

HERITAGE PROTECTION DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA

**STUDY OF THE MONUMENTS WITHIN
BAKU-TBILISI -CEYHAN PIPELINE ROUTE CORRIDOR**

PHASE III REPORT

TBILISI 2003

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They also thank all those people and organisations, which have contributed to the project development.

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RESEARCH THE MONUMENTS WITHIN BTC PIPELINE ROUTE CORRIDOR

PHASE III REPORT

Preamble:

The objective of the Phase III research was to plan protection activities for the monuments having potential for project impact or damage during the project development.

Phase III work of the above ground monuments is defined by the following document:

” Protection Plan for Monuments Within BTC Pipeline Route Corridor”, this plan was produced by URS Corporation in agreement with the experts from the Cultural Heritage Protection Department of Georgia (2003), the amount and the scope of works were approved by the Memorandum (01.02.2003).

Due to the potential for impact from project activities, from 162 previously identified monuments within BTC pipeline route corridor only 22 were selected as subjects for further Phase III work.

Monument 1.	Kp-2	Muslim Cemetery
Monument 2.	Kp-59	Menhir
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Monument 13.	Kp-185	St. Mary Church and Remnant of the Settlement
Monument 14.	Kp-185	Remnant of the Village in the Riv.Tskhratzkaro Gorge
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Monument 16.	Kp-194	Kvakrilebi (Stone piles)
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Monument 21.	Kp-201	Tadzrisi Monastery
Monument 22.	Kp-245	“Irka” St. George Church

Parts of the monuments are located in close proximity to the ROW; all other parts lie adjacent to the traffic road, camp or pump station areas, thus making them vulnerable to potential project impact.

Due to the above-mentioned facts and the characteristics of the monuments, short-term work was performed on 10 of the 22 monuments. The work included: defining the boundaries of the monuments, their relationship to the ROW, mapping and identifying protective marker locations. For the remaining 12 monuments documentation was compiled from their existing condition.

Fieldwork methodology included:

- Existing condition fixation (descriptive, graphic, photo and topographic);
- Determine the exact boundaries of monuments, defining their relationship to the ROW and mapping.

Materials processed during lab work, after their recovery from the field, are presented in Phase III report.

Documentation for each monument includes:

- The text –with exact coordinates, relation to the road and the ROW, description of the location, assessment of monuments physical condition, defining the characteristics and art-historical significance, date, surface clearing results and recommendations for the protection activities;
- Graphic material, including a general plan, a plan, sections, facades and single important details;
- Topographic material;
- A map with the monuments, their boundary extensions and also their relation to the road and the ROW marked on it;
- Photo material, parts of which are attached as illustrations to the text of the report and remaining parts are filed as a photo log, which is available on the electronic version of the report.

As a result of Phase III work, protective measures were planned for the monuments, which could potentially be vulnerable during construction.

The protective measures, which form the bases of recommendations for some monuments, can be divided into the following categories:

- Complete or fragmental fencing of the defined protection zone and placing of warning signs at 10 monuments;
- Fencing and placing warning signs at remnant of the villages, architectural complexes and at parts of group structures which have potential for impact- the edge of Nachivchavebi remnant of the village traffic road kp-85, Remnant of the village in Nachivchavebi Gorge kp-87, newly identified church kp-88, Tkemlara remnant of the village kp-89, Takhtitzkaro remnant of the village kp-93, Tskhratzkaro remnant of the village kp-181, Tsikhisjvari remnant of the Village kp-186, remnant of the village near Ground Chapel kp-199;

- Conservation and emergency conservation activities for the monuments under threat from potential damage and for those in a very bad condition which possess distinguished artistic-historical values, these are-Nadarbazevi Palace, Takhtitzkaro Church, Sakire fortress, Tadzrisi Churches;
- Re-routing at the crossing section of Kvakrilebi (Stone piles), the monument of Megalithic culture and the pipeline;
- Specialists Supervising and vibration monitoring;
- Apart from that, all the selected monuments need to be checked after construction to verify whether or not changes to the structures have occurred during construction and whether or not conservation or if mitigation measures are necessary.

Muslim Cemetery

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**Muslim Cemetery
(XIX-XX c)**



Location:

Historic Region - Kvemo Kartli
District - Gardabani
Village - 15km South-East of Aghtakali

KP 29

Distance to the ROW - nearest-400m

Brief Description:

The Muslim Cemetery lies on both sides of the traffic road. It is spread over quite a big area and contains an old cemetery also.

Head stones standing vertically in the cemetery are decorated with geometric and plant ornaments; lots of other head stones have weapons (sword, knife) and other (comb, scissors) ornaments also, all of them are

accompanied by the Arabic script. There are round shape, dome, and late period mausoleums in the cemetery also.

Recommended Protection Measures:

It's recommended to mend the wired fence of the cemetery area and also mark the boundaries of the monument adjacent to the road.

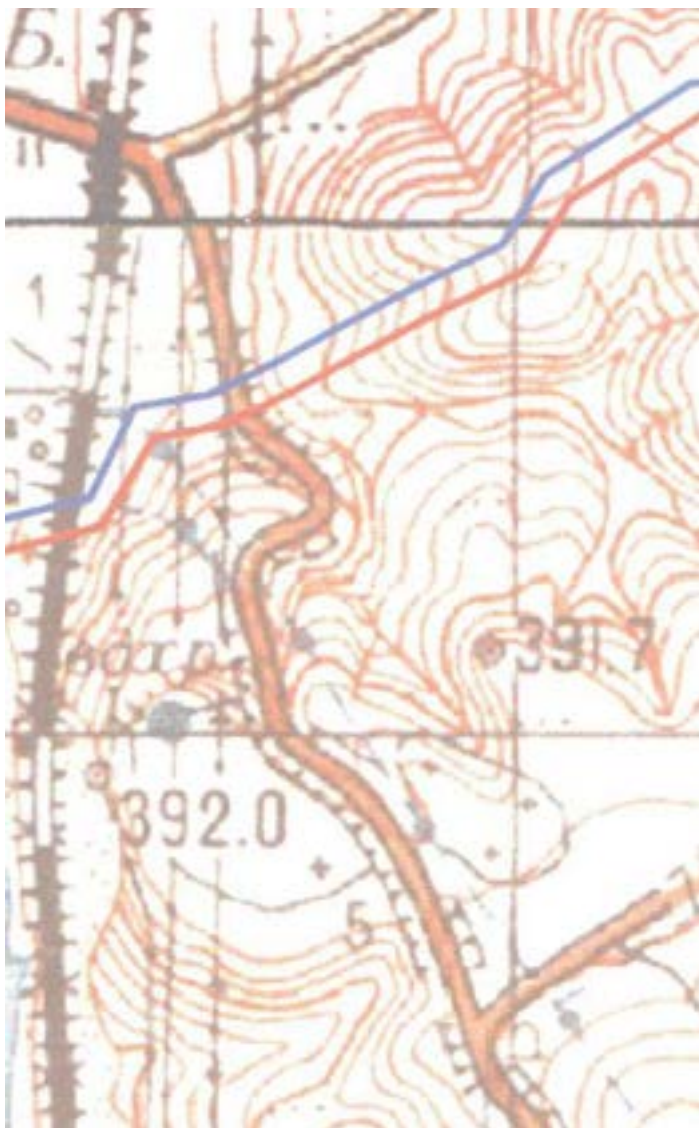


Photo Material

S02-F001	Menhir, the village Khaisi	L.Bokuchava
S02-F002	Menhir, the village Khaishi	L.Bokuchava
S02-F003	Menhir, the village Khaishi	L.Bokuchava

The photos were taken on 25.07.2003

Menhir

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**Menhir
(Pre Christian Period)**



Location:

Historic Region - Kvemo Kartli

District - Tetritzkaro

Village - Khaishi

KP 59

Distance to the ROW- nearest-200m

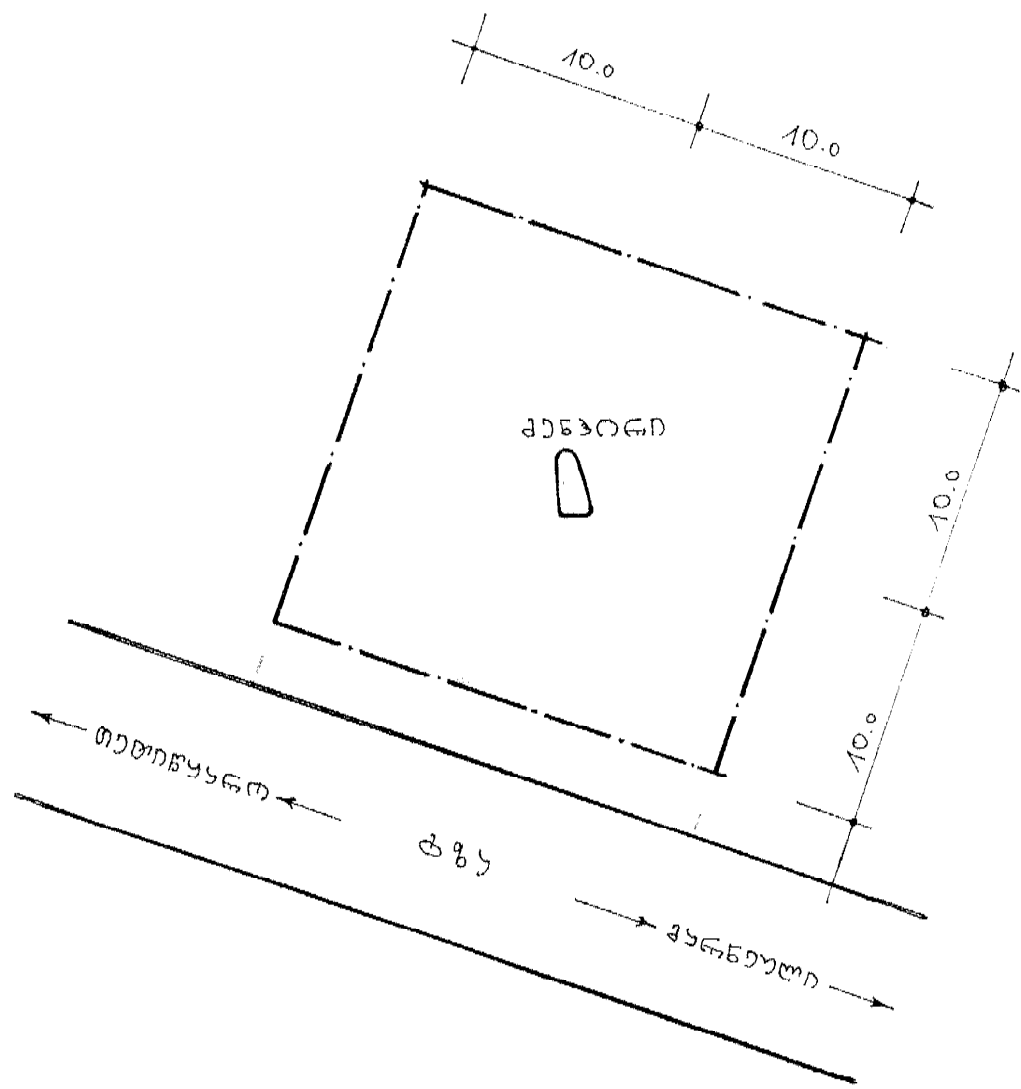
Brief Description:

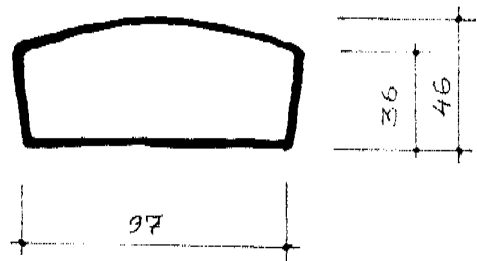
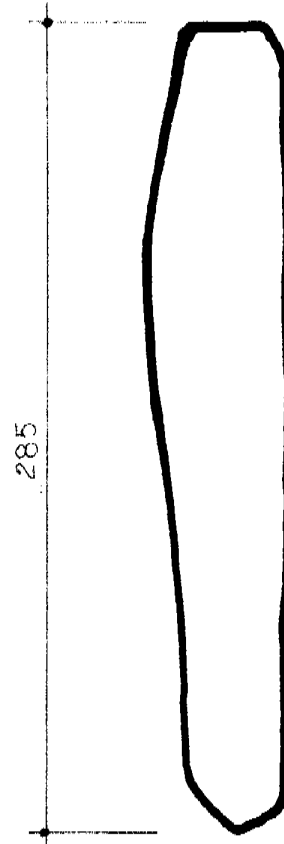
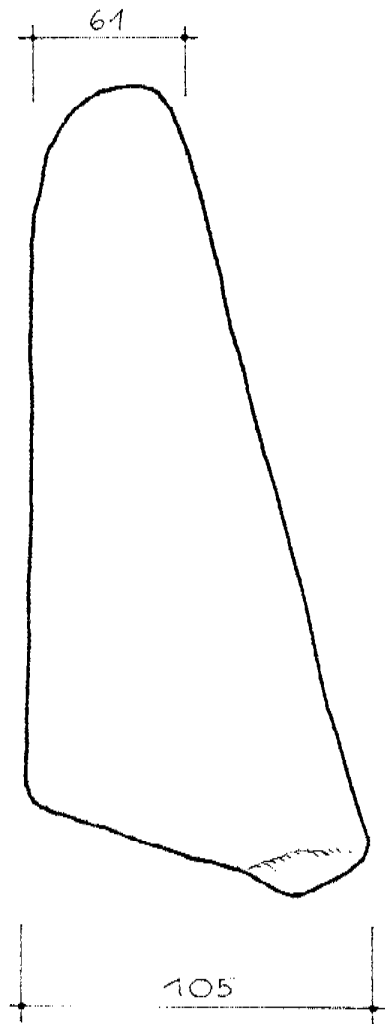
A large, irregular shaped basalt stone with a smooth surface and sides is located adjacent to the traffic road, at Village Khaishi. At one end it is wider than the other. The stone has traces of lit candle; locals consider it to be a holy stone.

Recommended Protection Measures:

The monument needs to be sign posted and fenced with metal wire (like in drawing).







Daghet-Khachini, Church outside the Village

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Daghet-Khachini, Church outside the Village



Location:

Historic Region- Kvemo Kartli

District - Tetrtskaro

Village - 0,5km South of Daghet Khachini

KP -75

Distance to the ROW- nearest-50m

Brief Description:

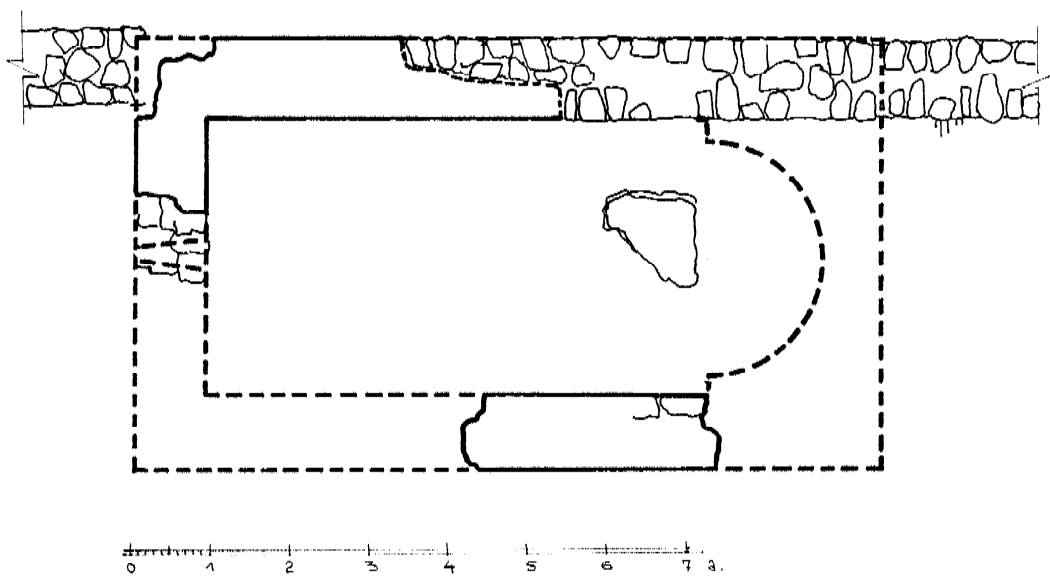
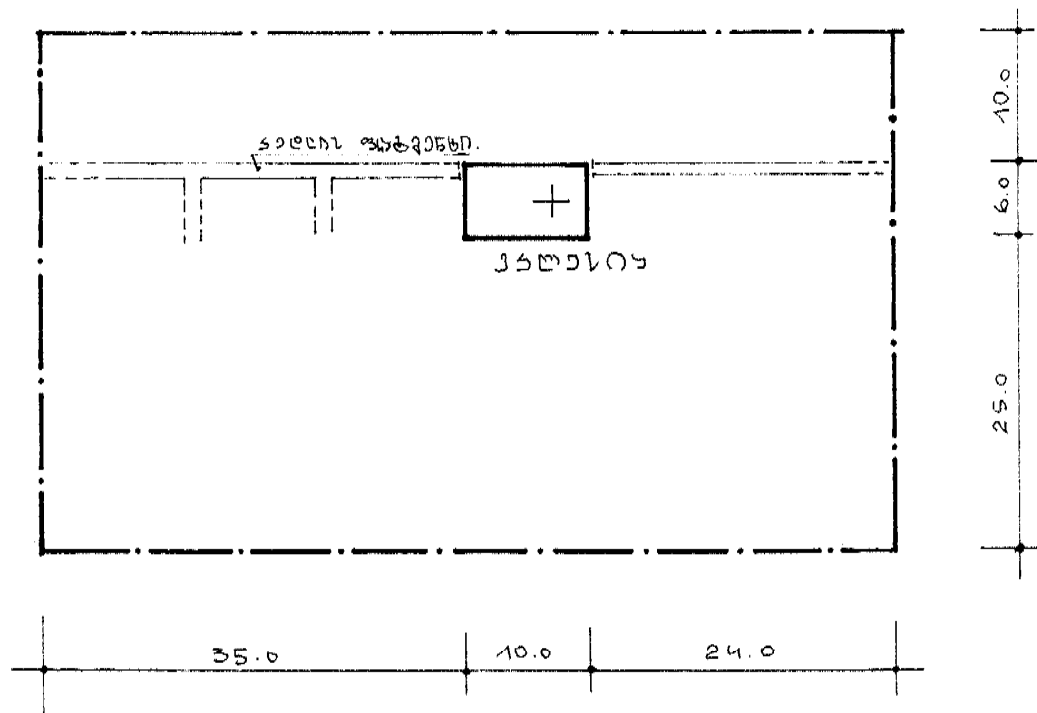
Ruins of the old church have been preserved outside the village. The plan is not legible. Fragments of the North-west wall remain. The Church is built from small, tight fitting pebble stones and lime solution.

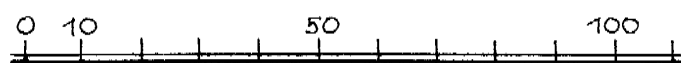
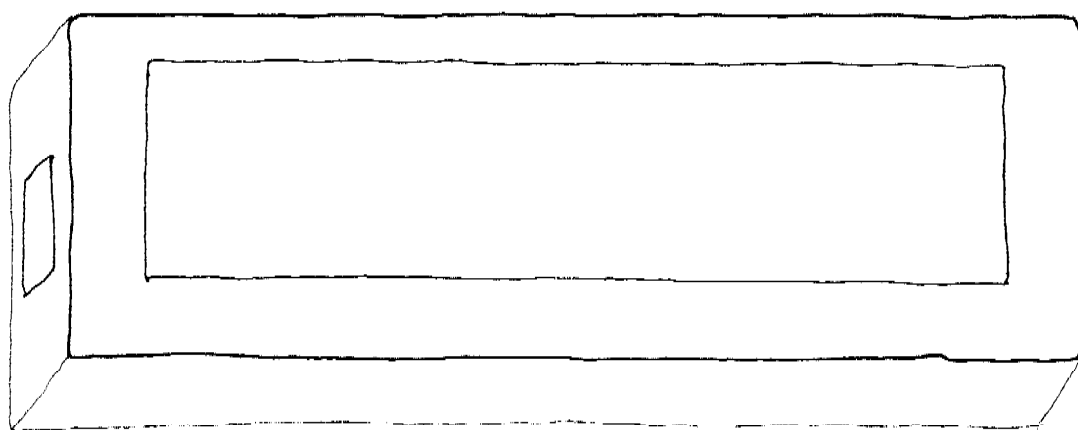
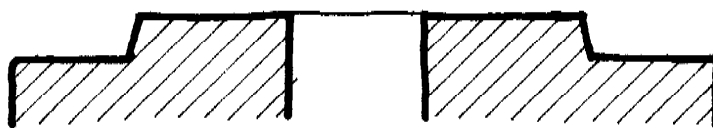
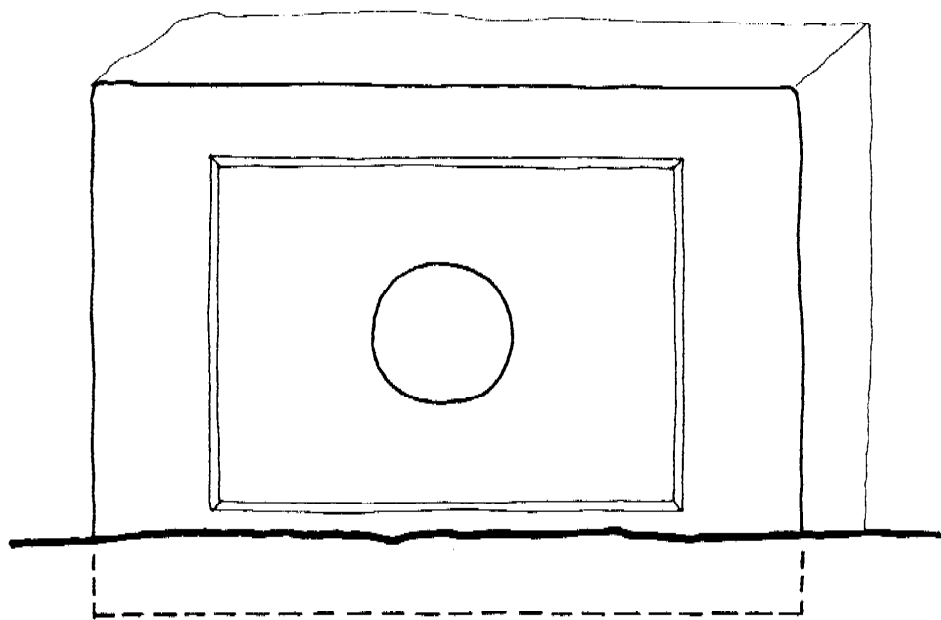
The village cemetery is located to the North of the Church, old Church fragments, like facing stones, fragments from the window frame, baptising stone with the cross image and tomb stones are scattered around in the cemetery yard.

