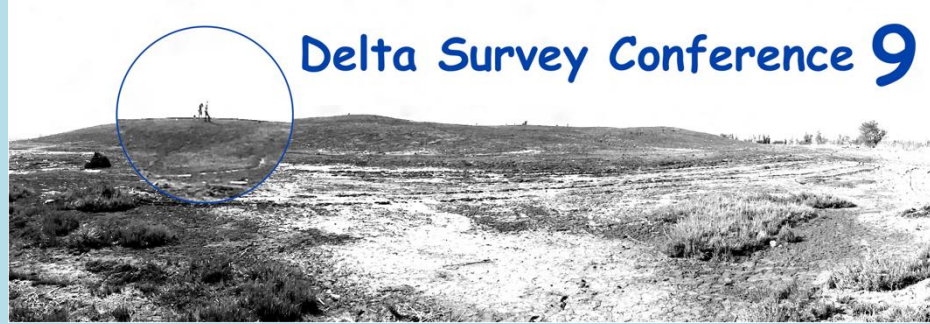


Recent Archaeological Discoveries at Tell Abu Al Gudour, Beheira Governorate

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Introduction

The site of Tell Abu Al Gudour is located northern west of the city of Abu Al-Matamir (Fig. 1). The tell is located near other important archaeological sites in the north, and is about 7 km from Kom Trugi, Kom Elsaqia and to the west Kom Abu Nama and 9 km from Abu El-Ada, and to the east Kom Radwan (Fig. 2).

