing beneath a vine, from an internal wall in the North Palace of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh. Ht. 98 cm, length 178 cm.

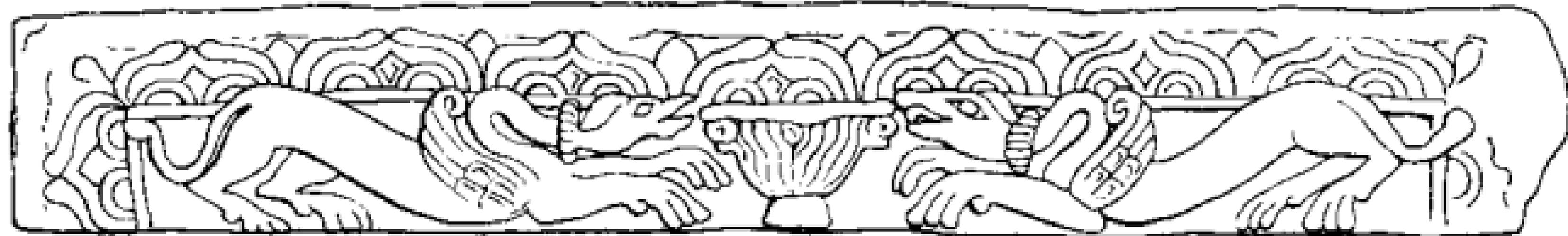


*Fig. 57. Reconstructed isometric view of Herod's Great Palace at Jericho, with the First Palace in the foreground.*

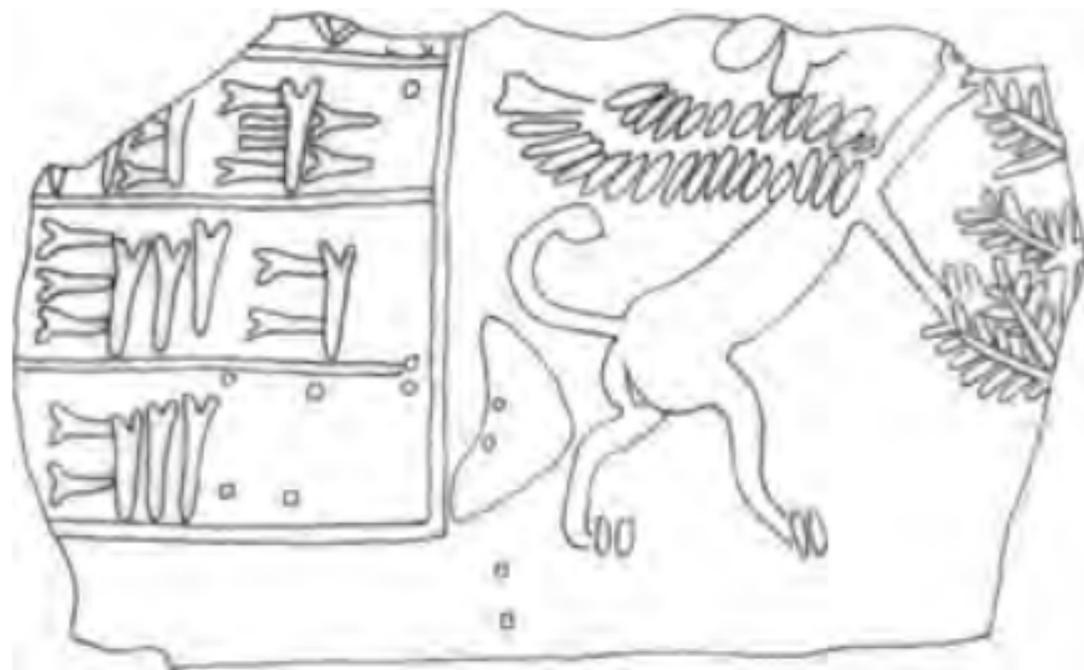
**Fig. 60** The third winter palace of Herod the Great at Jericho, isometric reconstruction drawing showing colonnade overlooking garden with flowing water, artificial landscaping, and pavilion.