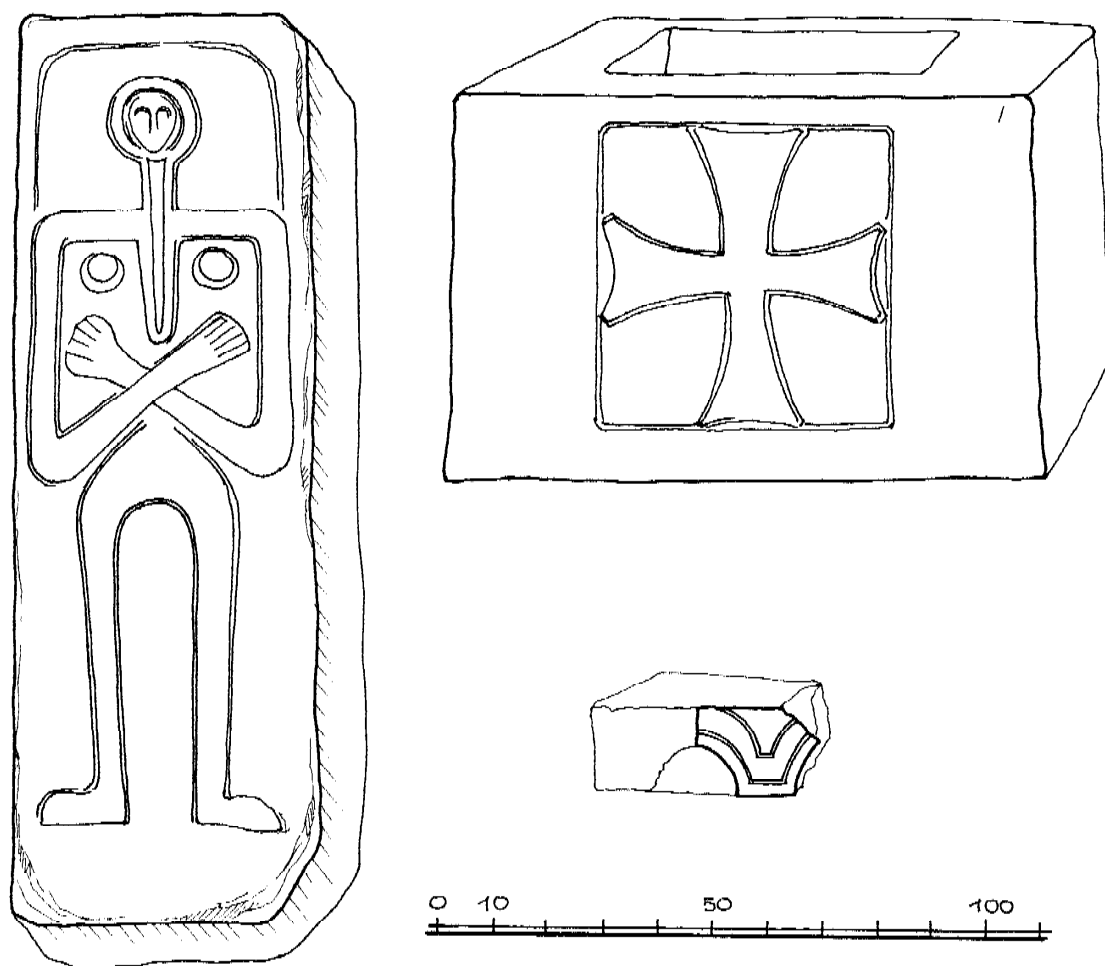
Recommended Protection Measures:

The Church requires signage and fencing with metal wire (like in drawing









Monument -3

Photographic Material

S03-F001	The church, the village outside Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F002	The church, the village outside Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F003	The church, the village outside Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F004	Architectural detail on the cemetery of Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F005	Architectural detail on the cemetery of Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F006	Architectural detail on the cemetery of Dagheti	L.Bokuchava
S03-F007	Architectural detail on the cemetery of Dagheti	L.Bokuchava

Photographs were taken on 24.07.2003

Menhir

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Menhir
(Pre Christian Period – Christian Period)



Location:

Historic Region- Kvemo Kartli
District - Tetrtskaro
1 km Southwest of Tetrtskaro

KP -84

Distance to the ROW- nearest-20m

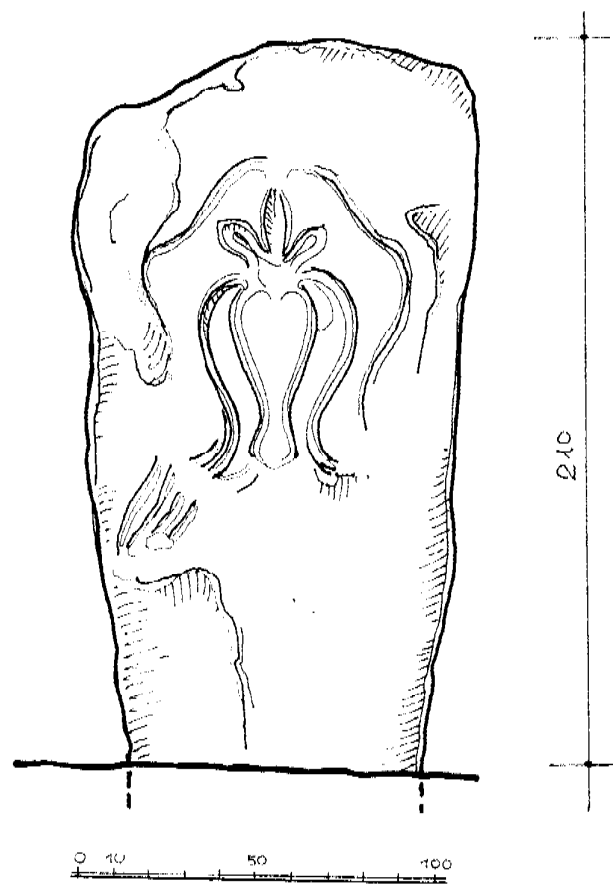
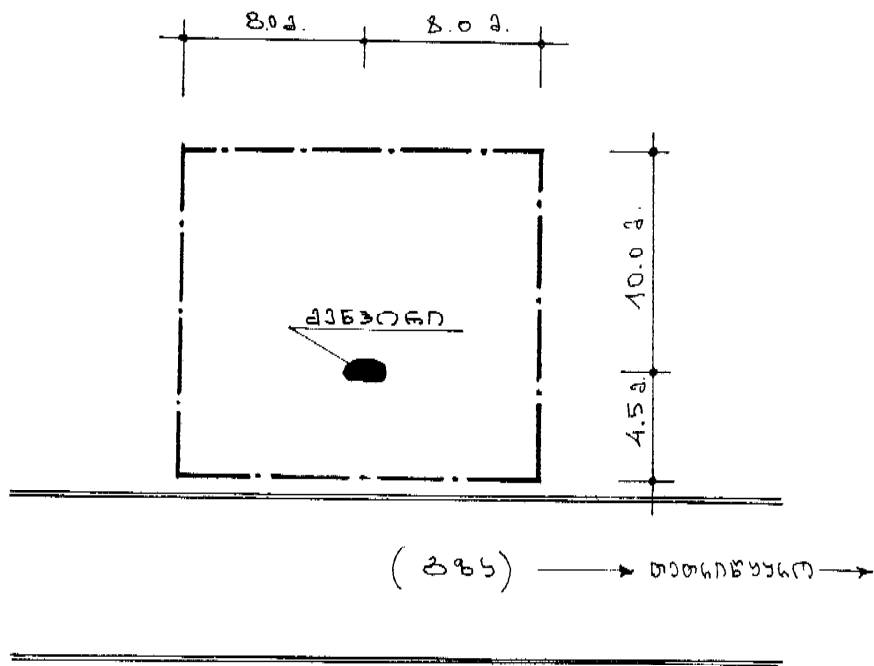
Brief Description:

A large Menhir, used as a praying place by locals, is located to the right of Tetrtskaro Ivanovka road. The Menhir is slightly raised. The script on the back of the stone is not clear.

Recommended Protection Measures

The Menhir needs to be straightened, signed and fenced with metal wire (as per drawing).





<u>S04-F001</u>	Menhir to the south-west from Tetrtskaro, kp_84	L.Bokuchava
<u>S04-F002</u>	Menhir to the south-west from Tetrtskaro, kp_84	L.Bokuchava
<u>S04-F003</u>	Menhir to the south-west from Tetrtskaro, kp_84	L.Bokuchava
<u>S04-F004</u>	Menhir to the south-west from Tetrtskaro, kp_84	L.Bokuchava

Photographs were taken on 23.07.2003

Nachivchavebi, Remnant of the Village

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Nachivchavebi Remnant of the Village
(XI-XVI c)



Location:

Historic Region- Kvemo Kartli

District - Tetritskaro

Right bank of the Riv. Chivchavi, 2km from the centre of the district

GPS Coordinates:

Main Church -8451874- 4600409

Second Church - 8451835-4600380

Tombstone with two figure images - 8451860-4600383

Structure below the traffic Road - 8452000 - 4600448

Structure below the traffic Road - 8452040 - 4600420

Boundaries of the Remnant of the Village:

8451940- 4600300

8451500 - 4600620

8452190 - 4600460

8451570 - 4600350

8451710 - 4600740

KP-85

The Eastern Part of the Remnant of the Village, which was built on the right slope of the Riv.Chivchava, is closest in proximity to the ROW. The distance between them is approximately 450m.



Monument-5

Abstract

Nachivchavebi Remnant of the Village is located between the medieval period remnants of the villages identified alongside BTC ROW from Tetrtskaro area towards Bedeni Plateau. It represents one of the largest and best-preserved historic settlements, it was cleaned and studied archaeologically during 1950.

The Remnant of the Village, as a developed settlement, has a characteristic location on the edge of the Gorge slope. General plan of the Village structure, terraces, communication connections, large and small squares are also legible. Two vaulted churches are located in the centre and outside the Remnant of the Village; Old Tomb stones, preserved in the cemeteries near the churches, are of great interest.

The monument consists of ruined dwelling complexes, with characteristic 5-6 rooms: hall, kitchen, compartment, wine seller, baker, Cattle shed and a field for agriculture; The Medieval Nachivchavebi Village has lost many of its most valuable items; the altar of the main Church has been roughly degraded by local Greeks; ornamented iconostasis stones, discovered in 1950 have gone, Stella, iconostasis pillar have also disappeared. The stone with the relief and figures of the main Church is lost.

The traffic road, which will actively be used during construction, crosses the monument. Special protection measures need to be undertaken to mitigate and avoid damage to the monuments below the village road. The preservation of the monument's current condition will support a future comprehensive reconnaissance of the village, containing numerous valuable materials. This will greatly contribute to the research of specific issues of history and architecture will help to make it more possible to restore a historic picture of the region.

Monument's Relation to the Traffic Road

The traffic road extending towards Bedeni Plateau crosses Nachivchavebi Remnant of the Village, the West side of the Village consists of dwelling complexes, church ruins and a cemetery, the East side of the road represents a small region built on terraces, above the river on the slope; one line of the settlement was built along the edge of the road, thus making it potentially vulnerable to construction traffic. For this reason necessary protection measures need to be taken.

General Description of the Location and the Planning

Like all the other remnant of the villages of this region, Historic Settlement Nachivchavebi is located on the edge of the Gorge slope. The Village encompasses a large area. It was built around the main Church. The population in this part of the village is denser. Houses are one floor and built on terraces. The structure of the narrow streets and lanes are legible in the general drawings. Village roads are also visible between terraced settlements (3m wide), possibly used by chariots.

The church occupies the central section. It is surrounded by an enclosure, which also protects the ruins of the three compartment structures and cemetery. Tombstones are detected outside the enclosure, South-East of the church and on lower ground-near the ruins of another church.

As for the dwelling complexes, on the bases of scientific literature reviews and field recognisance, they are characterised by the following:

- Dwelling complexes are located along the streets. The level of compartments can vary and they are connected by the stone stairs to each other;
- Complexes are characterised by the developed planning, they are of multi- compartment (5-6) and multi-functional (dwelling and agricultural) structures;
- The rear of the compartments are deeply cut embedded into the slope, and thus are stronger then facades, which explains the well preserved nature of the rear sections, when the exterior walls are mostly destroyed.
- Strong walls where built from dry masonry of unevenly shaped basalt stones. The structure doesn't contain a solution. The width of the walls are impressive, varies around 140sm.the coarse stones are mostly laid in straight lines, they fit tightly together;
- The typical dwelling complex of Nachivchavebi Village consists of –a hall, compartment, kitchen, cattle holding room, wine cellar and fenced agricultural field;
- Compartments usually are not of uniform shape; doors are frequently cut at the corners. The connecting corridors of the dwelling complexes are irregularly planned;
- The interior of the compartments have wooden beams with the pressed mud on top for roofing. Research, conducted in 1950 year, proved that the dwelling complexes had wooden beams to hold the roof, and dome-roofing construction was used on top of the fireplace.
- In front of the dome structure halls, in several places, there are corridors with the roof resting on the wooden pillars which itself had a stone basement.

The Church

Ruins of two churches have survived in the remnant of the village. One is located in the central part; the area around it is surrounded by a wall. The ruins of the other church are located to the Southwest of the main church. There is evidence of a cemetery in the vicinity of both churches. Several tombstones are placed on the terraces.

The main church is badly damaged and degraded. It is of medium size, vaulted structure. The church is built from a lime solution smooth, very large basalt quadras and decorated with artistic details and relieves. Only the lower line of stone with one row of foundation has survived. The split stone stairs surround the church on the inside up to the altar. The North wall, highest of all surviving walls, is covered with stone pile from outside. The entrance to the church was from the South; only the base of the doorframe has survived. It can also be shown that the floor of the church had been paved by stone.

The corners of the altar are built from pinkish basalt stones. The apse has lost its original face. The level of the floor is two steps higher than the other parts of the church. The walls, added later in the middle, have almost changed and made the altar narrower. The script on the lately inserted stone in the structure tells the reconstruction date – 1962 and the name of the craftsman – Karailanov.

Unfortunately, the artefacts piled in the ground at the South wall of the church in 1950 have disappeared: fragments of the ornamented chancel barrier, the facing stone of the South wall with the bar relief show images of a man, animals, birds and cross.

As for the other Church, it is located to the south of the main church, in the suburbs of the settlement. The dry masonry structure, survives on some line levels, so much has deteriorated that it's very hard to identify. The ruins are covered with grass; unfortunately the Stella with the hand image and fragments of the round pillar of the chancel barrier, found previously, have now vanished.

As already mentioned, tombstones from an old cemetery are laid at the South-East of the enclosed area of the main church, on the area towards the second church and on the terraces between them. A tomb stone which is located on the middle terrace is quite distinguished from the others; it is twice the width with a schematic image of two figures; the figures have round faces, circular shape eyes, eyebrows and turned up moustaches. The figure on the right has a sword, a plough and a jug image next to it. The tombstone must belong to the later period of XIV c.

Surface Cleaning Results and Date

Nachivchavebi Remnant of the Village became known to scientific literature in 1950, after its archaeological excavation and topographic planning; according to these publications, some mistakes had been made in the monument's graphical and photo fixation. This time, the existing condition documentation and the boundary identification for the remnant of the village were added to the existing material. Due to the size of the monument, limitations of time, and methodology of the surface research there is evidently a lot to study in the future.

The whole Village area is covered by forestation. Only the ruins of dry masonry structures of dwelling houses and agricultural buildings have survived. Churches are in the worst condition. Roots from trees, grown through the ruins, have damaged and make the monuments more fragile. Only the surfaces inside church and enclosure area were cleaned. The trees were cut down, the west, the south and the east façades of the church were cleared of dirt, only vegetation was removed from the Northern part, the dirt left on the North side protects the structure from ruin. The Southeastern part of the church is very fragile. The roots from an oak tree, have grown on top, and degraded the structure of the wall. The bottom and the branches of the tree were carefully cut down; as for the roots they were left untouched in order not to destroy the wall. The altar and its surrounding area, which was particularly full of debris were cleared; after cleaning the area the church became more visible and the fallen facing stones from the façades were discovered.

In order to define the original level of lately reconstructed floor of the apse, the stones at the North-east corner were removed. These showed the original level of the floor built with lime solution, was 15-20cm higher than the other part of the church. The shreds of a bowl glazed in blue and ornamented fragments of basalt stone, which are presumably fragments from the chancel barrier, were discovered during the stone replacement.

The surface clearing revealed also tombstones, which were covered with earth. Most of them are large flat surfaced stones. They are marked with small, vertically placed stones at their head and end. There are other tombstones, which have profiled surface with the cross image cut on top. Some of the tombstones have been replaced and have lost their original direction.

The Remnant of the Village can be dated from X-XVI c period monument. Although, it's worthwhile to mention that artefacts found within the lower layers of the monument make us think that people lived here even in the Pre Christian period.

As regards to the main church, unfortunately due to the damage and rough reconstruction, it is deprived of any architectural, art effects which would help to date the church more accurately. Based on the materials recovered from the cultural layers the church may belong to the XI-XIII centuries.

Significance

Nachivchavebi Village represents a rich and developed village settlement of that period. It had spring water, irrigation water, pasturing areas, agricultural fields, good conditions for the development of agriculture and cattle breeding. The number of multi functional compartments within dwelling houses indicates that the house of a peasant was more like an individual manufacture's house. As for there general layout and the use of dome style roofing for the hall, this represent excellent examples of Georgian folk dwelling houses.

The study of Nachivchavebi Village was of great importance. What makes it more interesting is that the tradition of the dweller within this village comes from the Pre Christian Period. As for the Medieval period remnant of the village, it's dwelling houses, ruins of the church, and tomb stones of the old cemeteries, agricultural tool store buildings and structures of different purpose give a comprehensive idea about the structure of village life at this time, history and architecture. The surviving materials provide significant amounts of information. Further research will greatly contribute to the identification of many different issues from Kvemo Kartli history and ethnography as well as in the field of folk dwelling architectural research. Accordingly, the protection of the monument is very important.

Recommended Protection Measures

The above ground monuments of the Remnant of the Village were studied in summer of 2003. The work undertaken included: description, photo documentation, identification of general layout, fixation of the church by architectural drawings, boundary identification and mapping, assessment of the monuments current condition.

The following protection measures are recommended for the monument according to the material, recovered during the field work:

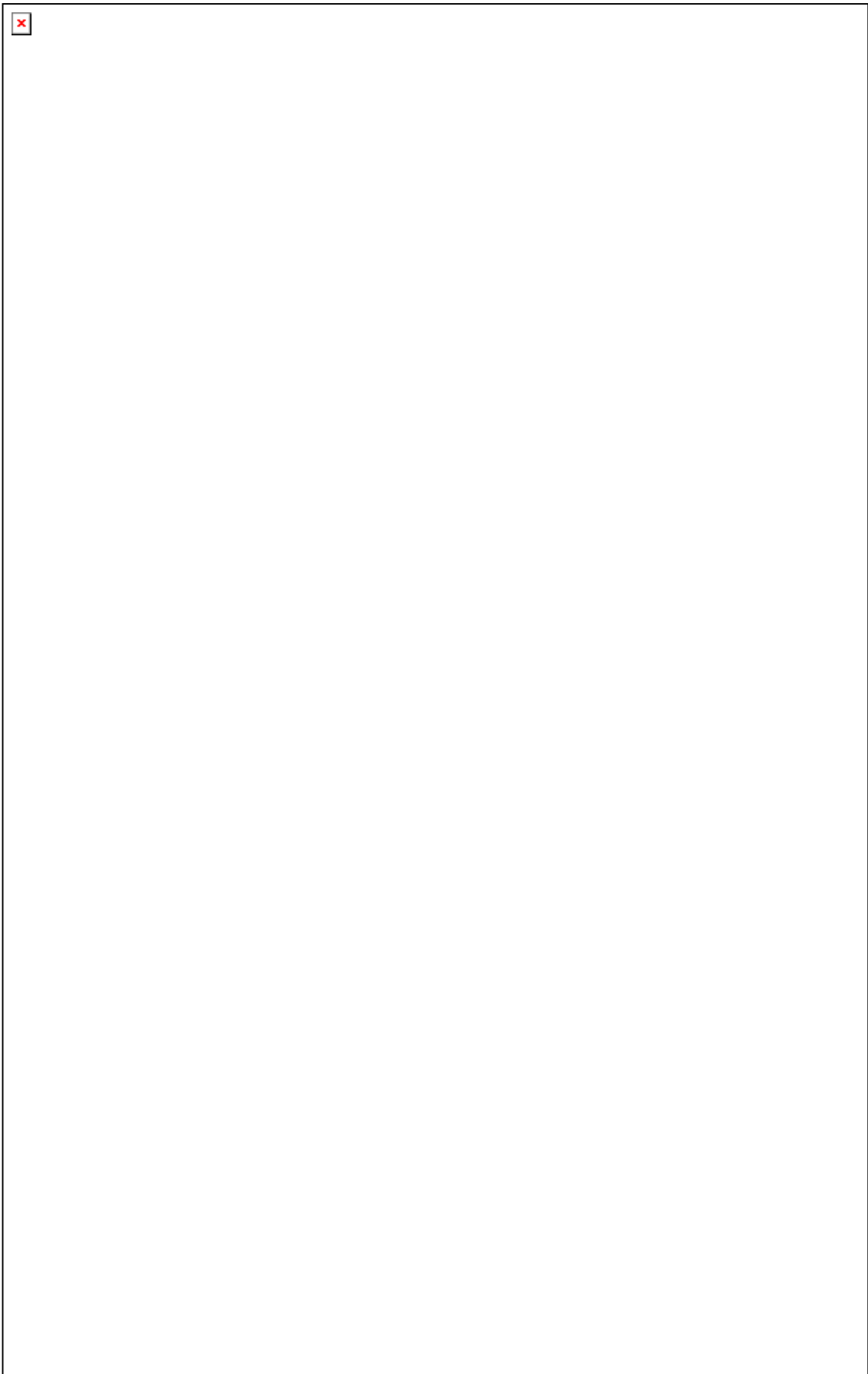
- Marking the definite portions of the village boundaries (adjacent to the roads and the ROW area);
- Barriers alongside the traffic road need to be in place throughout entire construction period in order to prevent encroachment from heavy vehicles.
- Implement vibration monitoring to protect dry masonry structures adjacent to road from heavy transport movement.