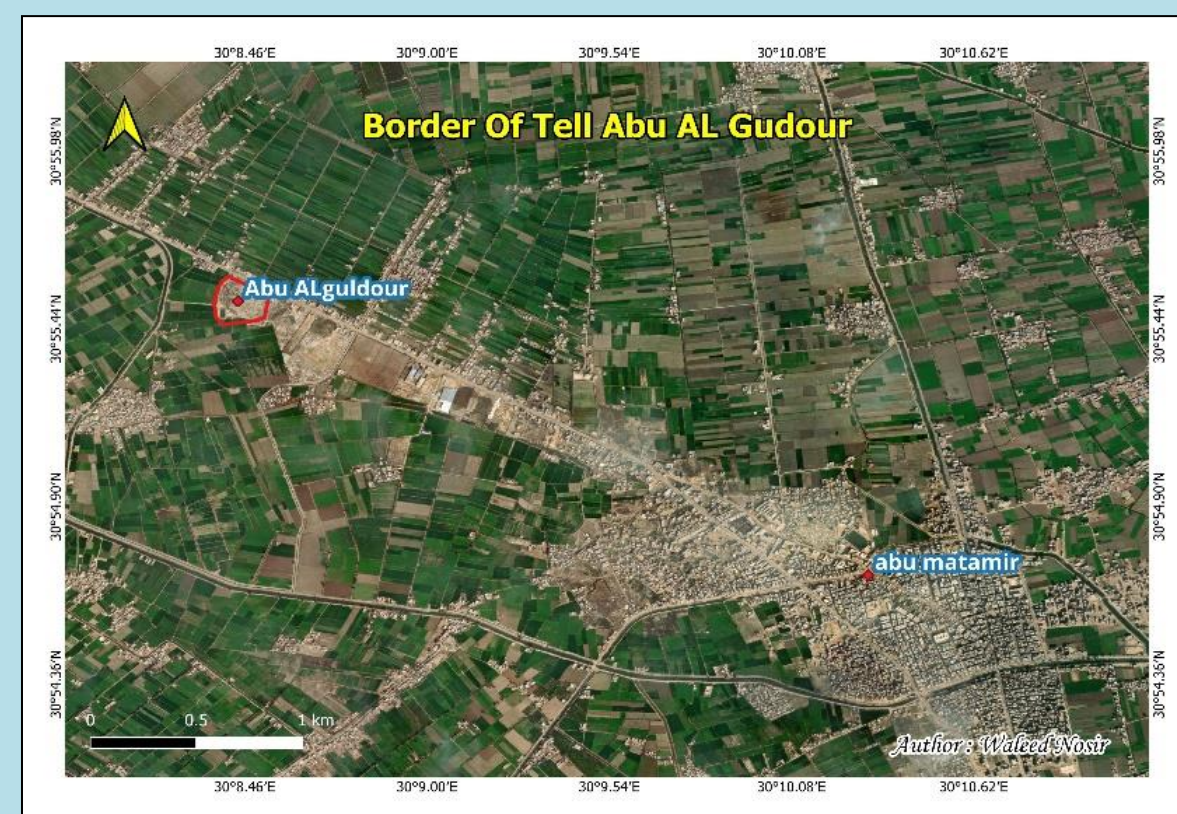


Fig. 1. Area

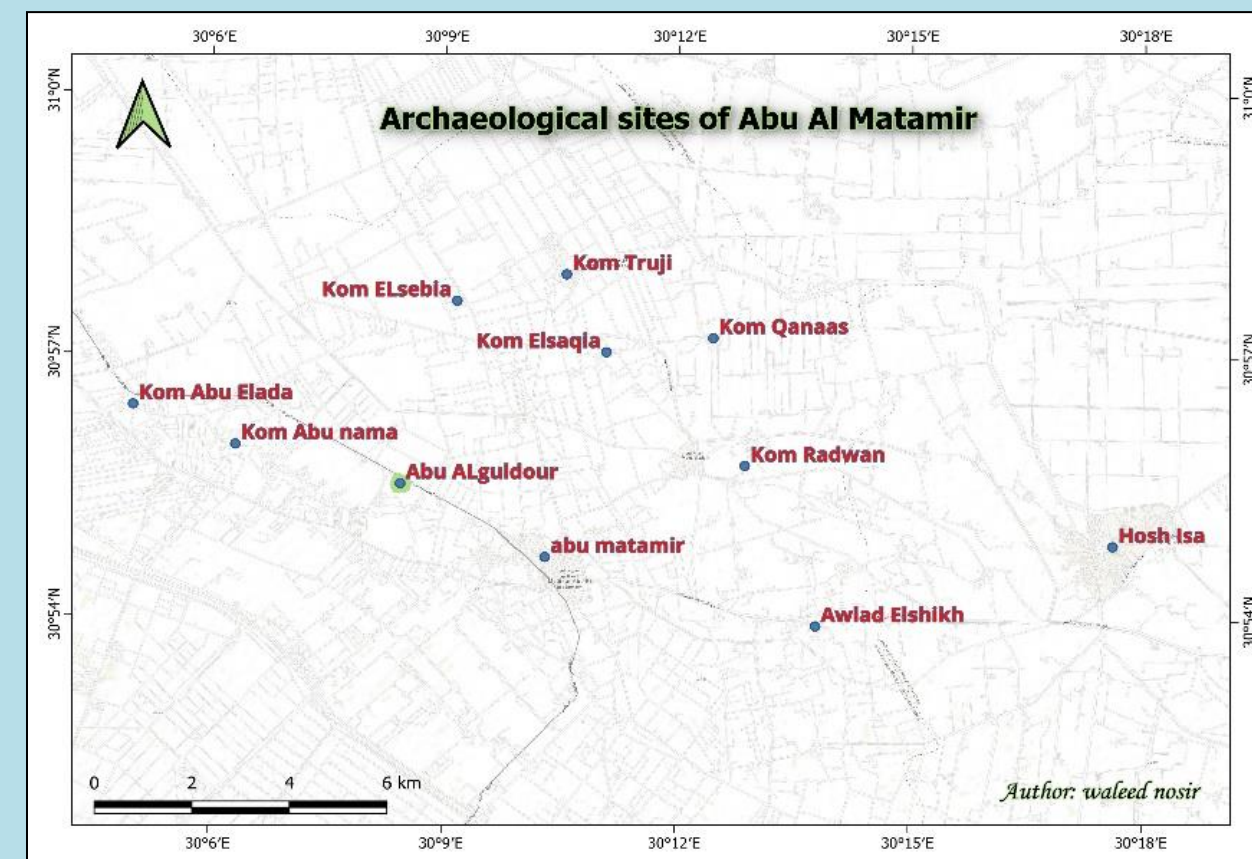


Fig. 2. Map of area (W. el Nosir)

Excavations

The archaeological site at Abu Al-Gudour is endangered by construction work, so the main aim is the preservation of the site by record, using specific protocols, in order to document the site before it is irretrievably lost for later analysis.