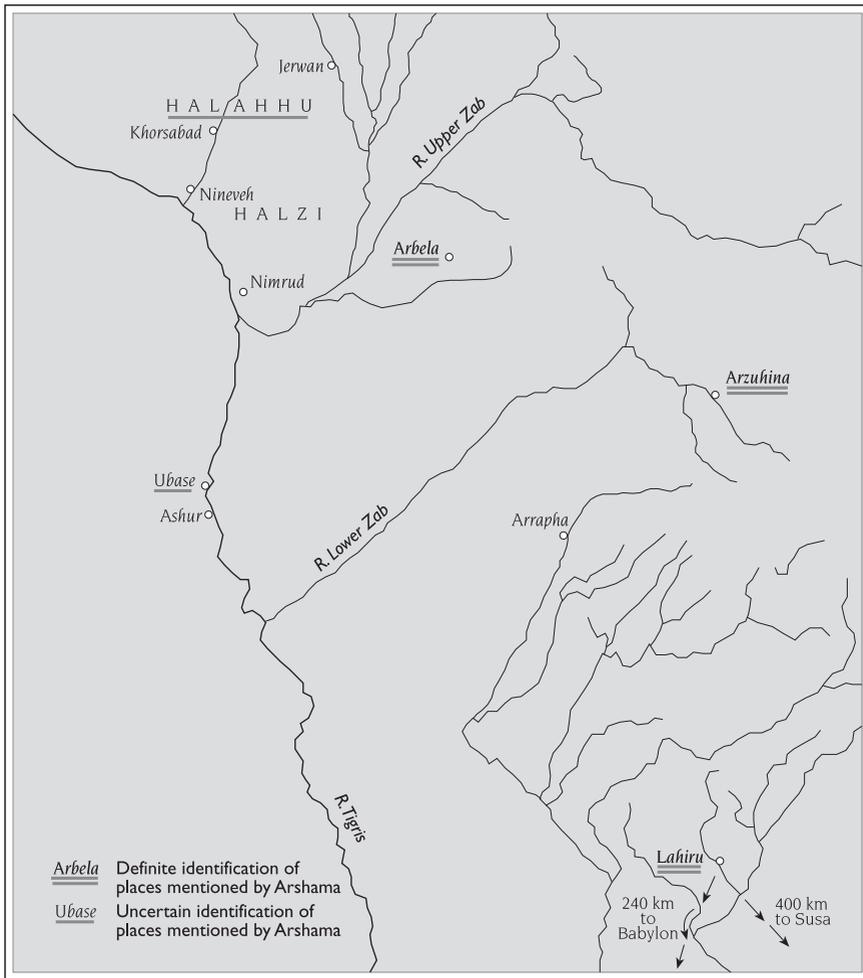
Fig. 63 Layard excavated at Nineveh by tunnelling to reach the Assyrian buildings, bypassing later settlement.



**Fig. 64** Parthian lintel found in the South-West Palace at Nineveh, in the 19th century. Its design was thought to be Assyrian. Length 1.83 m, ht. 0.26 m.



**Fig. 65** Impression from a cylinder seal with a Late Elamite inscription, probably late 7th–6th century BC, found above the temple of Ishtar at Nineveh. Chalcedony, 2.2 × 1.75 cm.



**Fig. 66** Sketch map showing locations in which Arshama, satrap of Egypt under Darius II, owned estates, c.425 BC.



**Fig. 67** Graffito with the name Deigenes in Greek as if emerging from the mouth of a beardless boy, on a stone wall panel found in place in a sloping passage in Ashurbanipal's palace at Nineveh.



**Fig. 68** Limestone statue of Hermes, painted in red, blue and orange; eyes inlaid with glass and mother-of-pearl, found at Nineveh. Ht. 135 cm.