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8. I. Tsitsishvili, Monuments of Material Culture according to the historic-Archaeological Excavations in Tetritskaro, Selection: A Friend of a Monument, #50, Tb., 1979

Graphical material:

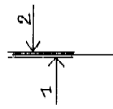
1. General Plan
2. Plan of the Church
3. Plan, Fragment of the plan (prospect)
4. Section 1-1, section 2-2, section 4-4
5. East, West and South Façade
6. Structure Stones of the Church
7. Structure Stones and Tomb stones
8. Tomb Stones



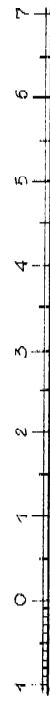
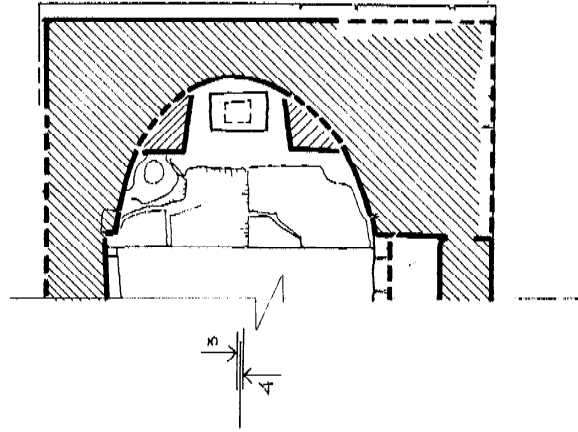
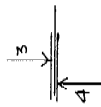
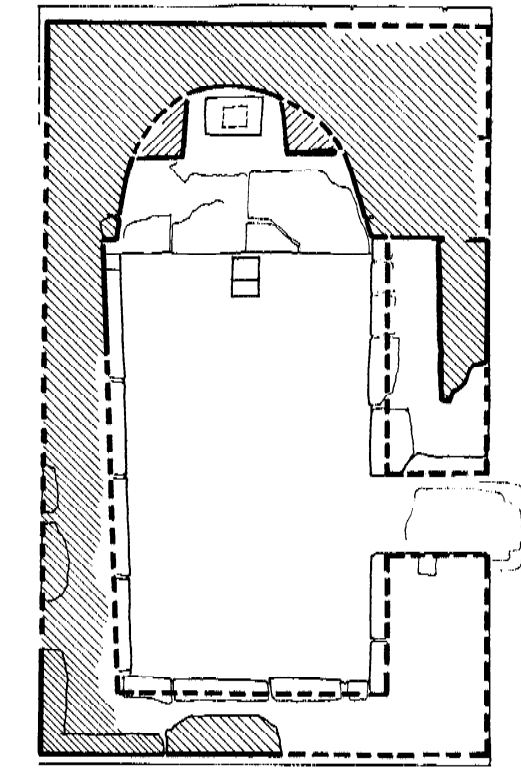
ბეჭდი № 5, კა-55

ნასოფლარი "ნაჭივჭავები"

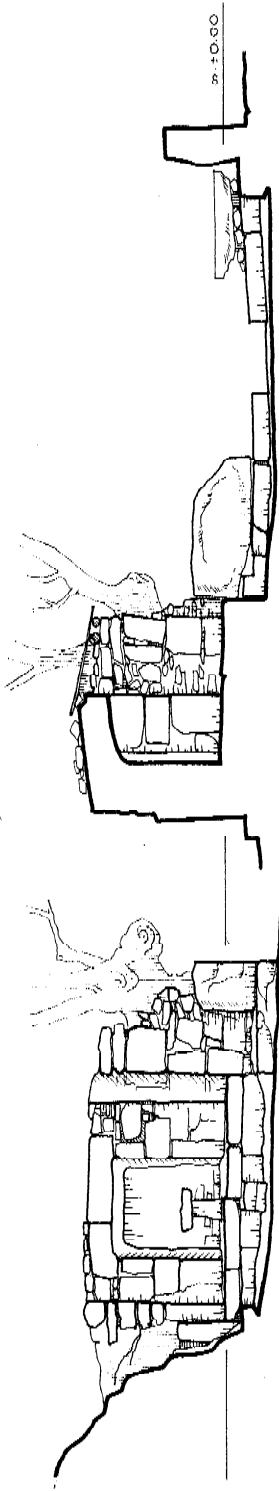
გ ე ბ მ ა მ.-1:50



გეგმის ფრაგმენტი (შურში) მ.-1:50

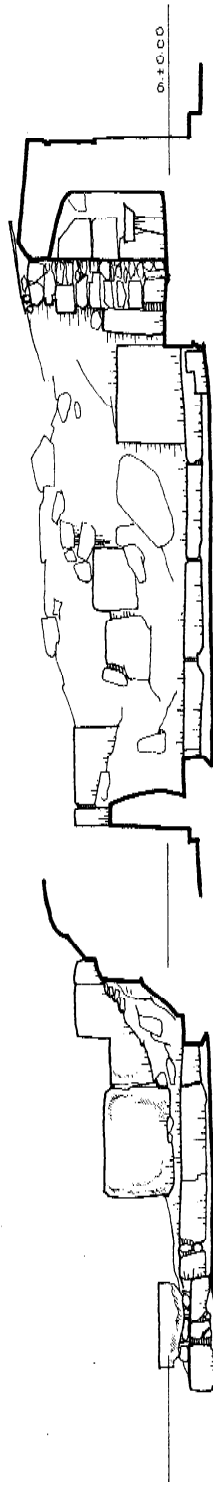


ბელო 5, კვ-85
ნასოფლარი "ნაჭივჯაშვი"



პრილი 1-1 ხედი აღმოსავლეთისკენ მ.-1:50

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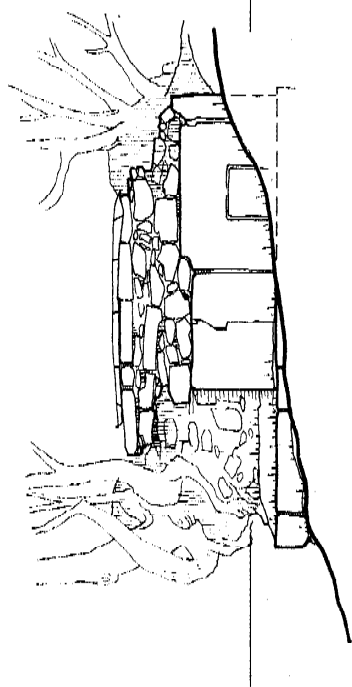


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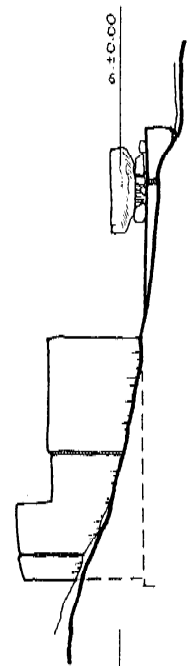
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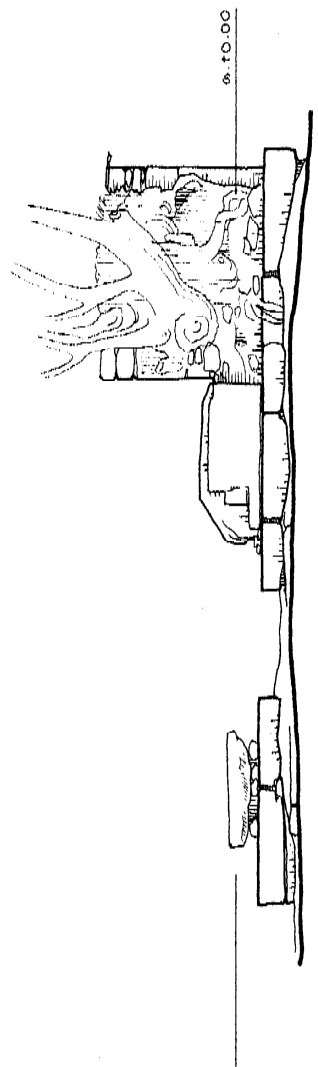
ნასოფლარი "ნაჭიგნაგები"
 გეოლოგ. 5, კვ-85



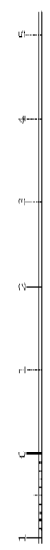
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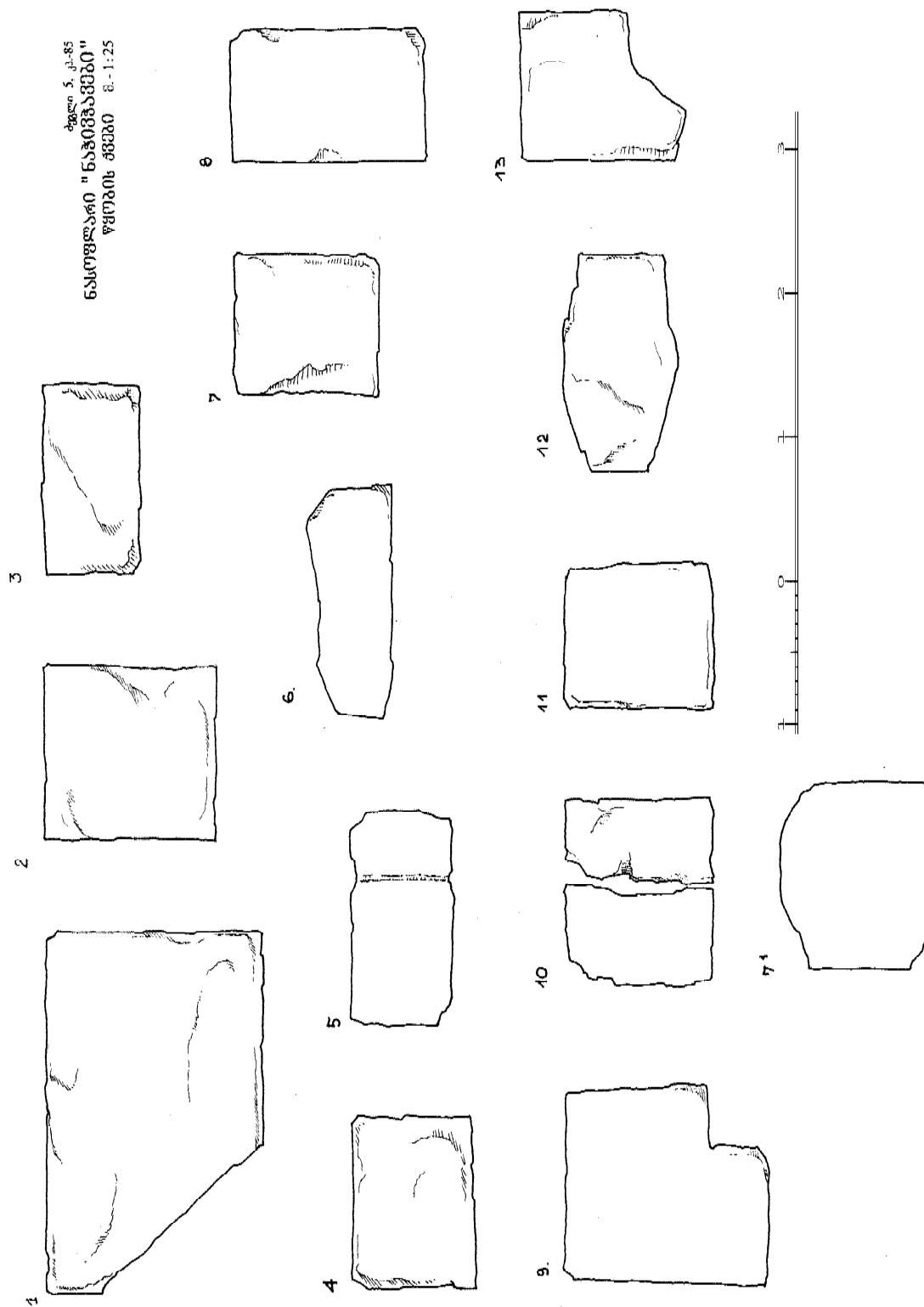
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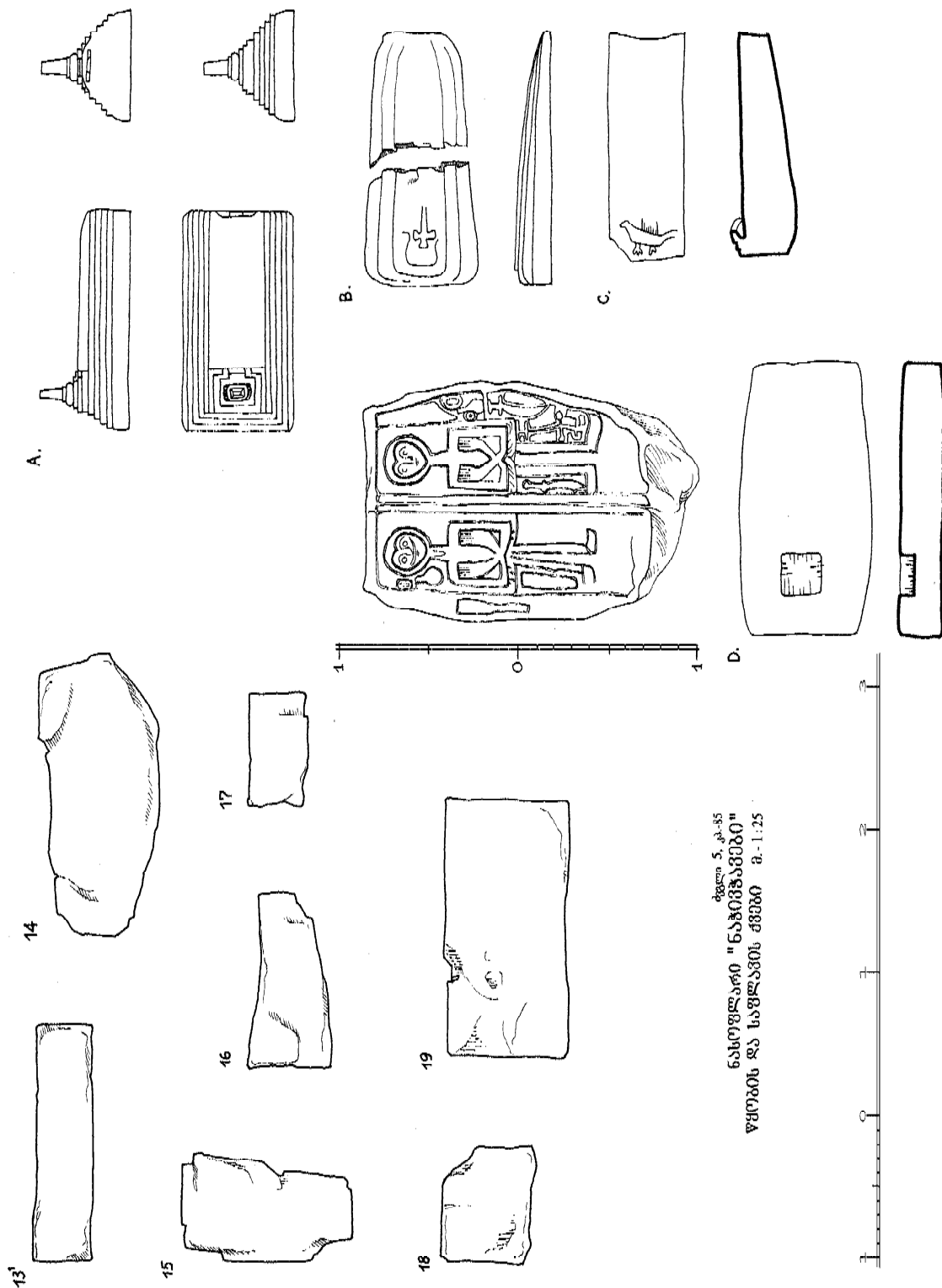


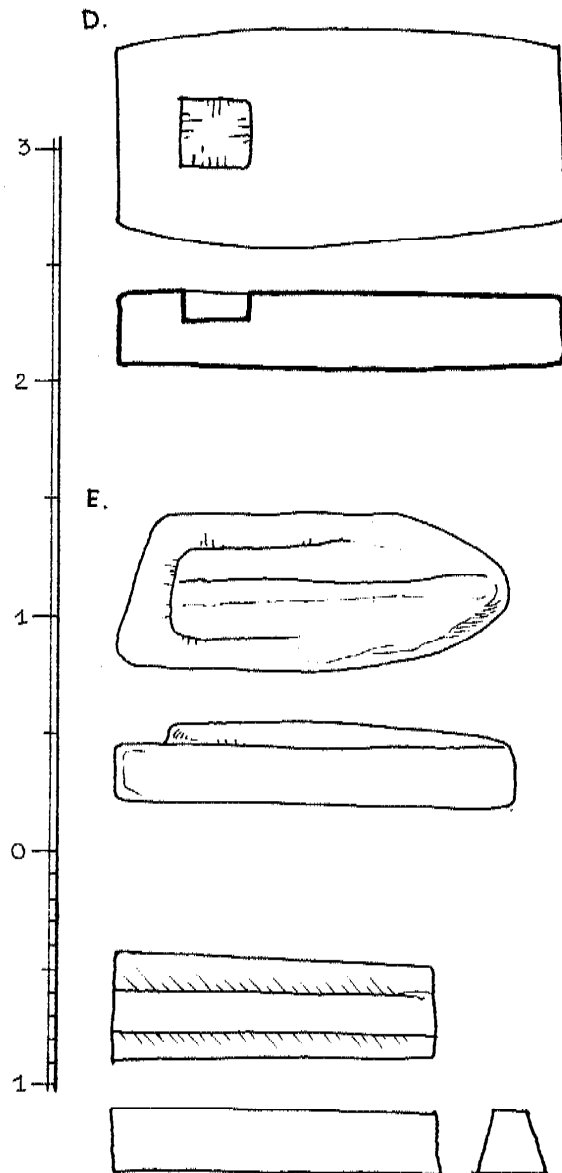
სამხრეთის ფასადი a.-1:50



ბეგლი 5, კა-85
 ნაოფლარი "ნაზიგაგანი"
 წერტილი 8-1:25







Monument-5

Photographic Material:

S05-F001	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი დასავლეთიდან გაწმენდამდე	M.Bochoidze
S05-F002	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი სამხრეთ-აღმოსავლეთიდან გაწმენდამდე	M.Bochoidze
S05-F003	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი აღმოსავლეთიდან გაწმენდამდე	M.Bochoidze
S05-F004	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი გაწმენდის შემდეგ	M.Bochoidze
S05-F005	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი გაწმენდის შემდეგ	M.Bochoidze
S05-F006	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი გაწმენდის შემდეგ	M.Bochoidze
S05-F007	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ინტერიერი გაწმენდის შემდეგ	M.Bochoidze
S05-F008	ნაჭიშკარები, ეკლესია, ხედი გაწმენდის შემდეგ	M.Bochoidze



Nachivchavebi, church, view from the west before clearing



Nachivchavebi, church, view after clearing



Nachivchavebi, church, view from the south-east before clearing



Nachivchavebi,church, view after clearing



The compartment of the dwelling complex to the south of the main church



Door frame
50



Nachivchavebi, tombstone



Nachivchavebi, tombstone with two figures

Remnants of the Village in Chivchavi Gorge

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Remnant of the Village in Chivchavi Gorge
(X-XVI c)



Location:

Historic Province – Kvemo Kartli

Region -Tetritskaro, 3 km west of the centre of the region, on the way between
Tetritskaro and Ivanovka, on the right bank of the River Chivchavi

GPS Coordinates:

Church -8450790-4602373

Boundaries:

8450750-4602225

8450430-4602450

8450680-4602630

845080-4602360

8450520-4602280

8450510-4602580

8450810-4602530

KP 87

Distance to the ROW:

The Crossing Sections of the Pipeline and the Remnant of the Village Area:

8450547-4602590

8450545-4602274



53

Monument-6

Abstract

The expedition by the Cultural Heritage Protection Department of Georgia identified Medieval Period remnant of the village in Riv. Chivchavi Gorge during the above ground monument research within BTC pipeline ROW in the year of 2002. although this monument was unknown to the scientific literature locals know about of its existence.

The church, located in the remnant of the village is built from coarsely hewn stones and lime solution.

A group of dwelling and agricultural buildings, like other remnants from villages in Nachivchavebi Gorge, are built from dry masonry coarse stones. Due to the use of archaic construction tools and the characteristics of the material processing these kinds of remnant of the villages were considered to be Pre Feudal Period settlements until 1950. Later it was discovered

that they represent medieval period village remnants, which contained small family dwellings and agricultural complexes.

General description of the location and the plan:

The remnant of the Village is located on the slightly sloped open area, within the woods. A small part is located on the right bank of the river Chivchavi.

The settlement consists of scattered groups of varying size and shaped compartments. The compartments are oval, round corner, rectangular and occasionally circular shape.

The North-east part of the village had been surrounded by a fortification which used to block the entrance from the Gorge. A large section (approximately 60m) of the wall was identified Northwest and South-West of the remnant of the village. The South-East part was also fortified by a wall with rectangular piers.

The main part of the densely populated settlement is located adjacent to the Gorge. It is bisected by the village roads. The ruins of the church are located to the South East of the village, and surrounded by the cemetery.

The structures of the village, apart from the church, are built from dry masonry, large basalt slabs (some of them 2m long). The stones are close together and make a unit Megalith. Most of the walls are 2 m wide. As for the church, it has a different construction.

Church Description, Condition and Surface Cleaning Results

The vaulted church with a northern annex is built from coarsely hewn, and a variety of size and shaped quadras. The larger stones are inserted into the base part of the structure. The characters on the façades structure and interior are different from each other. The façades are built from horizontal lines of larger stones. The structure in the main part of the church and the northern annex are identical. The main part of the building has a semi circular apse to the east. A rectangular shaped stone with cross image is located in the centre.

The rectangular niche has survived north of the apse. A similar of niche would have been cut on the South part though it would appear to have been destroyed.

The main entrance to the church was from the south. Traces of the door frame and huge architrave stone have survived.

The door in the North wall of the church was connected to the East annex. The Northern annex occupies the West part of the North façade. The annex extends towards the West slightly exceeding the church. The annex entrance is located on this side to.

The church is in a fragile condition. The 3-3, 5 m high standing wall of the church is cracked in the middle. Most of the coating stones on the facade have fallen down. Only the Northern part of the façade has survived. 1-3 lines of the South and the west walls have also been maintained; Northern annex is buried underground; no windows have survived; the scattered ruins cover a large area.

In order to perform the full restoration of the monument, the materials, lying on the ground surface, need to be cleared from the grass, bushes and trees. The walls and the connecting sections need to be explored. Work was conducted only partially, as the roots of the trees on the North are deeply embedded in the walls and there removal would cause further damage.

Treasure seekers have made the study of the monument more difficult. The tombstones along the South and West walls have been replaced. The interior of the church and its surrounding territory have been damaged by dug pits and earth piles.

The North and the West walls were cleared of earth piles, finally the coating structure was revealed at a 30-40 s-m depths.

40 s-m depth prospect trenches were cut at the North-east corner of the church, a one step basement was revealed.

Due to the large slab barriers, the layout of the Northern annex could not be identified. Clearing revealed the connecting corner between the North and West walls and the west entrance to the annex.

Tombstones in variety of shapes were found in the church area. One of them had an image of a man with tools next to him: an axe and a plough. A similar tombstone was located 50 m north of the church. Only the tools accompanying the figure are different, this one has jars and horns instead.

Tile fragments, broken ramparts of the pathos, bottom and side sections of pots were recovered from the mixed layers of the church ruins.

The remnant of the bottom of the glazed pot is characteristic to the XII-XIII c pottery (join of plant and geometric figures), as for the small amount of archaeological artefacts, they date back to XII-XV centuries.

Current Condition of the Remnant of the Village

The remnant of the village is covered with wood and moss. The church is relatively well preserved.

The surviving walls of the dwelling and agricultural compartments are approximately 1-2m high, the general layout is legible. The roofing construction can't be identified.