The site was divided according to a Grid Square system. The area of work was 12650 m² (115 by 110 m). The excavations uncovered a tholos-type bathhouse (Fig. 3), storage silos, cooking ovens and a pottery kiln (Fig. 4).

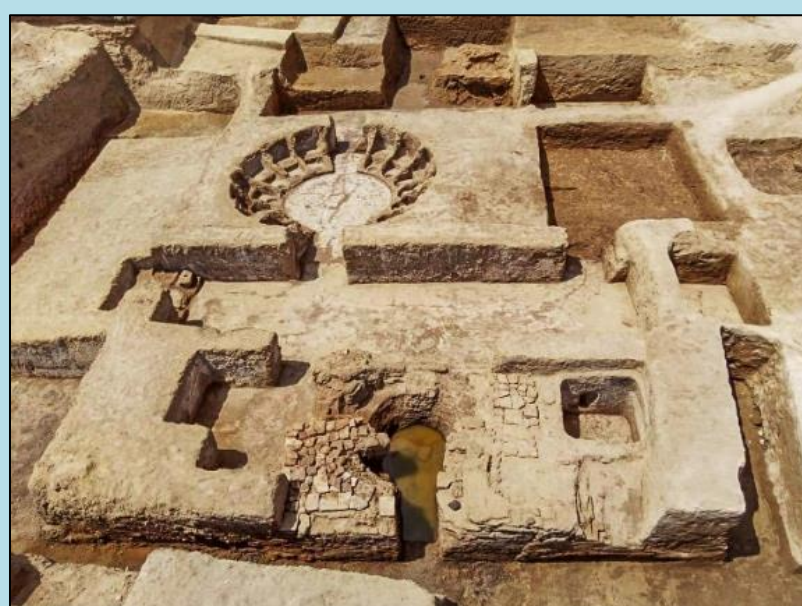


Fig. 3. Tholos bathhouse.



Fig. 4. Pottery kiln.



Fig. 5. Storage silos



Fig. 6. Tholos bathhouse plan.

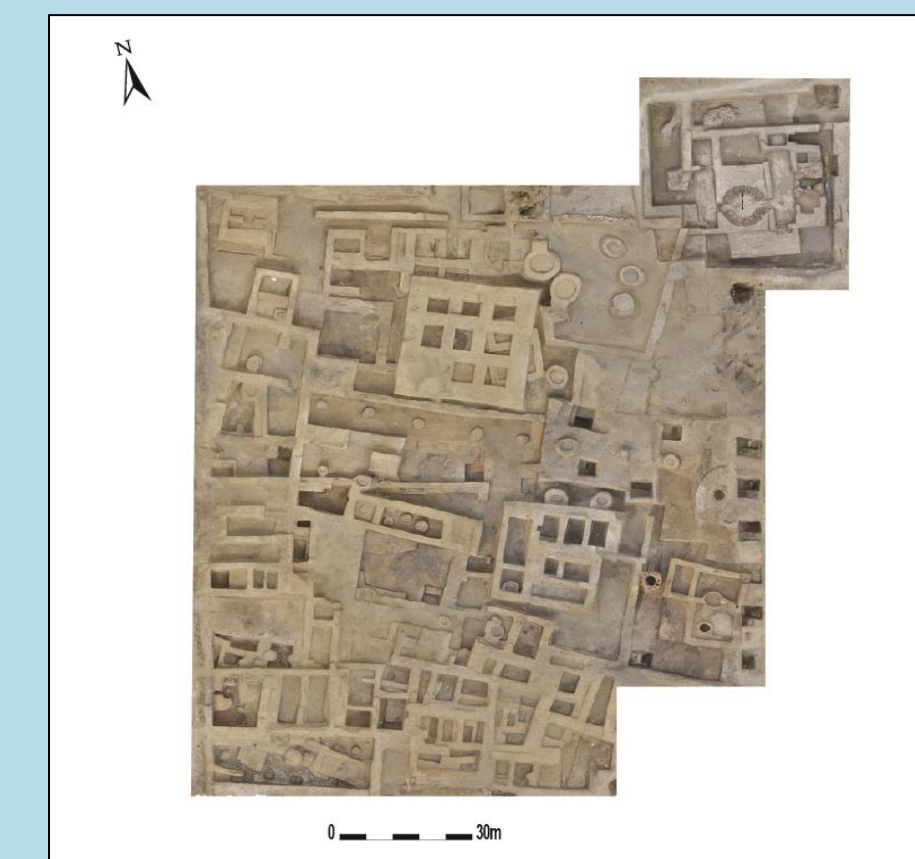


Fig. 7. Residential area, with tower house foundations.