Date and the significance

The remnant of the village can be dated according to the church. The plan of the church, the stone processing style and the structure indicate that the church was built in X-XIII centuries. Tombstones around the church belong to the Late Medieval period.

Remnant of the village in Nachivchavebi Gorge represents a very significant monument of historic settlement. What is most significant about the monument are the indications to the high level of construction art in Medieval Period Georgia, which was also shown in a previous period of development; the most remarkable fact is an example of folk craftsmanship. People who built the church would have been ordinary craftsmen and they knew and employed traditions and leading artistic methods of construction.

The detailed system for village protection, which has been finely preserved in this remnant of the village, is worth mentioning. The general layout utilises natural conditions and fencing-piers to safely protect village dwellers from invasions.

The village dwellers grew crops and breed cattle. They had the best conditions for developing these areas of work.

The monuments have not been properly protected or studied. This type of architectural pattern needs a special system of protection.

Recommended Protection Measures

BTC pipeline passes over the less densely populated area of Southwest and Northeast of the remnant of the village. The fragments of enclosure, village roads and some compartments are near to the ROW.

CHPDG specialists conducted research activity on the above -ground monuments of the remnant of the village during the summer of 2003. The work included: boundary establishment; defining the pipeline centreline location on the village; description; photo fixation and assessment of the physical condition.

Based on the material, obtained from the fieldwork, the following protection and research activities were recommended for the monument:

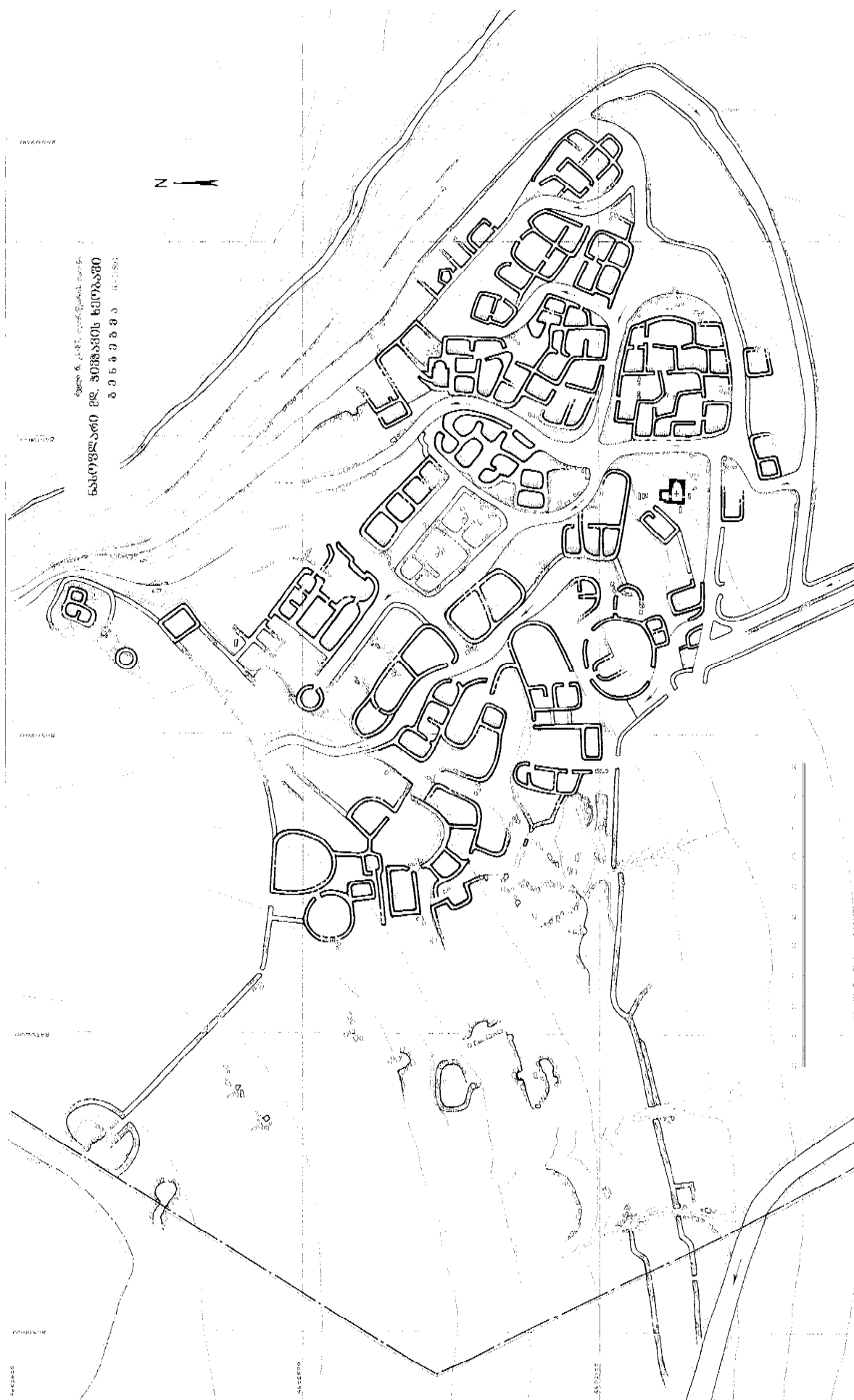
- Boundary Signage of the remnant of the village and the ROW;
- Study of the underground monuments at pipeline crossing sections;
- Construction process needs to be monitored by CAS;
- The monuments alongside the ROW need to be checked after construction to establish if any changes have occurred and what if any appropriate measures need to be taken.

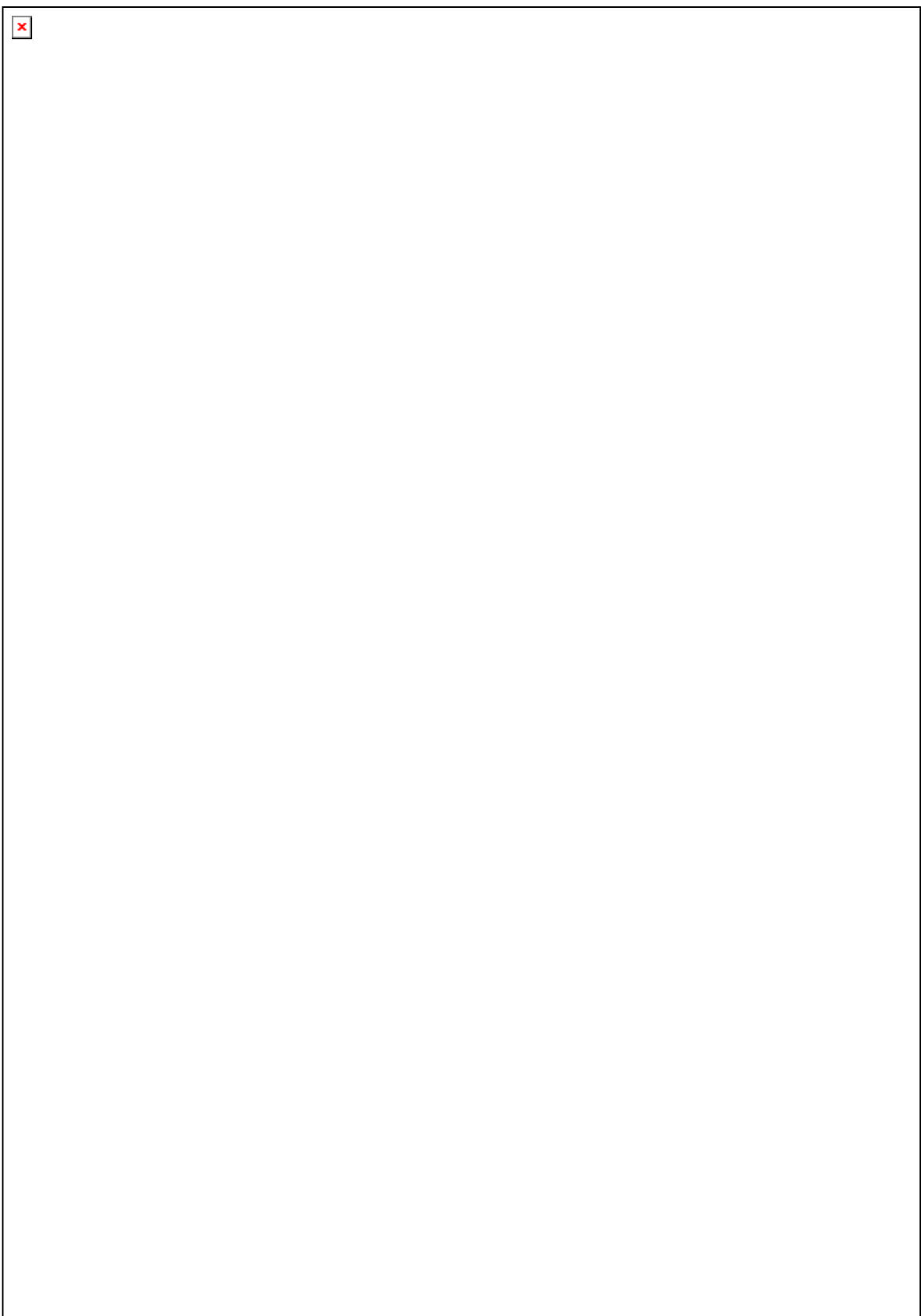
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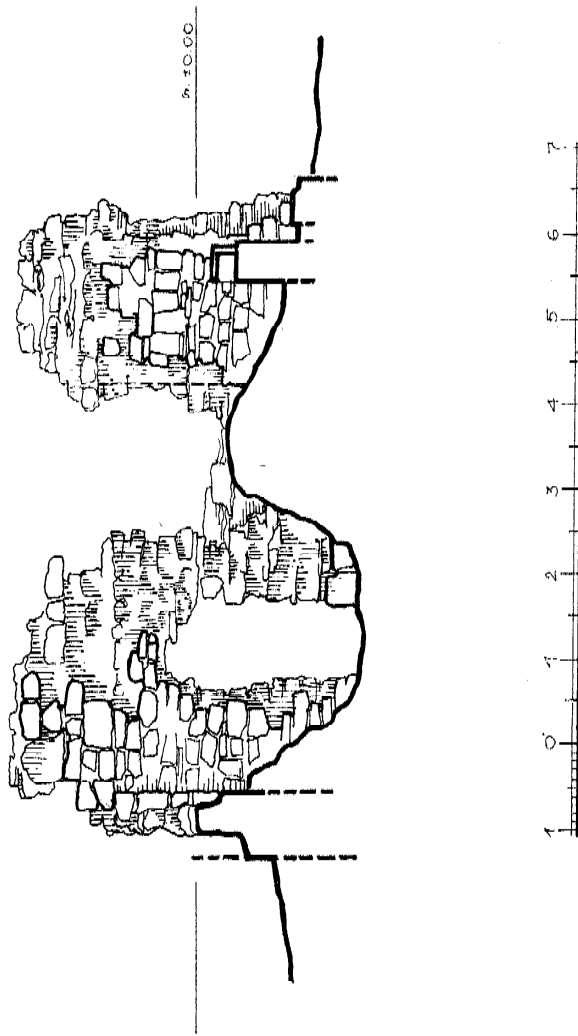
Graphic Material:

1. General plan
2. The plan and the sections of a church and its surrounding structures
3. Section 1-1
4. The church. Eastern façade, Western Façade
5. The Church. South façade, Northern façade
6. Table stone of the church and the tomb stones
7. Architectural fragments (drawings)



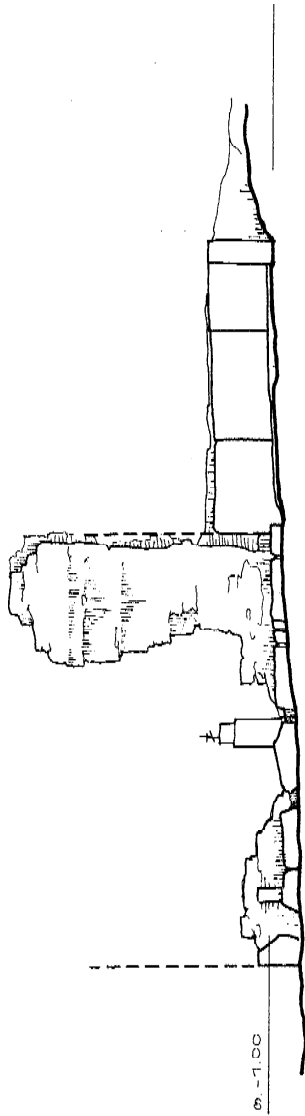


ნასოფლარი მლ. ჭიჭავჭავის ხეობაში
 გეოლოგ. რ. 6, კმ. 87
 ჭრები 1-1, ხედი ჩრდილოეთიდან მ. 1:50

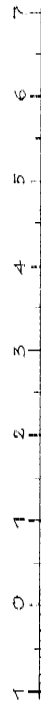
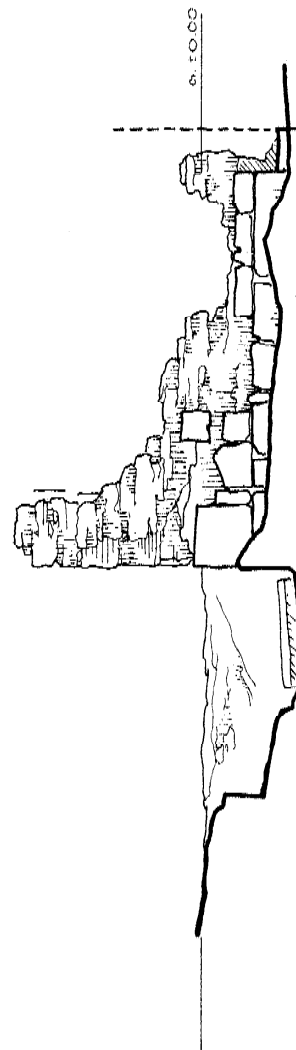


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 გეგმა ნ. კვ-87
 ეკლესია

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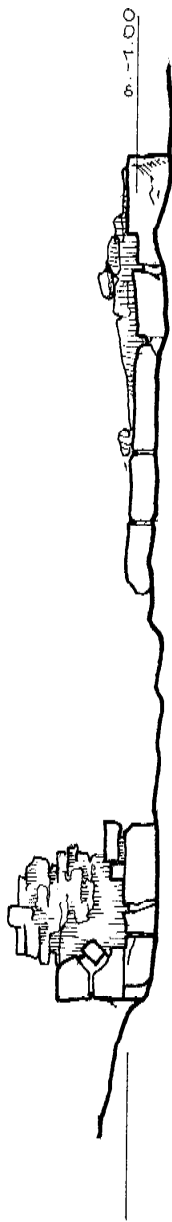


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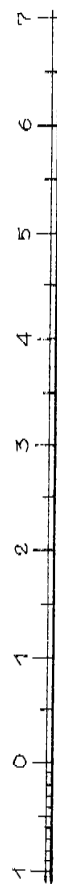
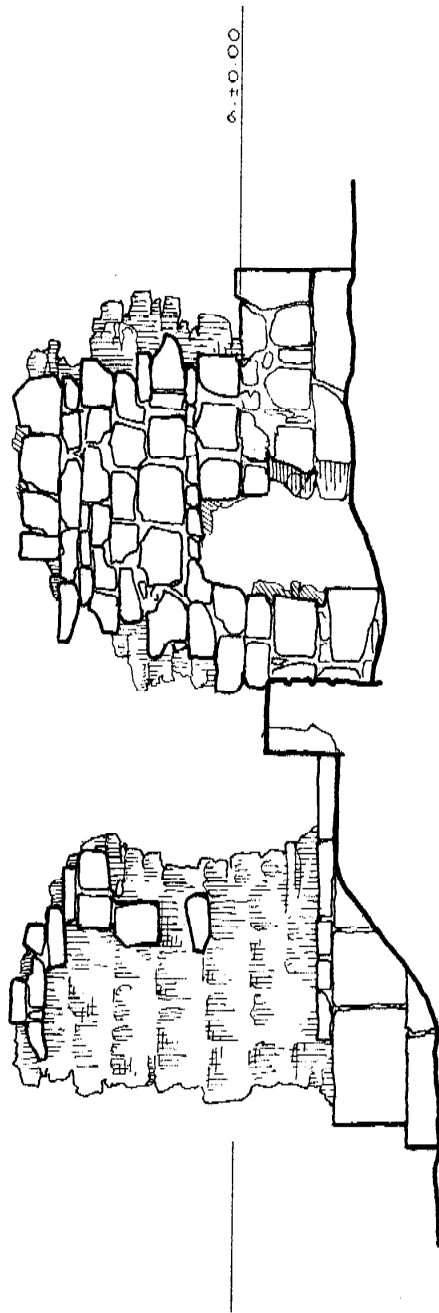


ბეჭდი 6, კვ.-87
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 ეკლესია

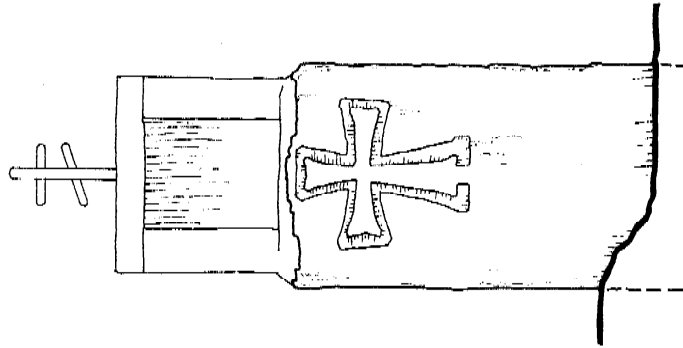
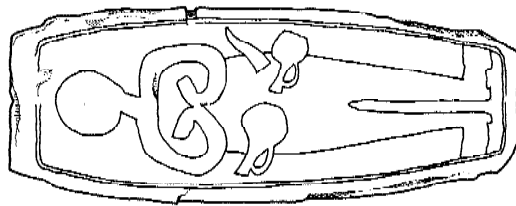
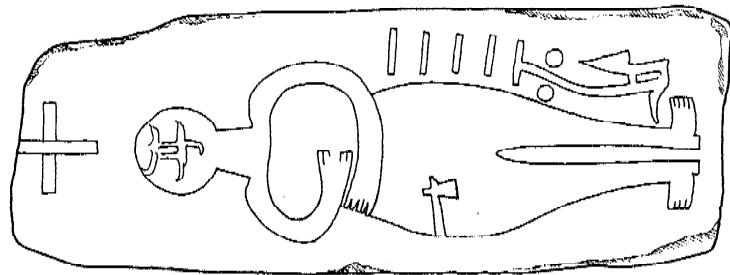
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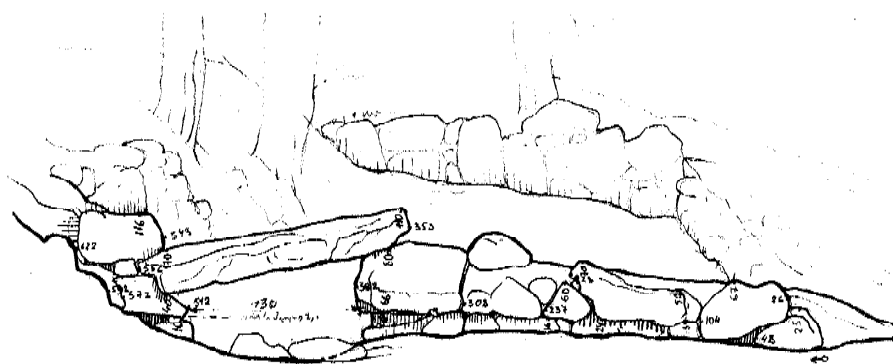
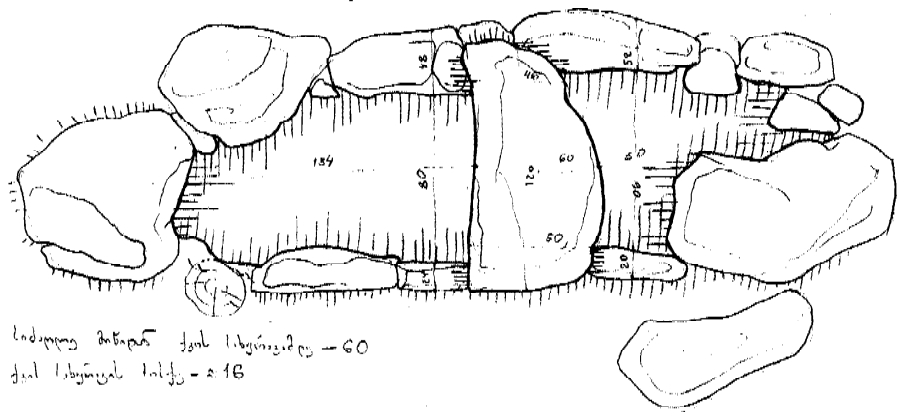


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 a 1:10

ქველი 6, კა.-87
 ნასოფლარი მდ. ჰივზავის ხეობაში
 არქიტექტურული ფრაგმენტები (ბანახალი)





Church, north wall



Church, view to the north after clearing



The church after clearing, view from the south-east



Remnants of the village, fragment of the structure



Remnants of the village, the wall building structure



Remnant of the village, tombstone



Remnant of the village, tombstone

Newly Identified Church KP 88

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Newly Identified Church KP 88
(XII-XIII c)



Location

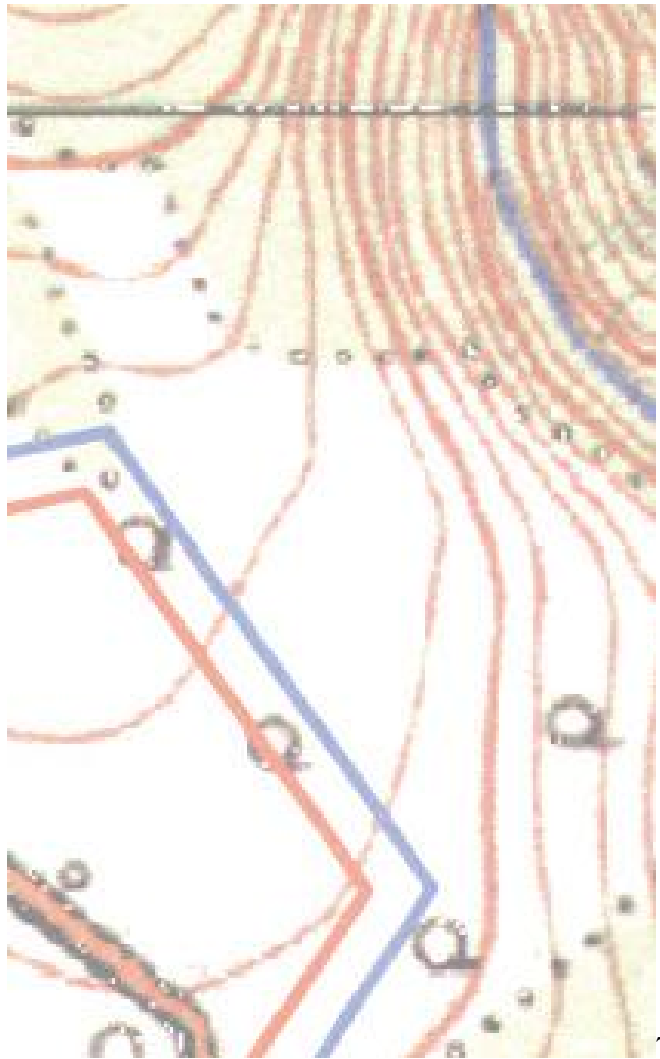
Historical Province - Kvemo Kartli
District - Tetri Tskaro, 5 km northwest of the district centre

GPS Coordinates

Church -8450460-4602633
Protection area boundaries:
8450489-4602620
8450445- 4602620
8450445 – 4602650
8450480- 4602650

KP 88

Distance to the ROW - 50m



Abstract

The ruins of the church were identified on the pump station area, KP 88. The material recovered during surface clearing proved that the interior of the church was decorated with murals; also evident are lavishly engraved iconostases; the church was roofed with blue and dark red glazed tiles.

General Description of the location and the Results of the Surface Cleaning

The ruins of the church are located on the BTC pump station area, on the right bank of the Riv. Chivchavi, adjacent to the woods.

The existence of the church in this location was indicated by a vertical stone with the image of a cross, the elevation of the area and the fragments of the fortification walls in the South-West part.

The area was covered with tall grass, bushes and trees. During the surface clearing the grass, bushes and trees were cut. Piles of stones and the South-East corner of the structure were revealed.

This stimulated the continuation of the clearing activity, otherwise it would be impossible to define the structure and make any fixation.

The clearing revealed a lower structure of walls and South annex of the church. Entrance doorframes were detected in the South wall of the church and in the South annex.

The stones of the Eastern wall basement are very fragile and mixed into the earth. In order to define the shape of the altar, 60sm wide and half, a metre deep prospect trench was cut in the interior, which revealed the floor smoothed with lime solution and the shape of the altar was also defined.

The table at the wall was also recovered in the centre of the apse. It's built from small stones and lime solution. Full profiled, pink clay, a plain bottom pot was discovered near the table.

A large amount of pottery, similar to the ones found in this site, were found in the feudal period remnant of the settlements and remnants of villages in East Georgia, which belong to the XII-XV c.

The bottom of the multi colour glazed bowl and the glazed tiles belong to the XII-XIII c.

After the photo and graphical fixation the monuments were backfilled with the same earth.

Style of Architecture and the Plan Composition

Although the surface clearing couldn't reveal the complete plan of the monument, the recovered artefacts indicate to the style of monument architecture, measurements, construction material, details of decoration for the interior and date.

Various sized coarsely hewn stones and large slabs represent the main construction materials of the church.

The inside walls are coated with small, smoothly faceted stones which were originally designated for murals.

It's evident that the doors were framed with hewn stones and the church was roofed by tiles glazed in blue and red.

The monument has a mostly spread style of ecclesiastic architecture in Georgia. This is the vaulted church, which was very popular throughout the Medieval Period. It is often accompanied by additional compartments which connected to main building.

The church was surrounded by an enclosure built from large slabs (2m X 1,60m); fragments have survived on the South-East part.

Interior Decoration

The painted and ornamented iconostasis in the alter of the church gave the idea about an interior image of the church. The iconostasis is made of yellowish stone.

Its ornament consists of stylistic images of leaves, flow of scrolled tape and wattle circles. The iconostases decoration is of high craftsmanship.

Date

The idea that the church belongs to the XII-XIII c can be proved according to:

- The pottery, recovered during the surface clearing;
- The square shape of outline for the plan;
- Choice of interior and exterior construction materials.

The ornament performance style of the iconostases, which is contemporary to the church building period, is not of as high quality as XI c stonework. Though still of a high standard; it's mainly characterised by the use of plant ornaments together with geometric ones, this was very rare after XIII c period architecture.

Significance

The newly identified church is very significant in terms of research of the history and material culture of Kvemo Kartli.

The fragments of the iconostasis in front of the altar are of particular importance, they represent an amazing example of Medieval Period stonework.

Recommended Protection Measures

- The church area needs to be fenced and marked by with signs.
- This part of the construction area needs to be monitored by CAS representative during construction period.

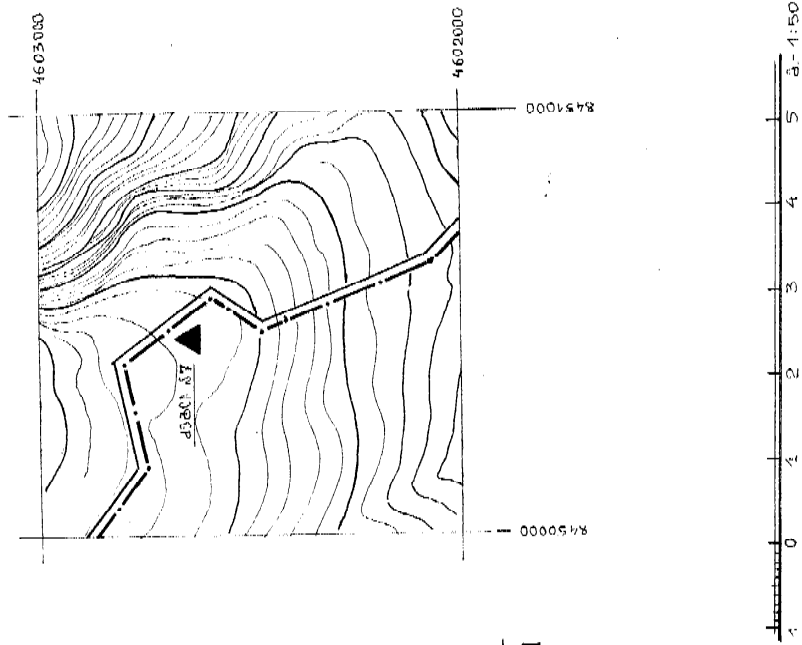
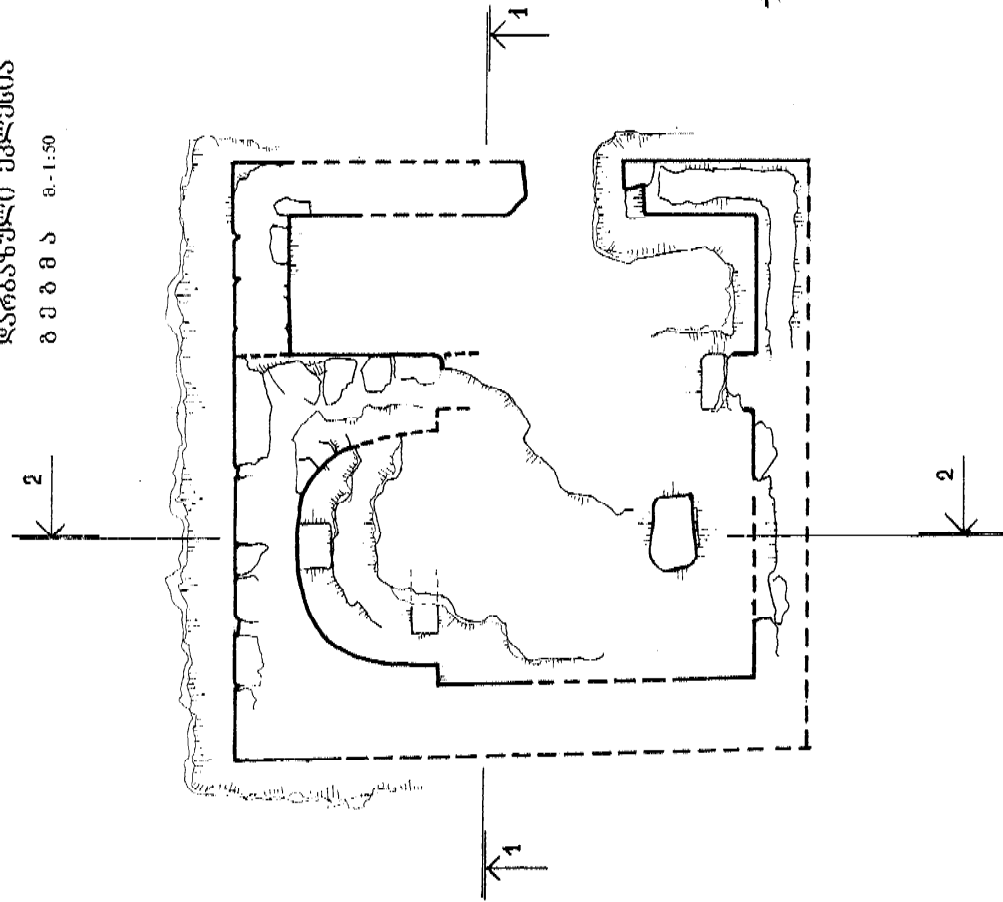
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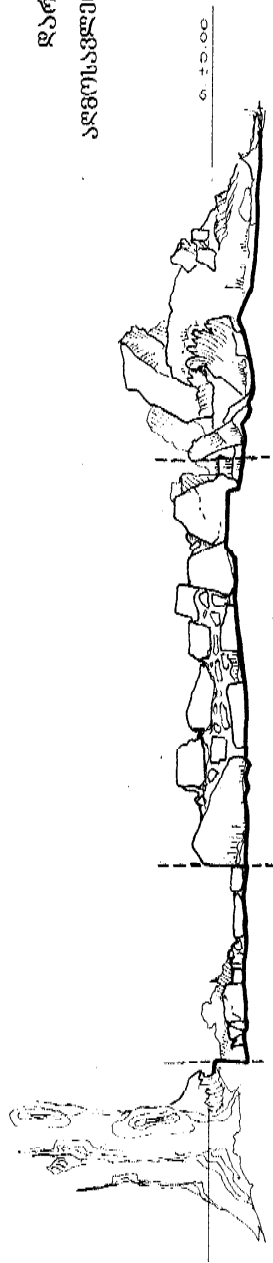
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1. The Plan
2. Eastern façade, section 1-1, section 2-2
3. Architectural details
4. Architectural details
5. The fragment of the stone of iconostasis

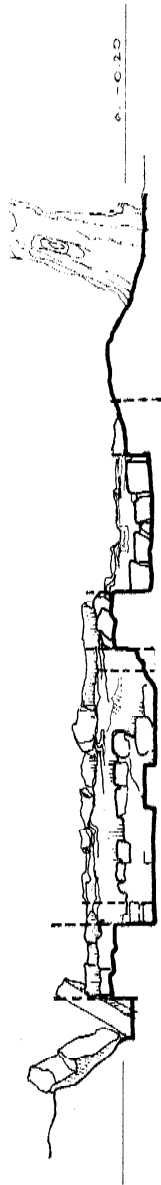
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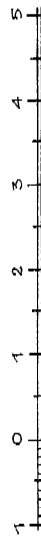
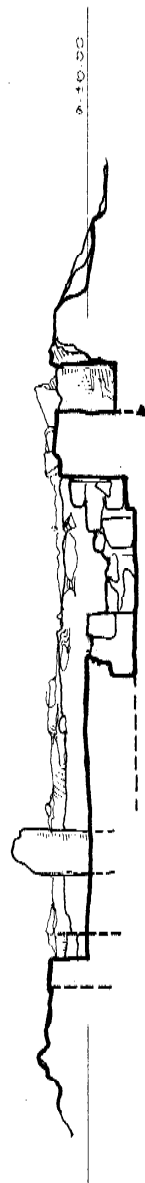
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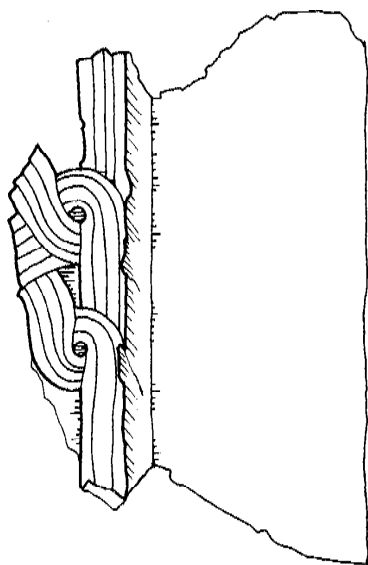


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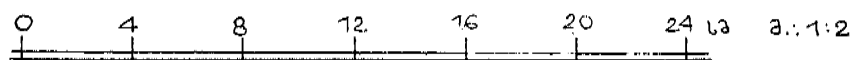
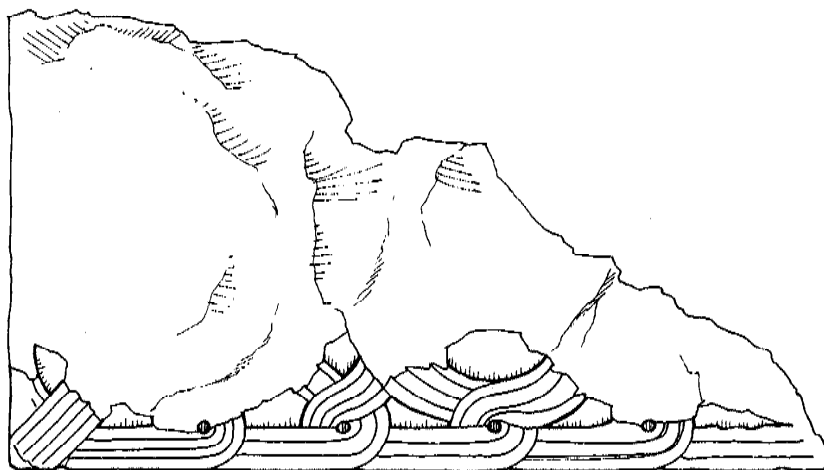
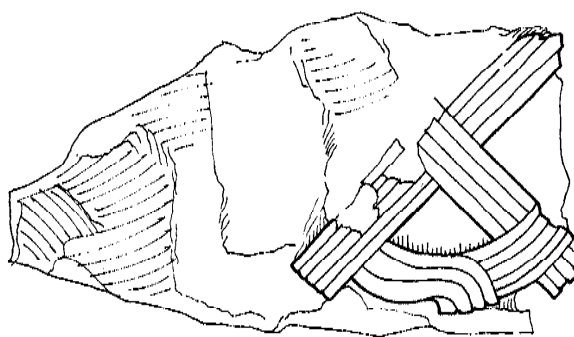
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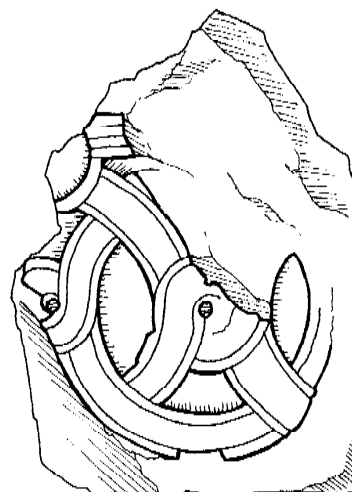
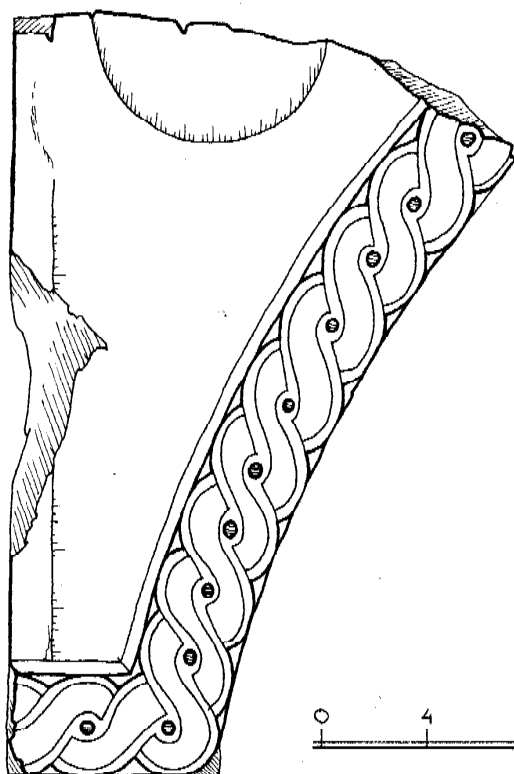
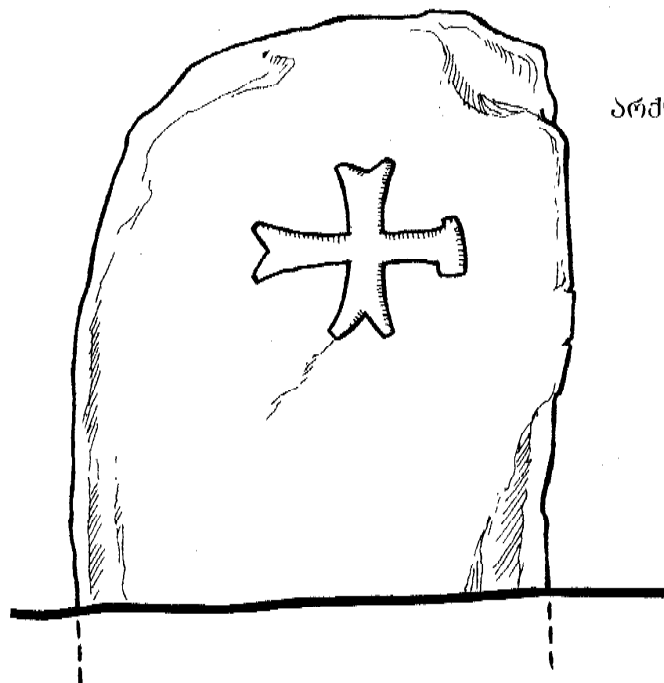
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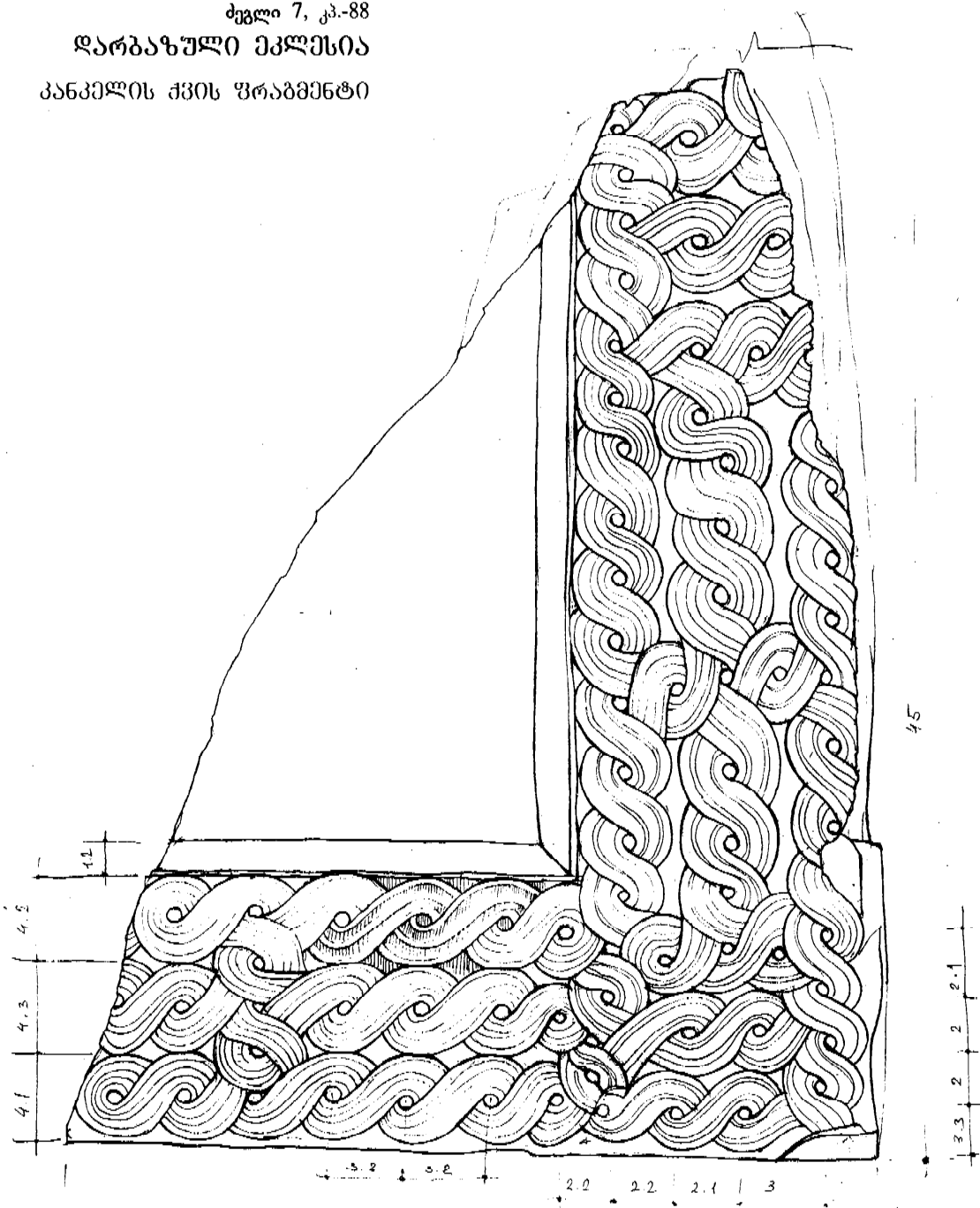
ბეჭდი 7, კპ.-88

დარბაზული ეკლესია

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ძეგლი 7, კპ.-88
 დარბაზული ეკლესია
 კანკელის ქვის შრამენტი





View prior to clearing



Remnants of the village, view after commencement of works



Process of clearing the church



Process of clearing the altar

Tkemplara Remnants of the Village

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Tkemplara Remnant of the Village
(XI-XVI c)



Location

Historical province - Kvemo Kartli
District - Tetritskaro , 4,5 km North-West of the district centre

GPS Coordinates

The Church - 8449650 – 4603450

Boundaries:

8449380 – 4603355

8449350 – 4603490

8449430 – 4603560

8449730 – 4603530

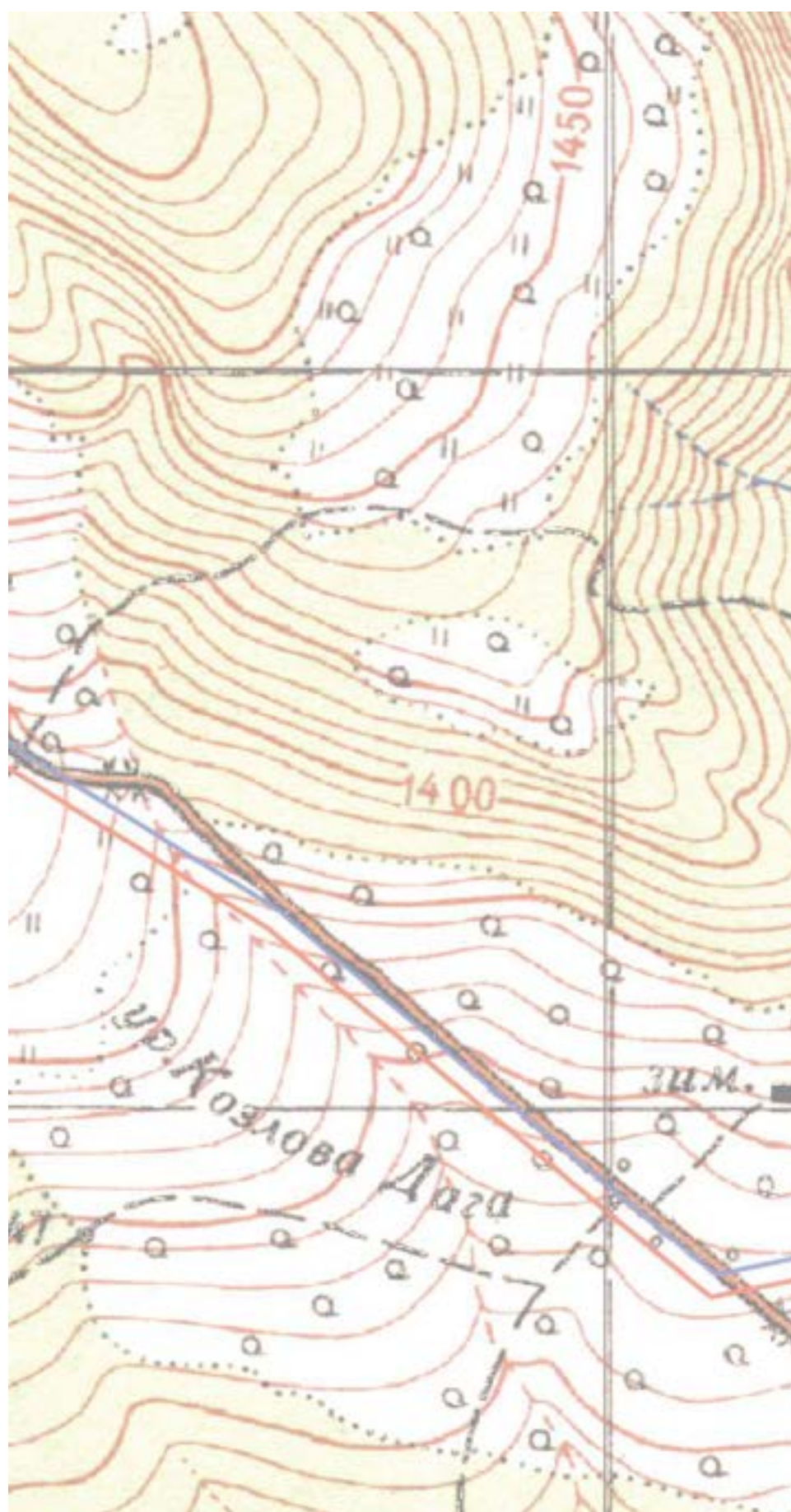
8450270 – 4603430

8450420 – 4603300

KP -89

Distance to the ROW

The remnants of the village are located adjacent to the ROW.