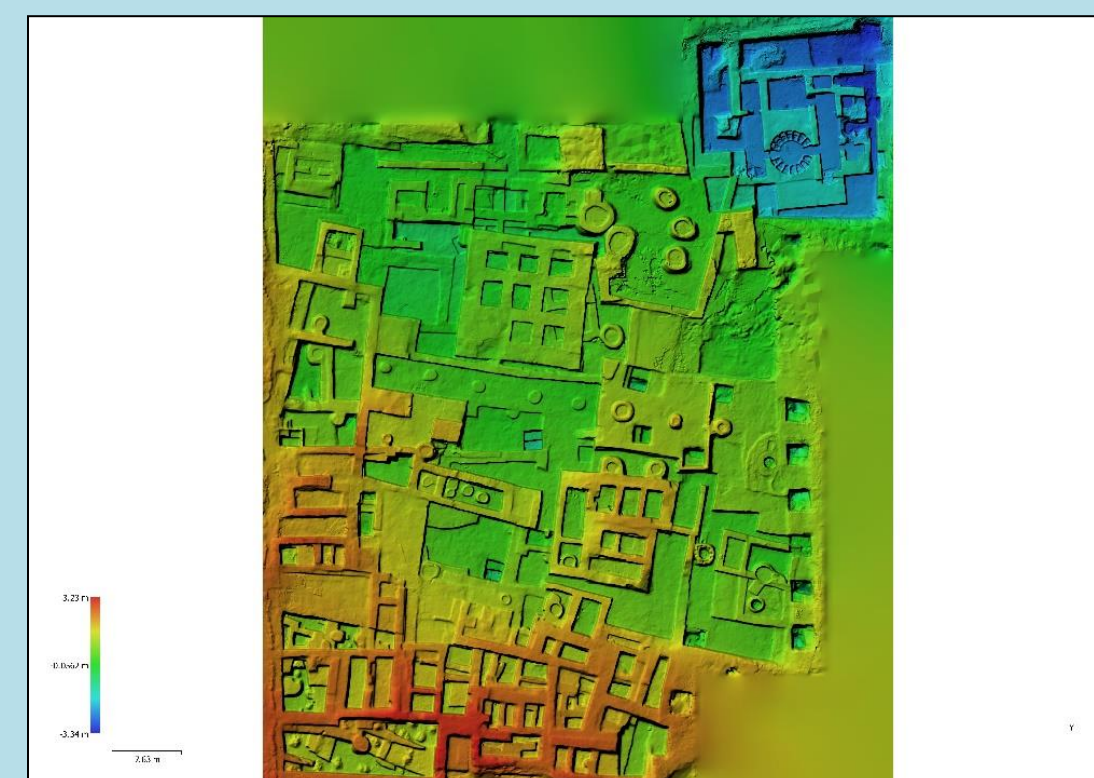


Fig. 8. DEM of residential area, Showing relative phasing of the site.

Material Culture: Pottery

The main types of pottery from the excavation included jugs, skyphoi, bowls, plates, perhaps for liquid and food offerings, as well as lamps for light and unguentaria for oils of different kinds. In addition, there were also some cooking vessels, with burning on the outside suggesting they had been used, as well as handled bowls, dippers and jugs for the pouring of different kinds of liquid (Fig. 9).



Fig. 9. Jugs, skyphoi, a plate and a lamp.

Stamped amphora handles from Rhodes, Knidos and North Africa were found (Fig.10).



ΔΙΣΚΟΥ,
234-220 BCE



Rhodian amphora
ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΑ
ΠΕΔΑΓΕΙΤΝΟΥΣ
209-199 BCE



ΕΛΛΑΙΤΟΥ,
African Amphora,
2nd century BCE

A bronze drachma dating to the reign of Augustus was found 30-28 BCE (Fig.11).



Results

The excavation showed that the site was an important Ptolemaic settlement that extended into the Roman period.

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