Abstract

Tkemplara represents one of the best-preserved and interesting examples of Medieval Remnants from the villages in Chivchavi Gorge. The area was partially researched in the 1950s. The village area was topographically mapped. Prospect trenches were also dug. According to the recovered material the monument was dated as XI-XVI c.

The village consisted of dwelling and agricultural complexes. Each house has its own yard, threshing-floor, and cattle-shed and other compartments. The village roads were designed for both pedestrians and wheel carts. The village had its own church. Water was consumed from the spring.

In summer 2003, CHPDG staff researched above ground monuments for the remnants of the village. The work included the following activities: village boundary establishment and relation to the ROW; Description of the monument, graphical and photo fixation; current condition assessment and defining protection measures. Surface clearing was conducted only on the church.

Tkemplara represents one of the Chivchavi Gorge village remnants, which are crossed by the BTC pipeline ROW.

General Description of the Location and the Plan

The remnant of the village is located on a sloping wooded area and advances in an East-West direction. The village remnant is bordered to the north by a plateau which is covered by forestation and a valley, and by Gorge from the West. The Southern area is flat and crossed by a traffic road. Further on, the village disperses into the woods and accordingly evidence of building remnants become more difficult to trace.

The general layout of the village is irregular but still displays evidence of a systematic design. The group of buildings consist of different shaped compartments related to each other. A network of roads can be seen from the centre of the densely populated area.

The South-Western part of the settlement is of more regular planning. Here, there are mostly large, rectangular shaped compartments. The groups of the buildings to the South-East have round-corner, ellipse and rectangular shaped compartments.

A vaulted church with a Southern annex is located to the North of the densely populated area of the village. It is surrounded by an enclosure. There is also an old cemetery located near the church.

The dwelling complexes of the village are built from large, coarse, basalt slabs (some of which are 2m high), without a solution. The stones are tightly packed together. Small spaces have been closed with small stones.

The church is constructed in a different method. It's built from different sized, coarsely hewn stones and lime solution. The church consists of two chronological layers, which has been proved by the construction material. The North settlement was surrounded by fortified walls with piers, the fragments of which have been preserved.

The church

The church is a vaulted type, with Southern annex. 60 % of its whole structure has been preserved.

The general layout of the structure displays a slightly elongated rectangular shape (measures: 7, 6mX 6, 9mm). The vaulted section is mainly built from split stones, there are no horizontal rows. The walls are smooth both inside and out.

The South wall of the church and the South-East part of the Apse has been refurbished with a different material. The stones used here are also coarse but they are of larger size and form regular layers. The same material has been used for the construction of the Southern annex.

The eastern part of the vaulted area has a semi circular apse. It has rectangular niches on the both sides. There is a window located in the alter. The entrance is from the South.

The Southern annex represents a compartment running the whole length of the hall and has rectangular southern end. The annex has the same structure as the refurbished church.

The South entrance to the annex is on the axis of the church entrance. It was roofed with the arch cut from a single stone (the arch has presently fallen down).

The building is surrounded by a dry masonry enclosure; there is a cemetery near the church.

The Surface Cleaning Results of the Church

The area surrounding the church was cleaned from the loose dirt; the trees completely covering the church have been cut down.

In order to reveal the foundation a prospect trench (2m X 70sm) was dug on the connecting section of annex and vaulted part, along the Eastern façade. Many tile pieces were found in the loose dirt, as for the foundation, it was not identified.

A number of tombstones are located inside the enclosure, alongside the East and West façades. Some are profiled and more or less smooth surfaces when cleaned of moss and dirt. The tombstones have different shapes and decoration. Some of them are marked by single, vertically placed small stones at either end.

The tombstones aligned in a row to the west façade are lying directly on the coating stones and tiles that have fallen from the church walls and roof.

This indicates that the cemetery was built after the ruin of the church.

Current Physical Condition of the Remnant of the Village

Tkemplara village remnant is covered in forestation. The church is in better condition than all other structures. The preserved walls are 1, 5 – 3, 5m high. The walls of the structures are cracked; a large tree has grown through the middle of the building. The top rows of the structure are fragile.

Within the dwelling houses the remnant of the village has survived to different degrees. Some of the compartments have been levelled down to plan legibility; others have survived at 1-2 m high; the roofing construction has vanished;

Approximate date and Significance

The church represents the best dating source for the village. The composition of the plan, style of structure and interior part of the church indicates the X-XI c. Later in the XIII-XIV c it would appear to have been refurbished. The Southern compartment of the building was constructed during the same period.

Although the structure represents an ordinary village church, it possesses significant architectural characteristics. The structure is characterised by the construction craftsmanship and which is identical to the ecclesiastic period in relation to space-composition and artistic architecture. It also possesses the regional architectural which characterises Kvemo Kartli.

Tkemplara village remnant is a significant example of medieval period folk architecture. It represents the construction characteristics associated to the Megalith Period,

This tradition has been continuously employed throughout this part of Georgia (historic province Kvemo Kartli).

Tkemplara indicates to the high traditions of agriculture and construction of Chivchavi Gorge dwellers. It gives a good idea about peasant dwellings of that period and the culture and life of a Medieval Georgian village.

Recommended Protection Measures

Specialists conducted research of above ground monuments at the remnant of the village in the summer of 2003. The research involved: boundary establishment for the remnant of the village; description of the monument; graphical fixation by the architectural drawings; photo documentation and assessing the physical condition.

BTC pipeline ROW passes over the South-Western part of Tkemplara remnant of the village, which could cause the ruin of important parts of the remnant of the village.

The following measures are recommended for the protection of the monument:

- CAS specialists need to monitor the site during construction period.
- Marked the boundaries for the remnant of the village
- The above ground monuments need to be checked after construction to establish whether any changes have occurred and what if any appropriate measures need to be taken.

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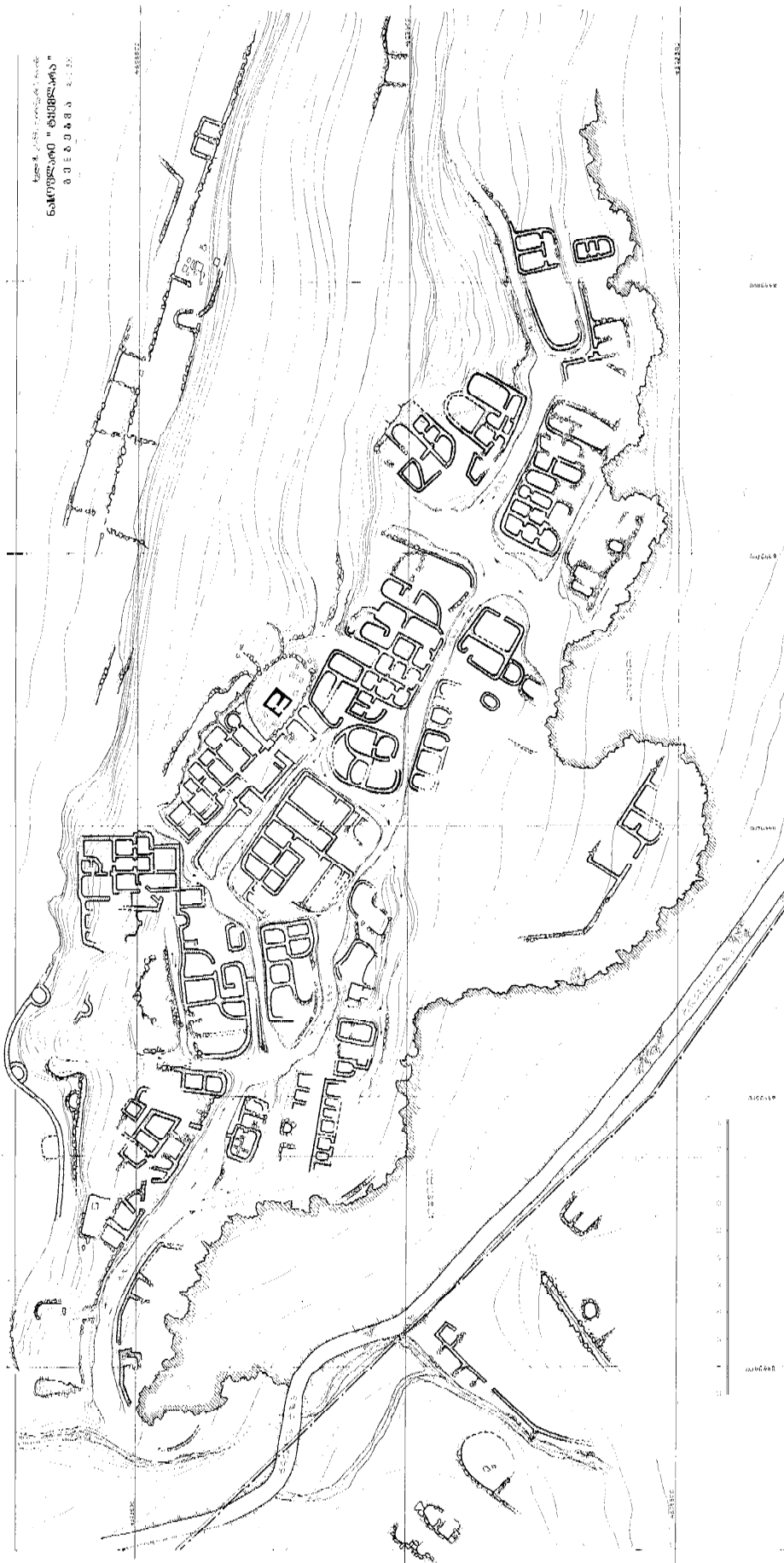
Nadarbazevi Complex

Graphical Material:

1. General Plan

The church

2. The Plan
3. Section 1-1
4. Section 2-2
5. Section 3-3
6. Section 4-4
7. Section 5-5
8. The Eastern façade
9. The Western façade
10. Southern façade, Northern facade
11. The walls fragments of the buildings

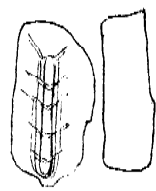
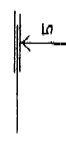
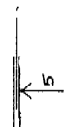
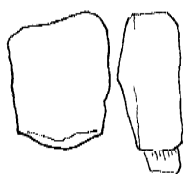
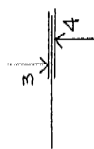
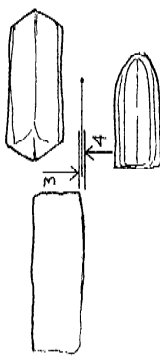
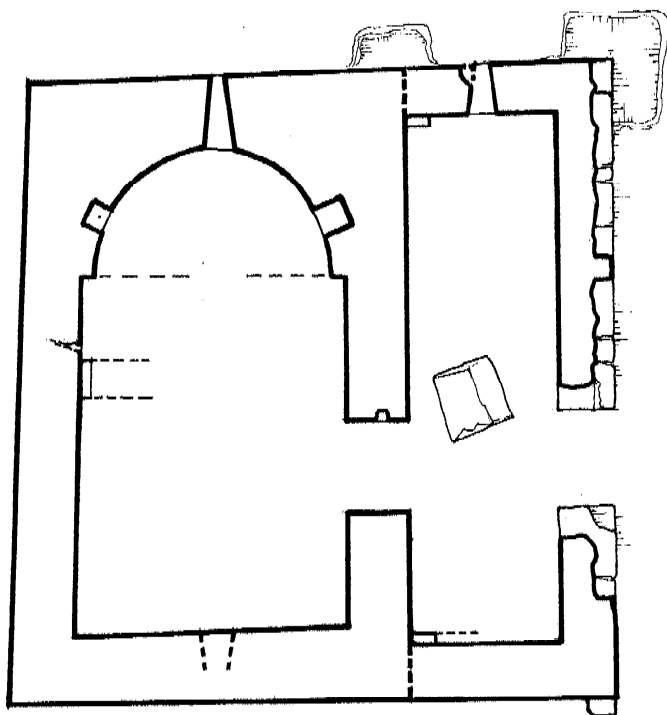


02.11.2020
"SWISSBROS" - DWG. 001/01
Architect: SWISSBROS

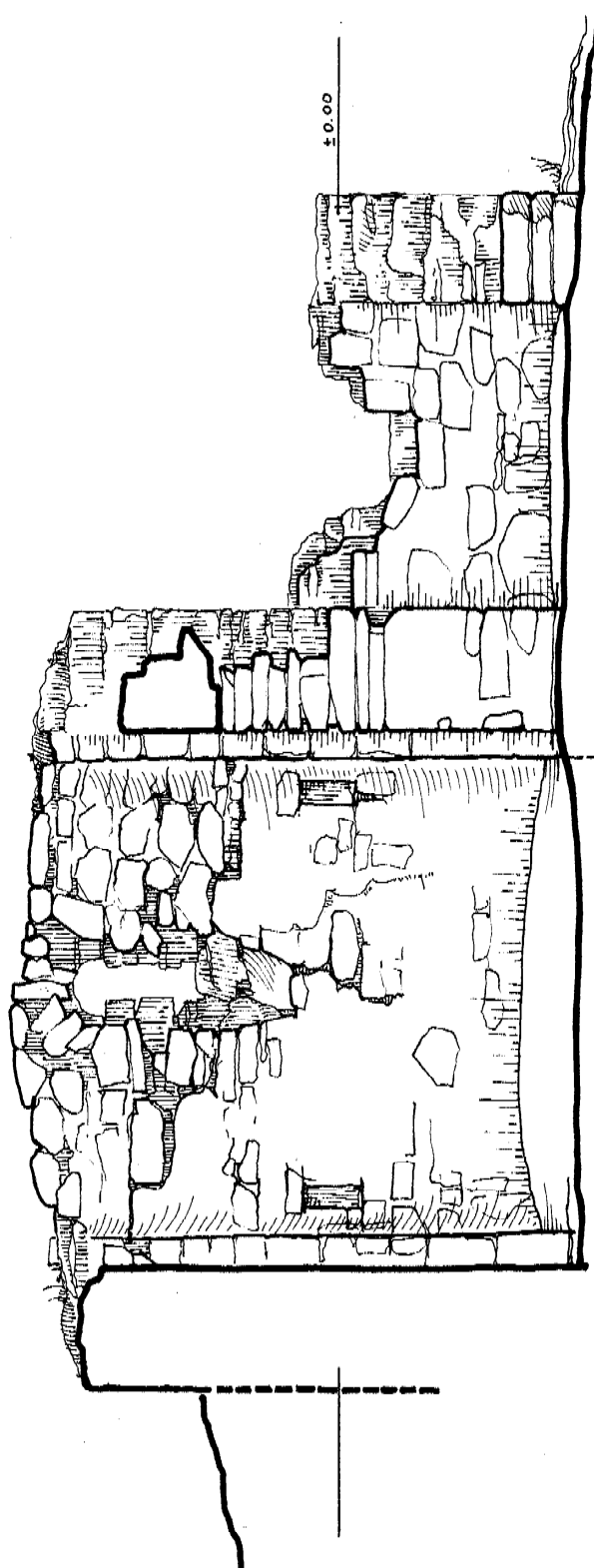
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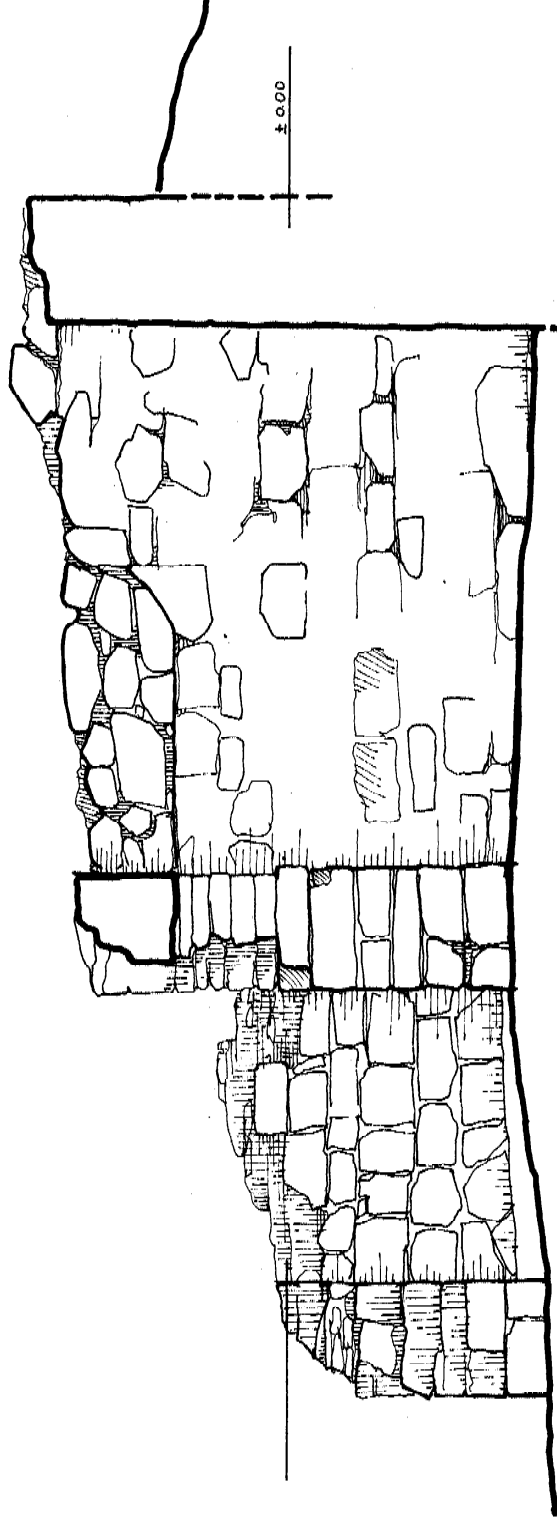


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 გორი 1-1, ხედი აღმოსავლეთისკენ მ.-1:25
 გეგმა



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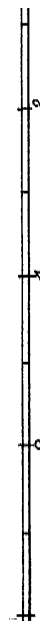
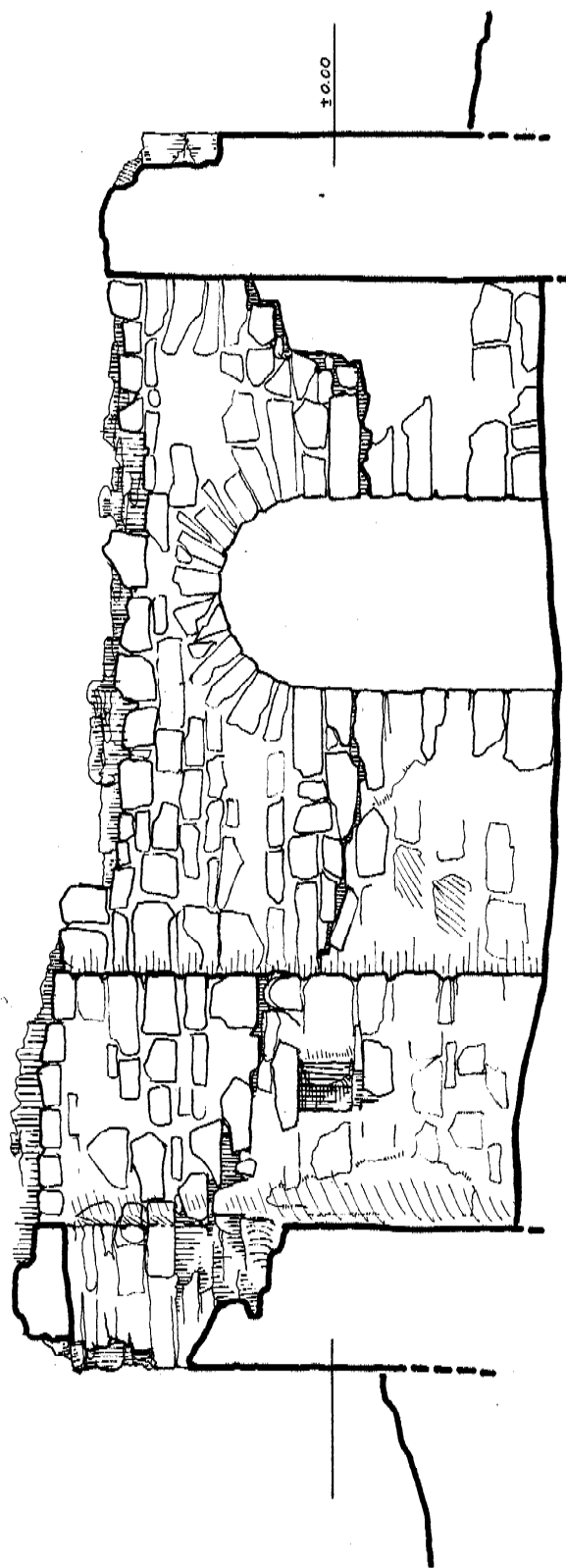
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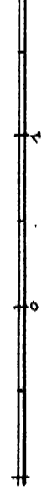
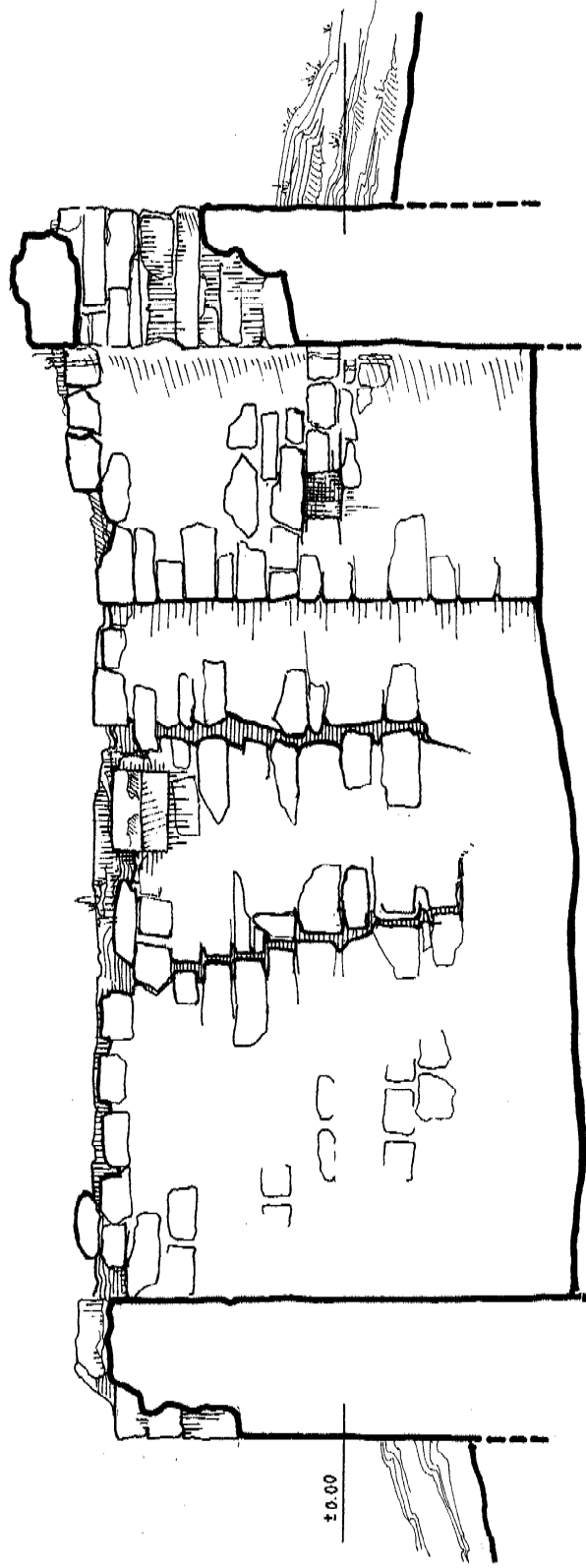
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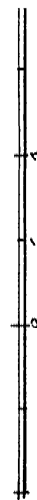
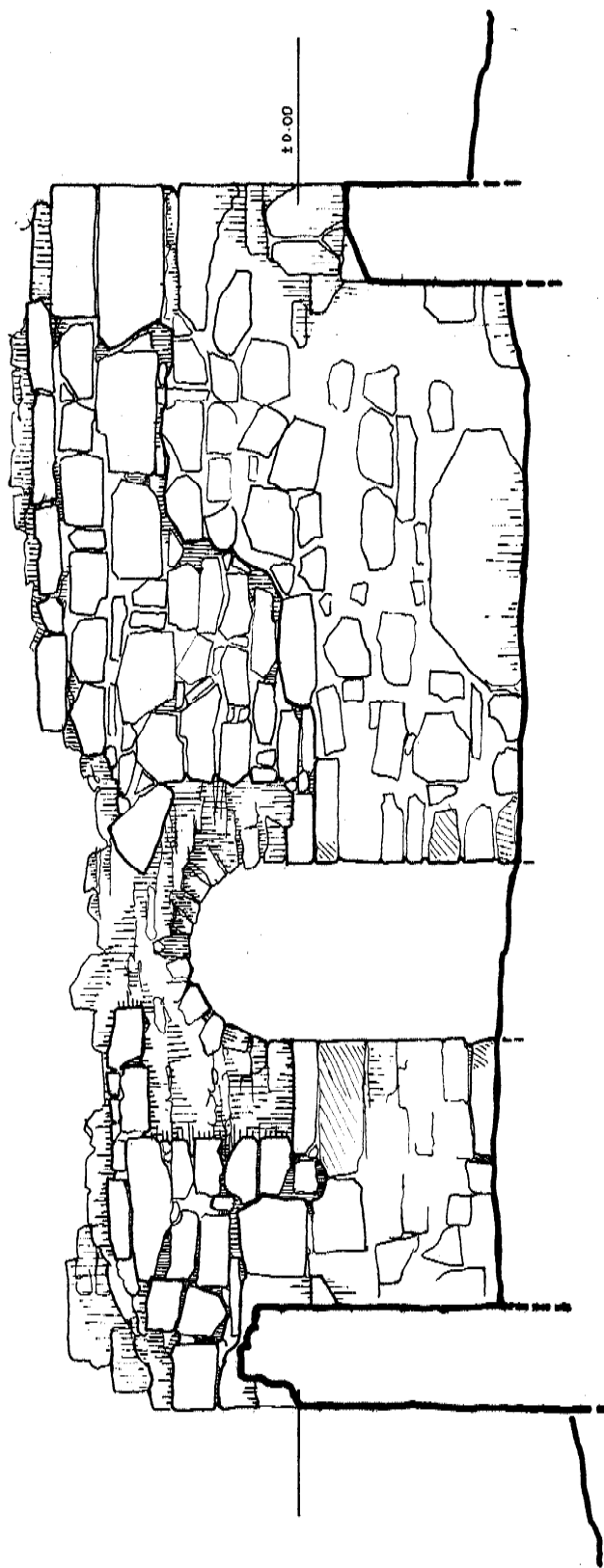


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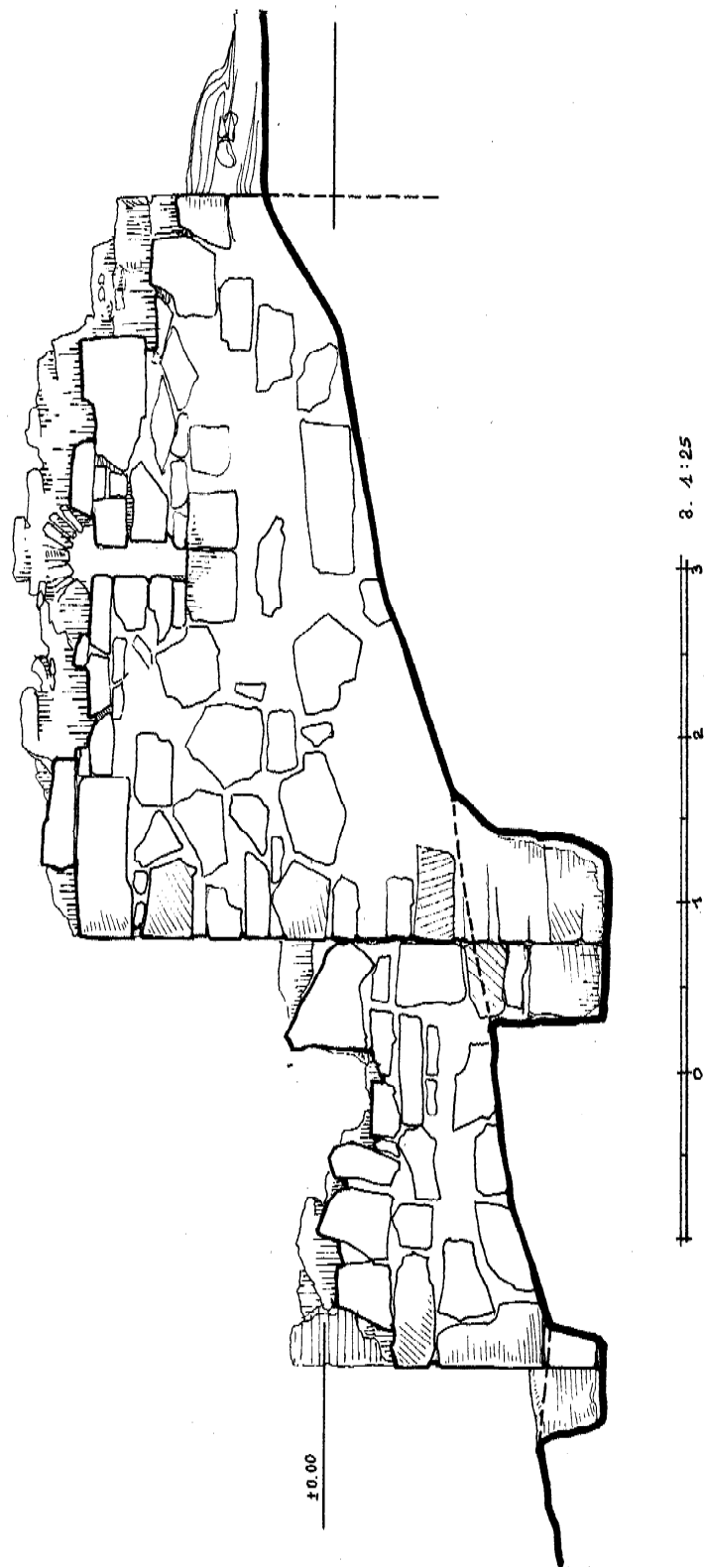


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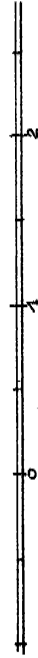
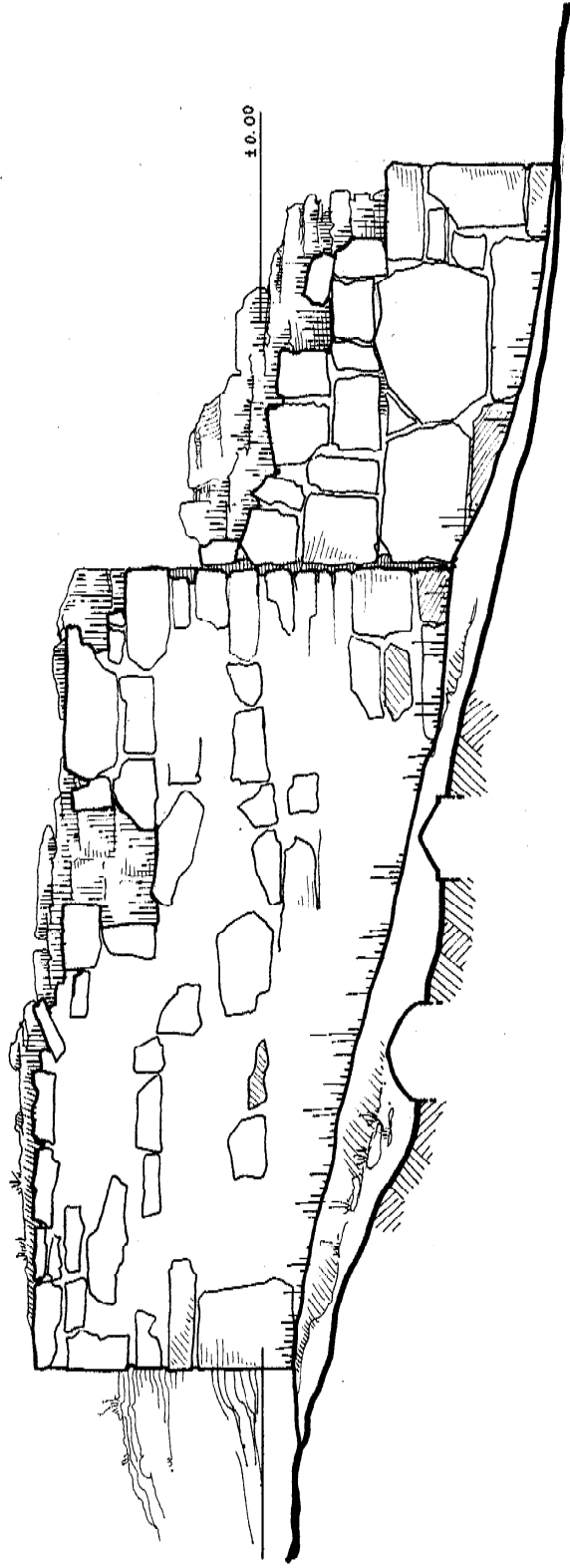
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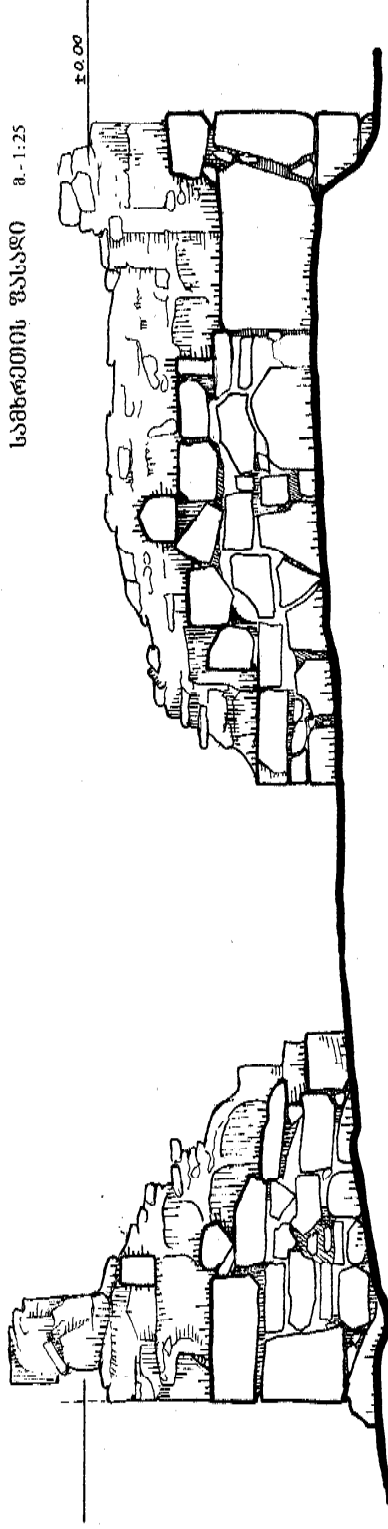
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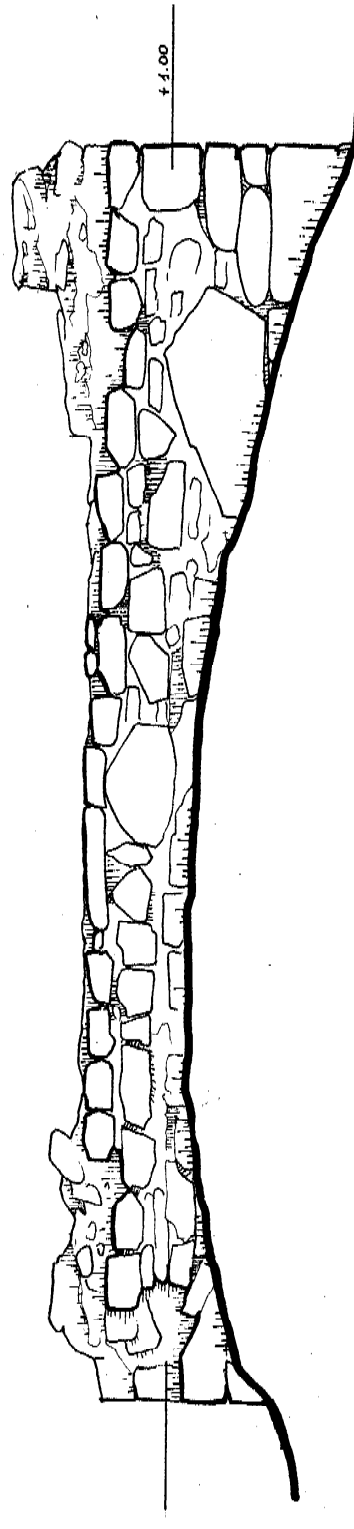
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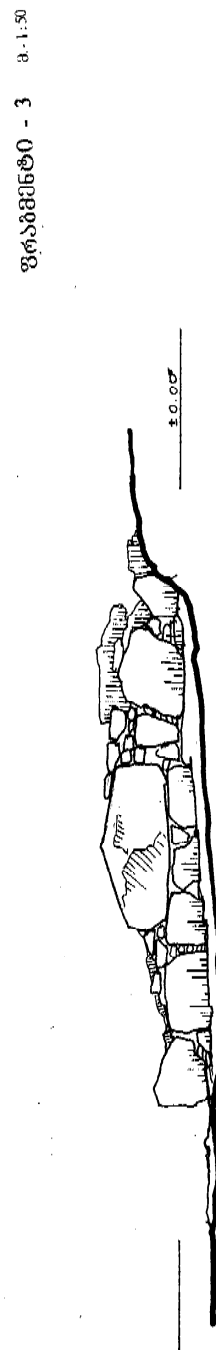
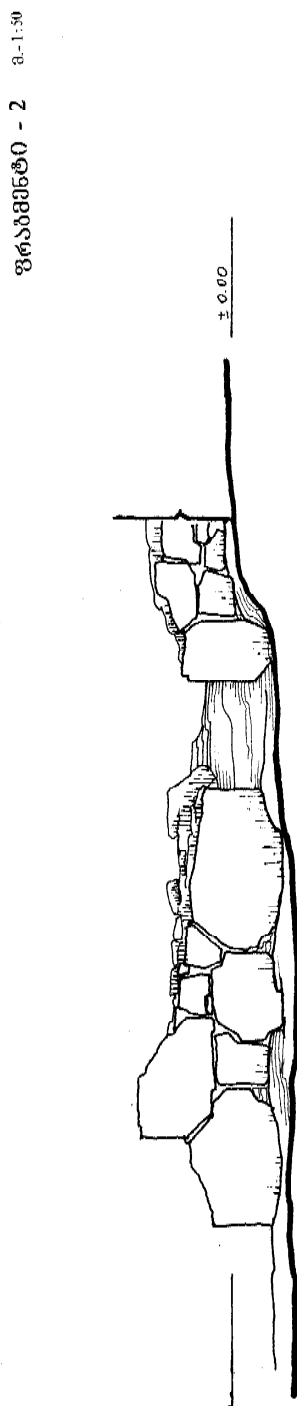
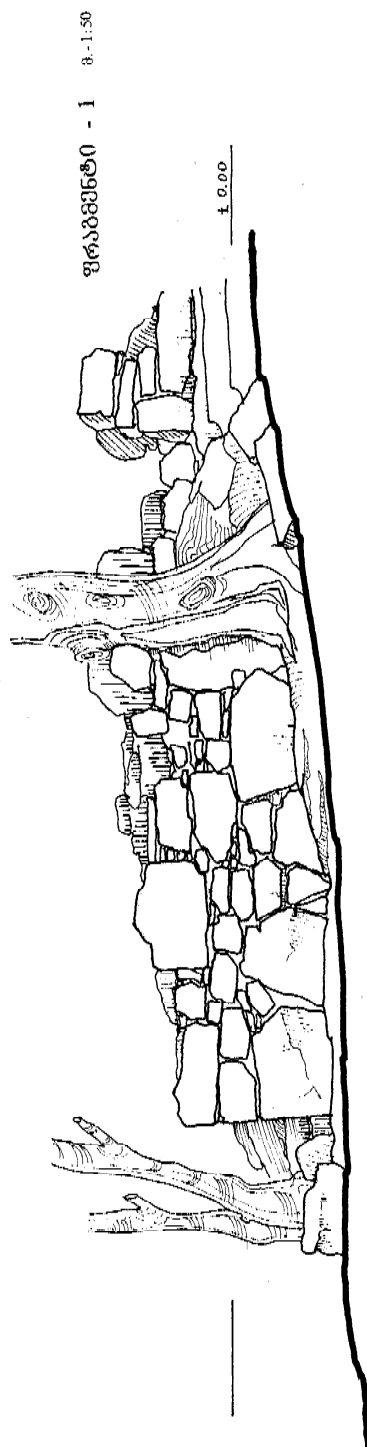
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ჩრდილოეთის ფასადი შ.-1:25



ბეჭდი 8, კ.-89
 ნასოფლარი "ტყემლარა"
 ნაგებობების კედლის ფრაგმენტები





Church after clearing, view from the south west



Church, view from the east



Interior fragment of the south wall



Dwelling and Agricultural compartments

Nadarbazevi Complex

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Nadarbazevi Complex (IX-X, XII-XII c)



Location

Historic Province –Kvemo Kartli
District - Tetrtskaro, 10km from the centre of the district,
 3km South-East of village Ivanovka

GPS Coordinates

Palace _8447736 – 4605050
Building _ 8447665 – 4606067
Porch - 8447768 – 4604955

Residence Boundaries:

8447800 – 460495	8447640 – 4604940
8447620 – 4605150	8447780 – 4605130

Remnant of the Village Boundaries:

8447960 – 4604750	8447840 – 4604600
8447650 – 4604780	8447520 – 4605190
8447620 – 4605250	8447780 – 4605190
8447840 – 4604930	

KP -91

Distance to the ROW: 200m from the pipeline



Abstract

Nadarbazevi Complex is one of the most interesting and significant examples of Georgian Medieval secular architecture. It was a summer residence for Georgian kings. As Vakhushti Bagrationi, XVIII c historical records prove, it was a holiday place for King Tamar. Studies of this monument began in 1949 in a combined expedition, which included: archaeologist, architect, art specialist, historian, ethnographer, and other specialists. After the hard work of data recovery and comparison between each group the date of the buildings and the periods of development were defined. In 1989 the staff of Cultural Heritage Protection Department of Georgia measured the main buildings of Nadarbazevi and developed a project for future conservation.

The complex is close proximity to the BTC pipeline, traffic road and. The fact that the pipeline crosses the boundary of Nadarbazevi village needs careful consideration.

General Description of the Location and the Plan

Nadarbazevi Complex is located at 1560 m high above sea level, on a slightly sloped plateau covered with thick forestation. This plateau is situated at the bottom of Bedeni Ridge with the reservoir for the river Chivchavi coming from the above mentioned Ridge. The main part of the complex is situated on the open valley covered with tall grass. The other main buildings- the palace, dwelling building and water reservoir are surrounded by a fortification wall. A remnant of the village having populated by the servants has been preserved South and North of the complex. The fortification wall of the complex is oval and has four entrances. The main three meter wide porch to the South is built of smooth stones.

The water reservoir was the most essential technical building for running the palace. Original and well built water-piping was discovered during excavations in 1940-50. This commenced 6km North –East of the palace. The ROW is aligned along the wooded slope, passing the swamp lowland and then comes up the hill, to where the complex is located. The water- pipes are made of tile. The identified water reservoir is a rectangular shaped building and is located between the palace and the dwelling structures. The reservoir was constructed from brick.

The palace is the central building in the complex, it has a rectangular planning composition (27X15) and a small compartment added to the North side. Large smooth basalt stones were used as construction material. The building has three entrances (from the East, West and South). The entrances are identical –high, wide and arched with an architrave ending from the outside. Double, arched windows are cut in each of the South, West and East walls. The interior and the exterior of the hall are plain. The only decorations comprise the imposts of the main entrance and the window stones of the South façade. The structure of the smooth, various size and shaped stones has the appearance of artistic decoration. The hall should have beam roofing lying on the four pillars; the pillars are standing free now. Only the bases of those pillars which were covered with grass before clearing have survived.

A Dwelling building is located 20 meters North-west of the palace; it has an elongated rectangular composition. It was built from well-hewn, basalt stones of different size and shape. The buildings only entrance is from the South. The entrance is high and wide. It's decorated with an architrave stone from the outside and with an arch from inside. It had a particular kind of lock inserted in stone. The floor should have been paved with stone tiles. Currently the interior is covered with grass.

The remnant of the villages that were used as the servant dwellings at the kings' summer residence are located on both the North and South sides of the palace. The remnant of the village follows the relief; it's aligned along the Tetrtskaro-Bedeni traffic road: currently this area is covered with forestation, which complicates the recovery of structures. Only fragments of walls have survived from the village. Large basalt stones are scattered around the whole area. The general layouts for the single structures and groups of structures are rarely legible. The compartments are of straight, rectangular and round shapes.

The structure is constructed from dry masonry. The compartments are different shapes. The South part of the village is of particular significance regardless the irregularity and fragmental condition of the planning the composition of the plan for some of the large single buildings are highly legible here and there. 5,5m wide road with the traces of buildings on both sides can also be identified. There are piles of smooth stones identified nearby, which contain both profile and corner stones. Some of the preserved walls are 2.5 m high.

Nadarbazevi Complex Physical condition

The structures within Nadarbazevi palace are in a very fragile condition. Only fragments of the fortification wall have survived. The roofing for the palace and other buildings has vanished. The upper parts of the wall have collapsed. A large part of the coating has been damaged. The interior is covered with dirt and grass. The level of decay has increased during the last few years. During the BTC project phase III work the interior of the palace and the dwelling structures were cleared of tall grass and bushes .as a result the bases of two pillars were discovered. The buildings of Nadarbazevi remnant of the village have survived fragmentally. The inside area is covered with trees and earth. 30% of the remnant of the village has survived. The maximum height of the walls of the defined structures is 2.5m.

Artistic Significance and the Date

Nadarbazevi complex represents the most significant example of Georgian secular architecture. It was the summer residence of King Tamar but stopped functioning by XVIII century. There is no historical data about the construction date of the monument. It can be dated only according to its stylistic appearances. The wall structures of the palace assembly have its analogues in IX-X c Georgian architecture. Research shows that the palace was the residence of the local feudal first and at the end of XII-XIII c it was used by King Tamar. As for the date of the palace village, the construction style of the survived walls, the measure, the construction engineering provide the basis of dating. It conveys IX-XIII centuries.

The Nadarbazevi complex is the most significant monument of the medieval period Georgian architecture. What gives the monument such significance are the Secular buildings and especially the royal residences which are very rare in Georgia today, so this monument has architectural as well as historic values, and presents a clear idea about the life of the highest feudal aristocracies.

The buildings of the complex are very plain, refined and monumental which is the regional characteristic of Kvemo Kartli architecture. Nadarbazevi water pipeline also represents an excellent example of the engineering art of old Georgia. Nadarbazevi remnant of the village is the indivisible part of the complex. According to its function, it had a different structure. What makes it significant is that it represents the only example of this kind of monument found in the history of Georgian architecture.

Recommended Protection Measures

The following work was conducted during phase III work of the project: the palace and dwelling structures were cleared of grass, the current condition of the monument was compared to the previously (in 1989) produced architectural drawing, accordingly corrections were made and at the same time the general plan of Nadarbazevi residence was produced. Detailed photo fixation was made. The physical condition was assessed. The boundaries of the monument were established and mapped.

Nadarbazevi complex is located very close to the traffic road and railway, which will be used by project heavy vehicles.

BTC pipeline ROW is at 350 m distance from Nadarbazevi complex.

The Nadarbazevi Complex is one of the most interesting and significant examples of Georgian Medieval period secular architecture. It was a summer residence for Georgian Kings. As Vakhushti Bagrationi , XVIII c historian proves, it was a holiday place for King Tamar also.

The buildings of the complex are very fragile. The roofing complex of the palace and the dwelling buildings no longer survive. The top parts of the building have fallen down. The details of the door, window and the shelf architecture are damaged. A large part of the facing stones are threatened by ruin. The damage has become more pronounced during the last few years.

As a result of the phase III work, the following protection measures were recommended for the monument:

- Due to historic-cultural importance and fragility, the monument requires complete complex restoration-conservation activities: conservation of the palace, dwelling buildings, porch and fragments of the fortification. Otherwise the monument will be seriously damaged during the construction and the exploitation period of the pipeline.
- The speed of vehicles need to be limited on this part of the road; the road should not be widened.
- The village boundaries need to be clearly defined and marked by signs. (At the road sides and in the ROW area).

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3. G. Lomtadze, Archaeological Research in Algeti and Ivri Gorge, Tb., 1989
4. I. Tsitsishvili, Monuments of Material Culture according to the historic-Archaeological Excavations in Tetrizkaro, Selection: A Friend of a Monument, #50, Tb., 197

Graphical Material:

Nadarbazevi Complex

1. General Plan

Summer Residence

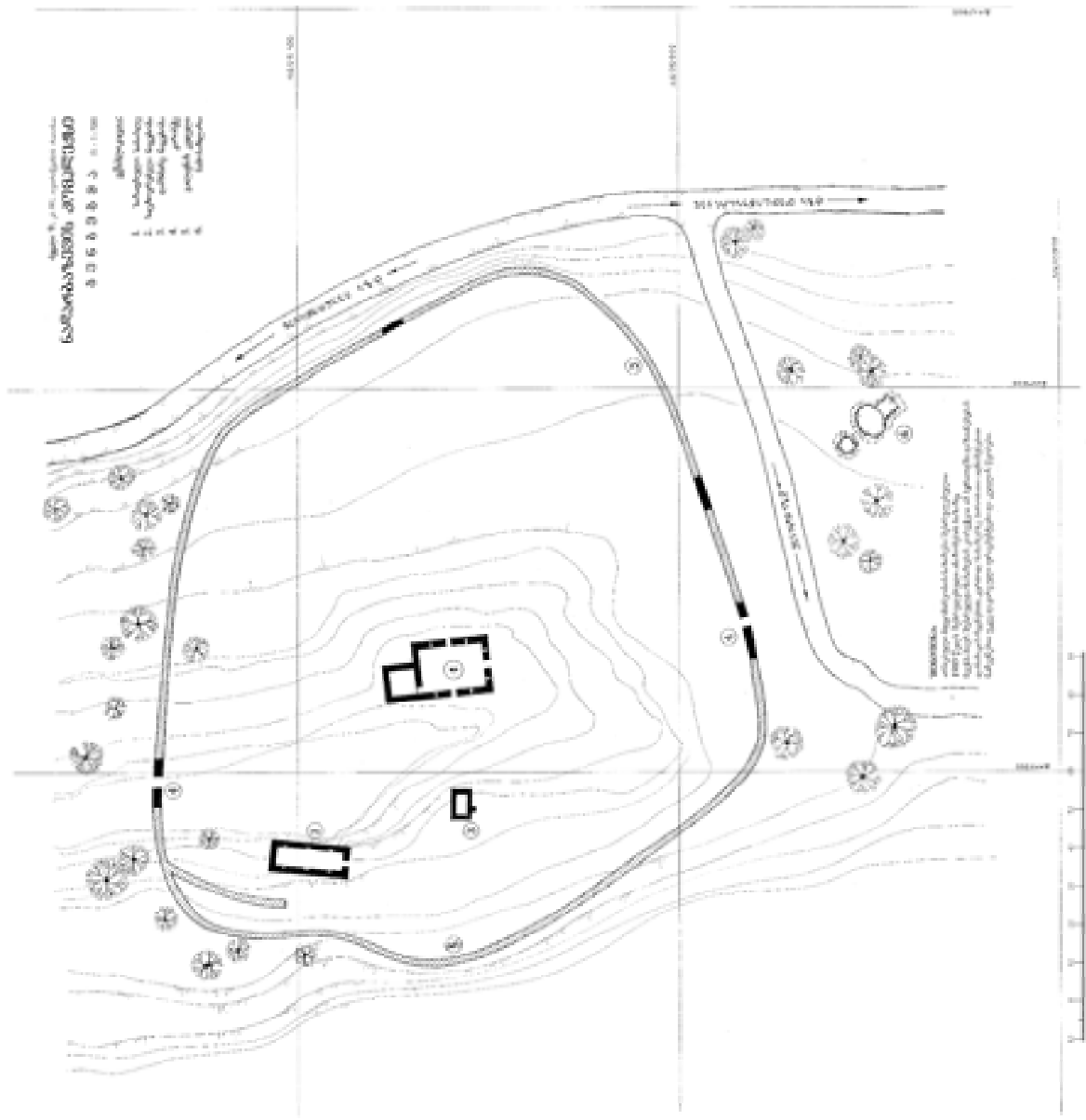
2. Plan
3. Section 1-1 View to the East, Section 2-2 View to the West
4. Section 3-3 View to the South, Section 4-4 View to the North
5. East Façade, Western Façade
6. South Façade. Section 5-5 to the South

Dwelling Construction

7. Plan
8. Section 1-1, View to the East, Section 2-2 View to the west
9. Section 3-3, Section 4-4, South Façade and North Façade
10. East Façade, west Façade

Fragments of the Fortification Porch

11. Plan, view from Inside, View from Outside



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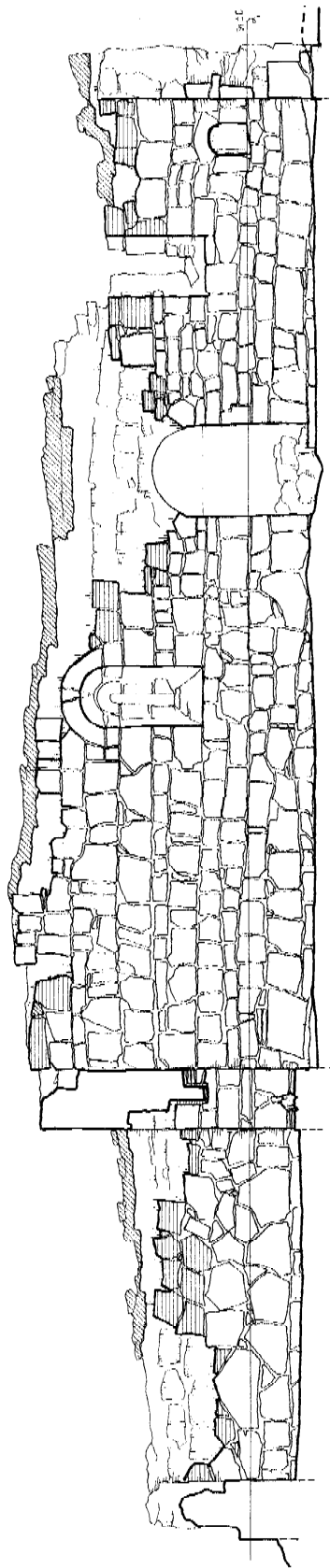
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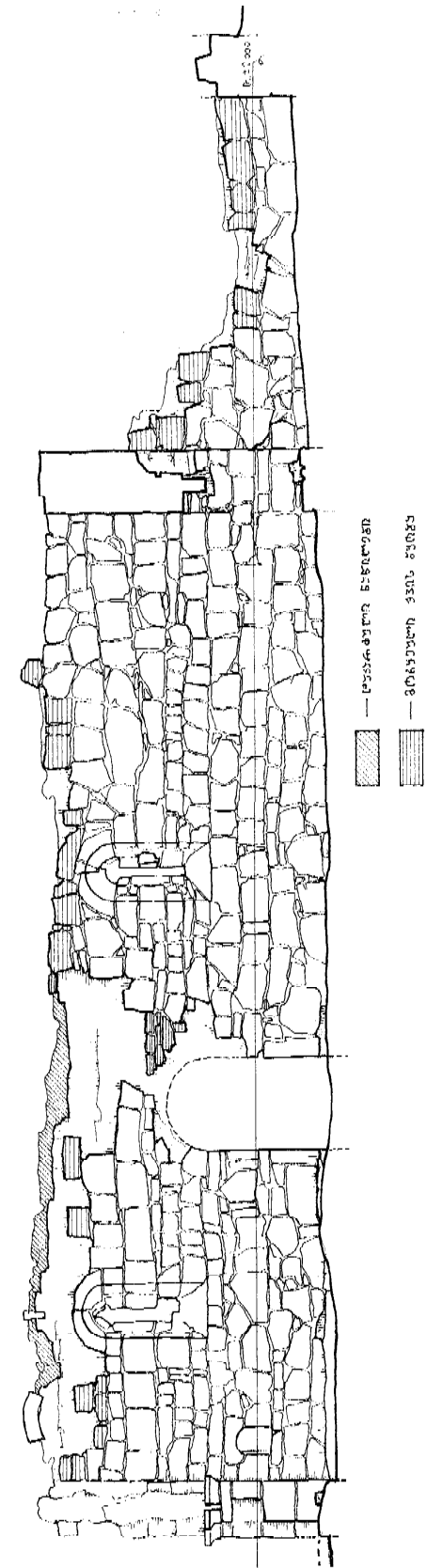
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საზაფხულო სსახლე

ფოტო 9; კ-91

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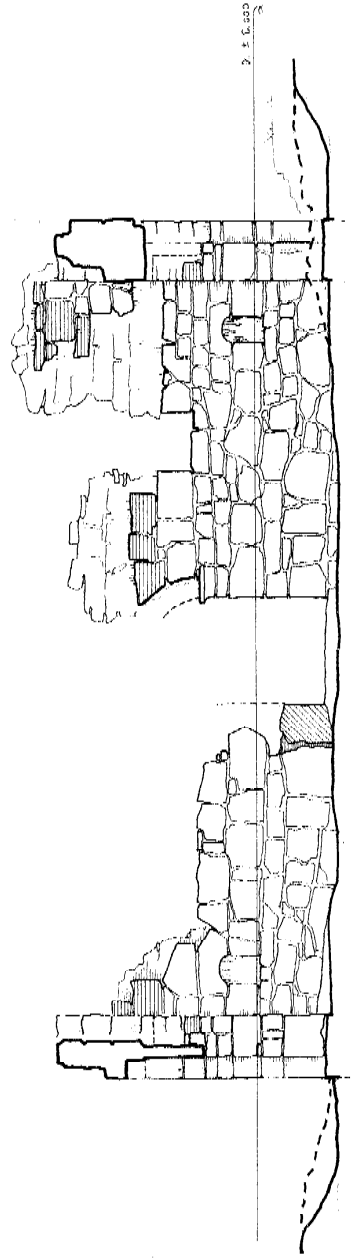
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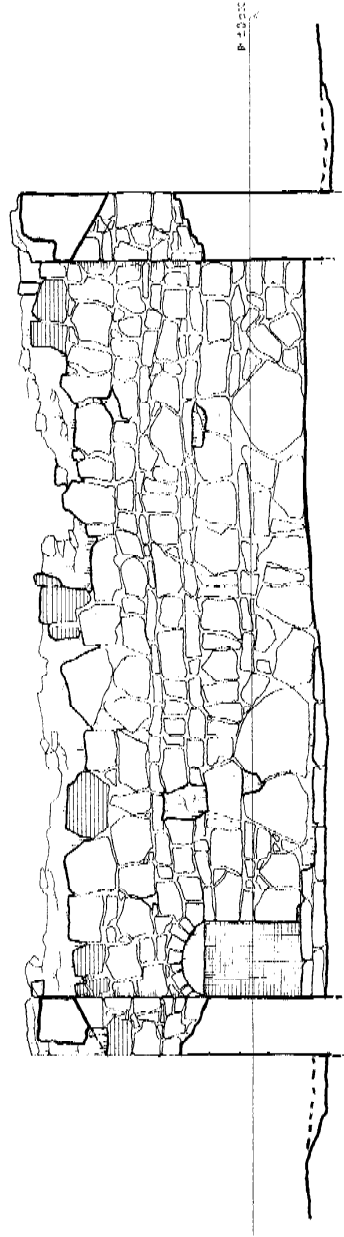
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ფელი 9, კ. 51

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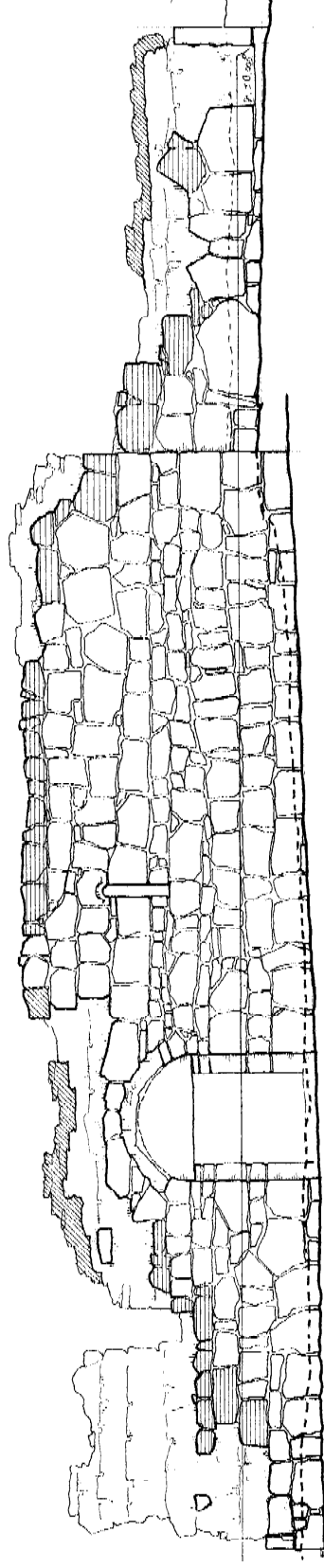
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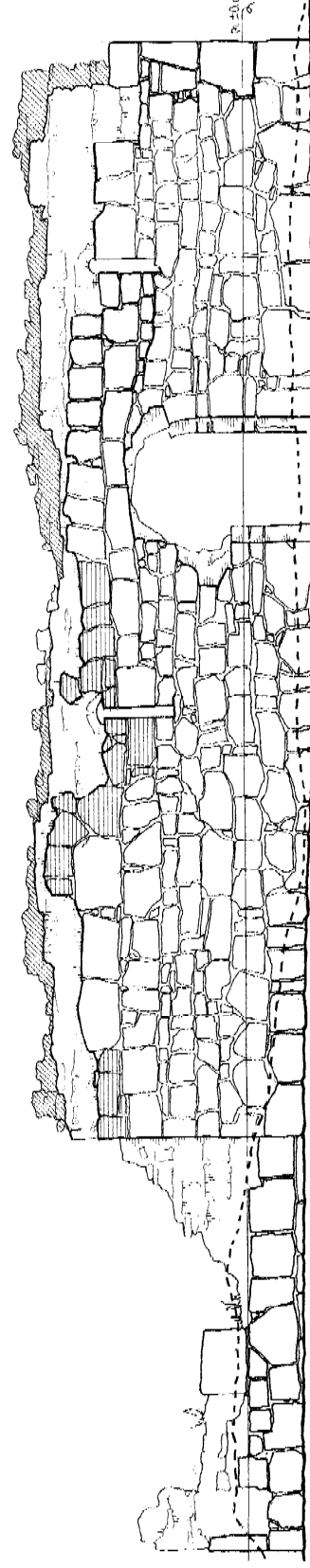
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საზაფხულო სსსრ-ში

აღმოსავლეთის ფასადი 3-1-56



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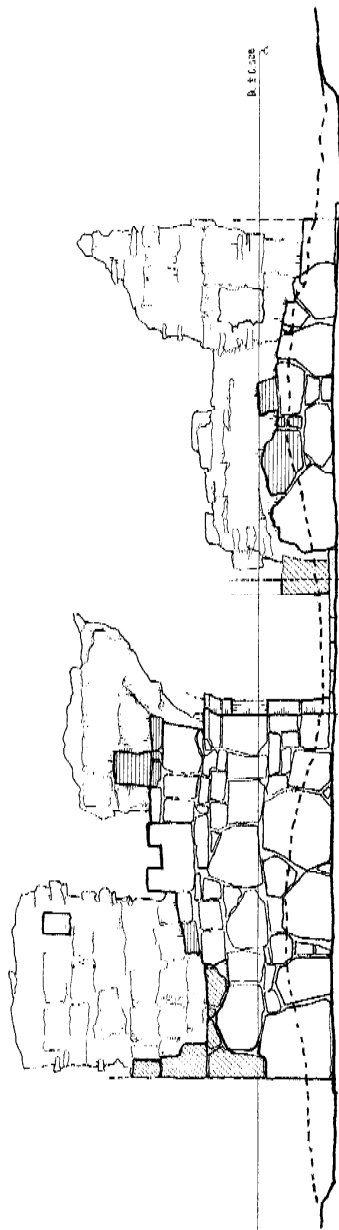


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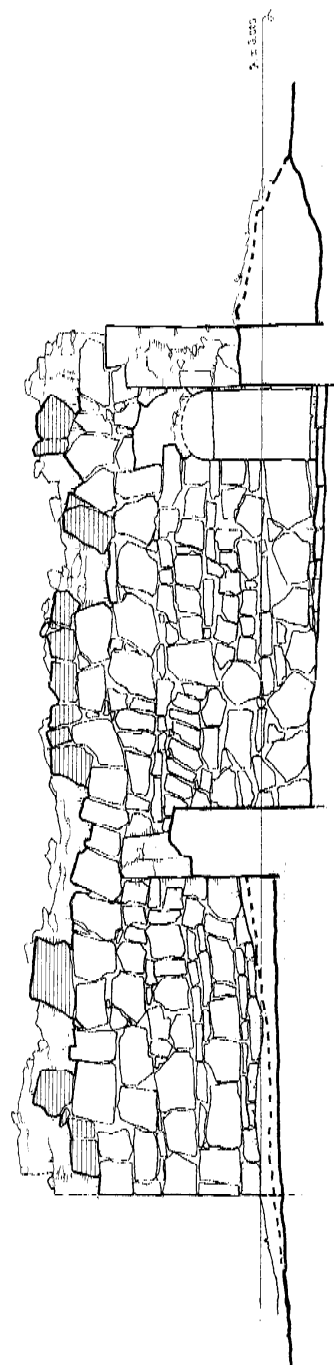
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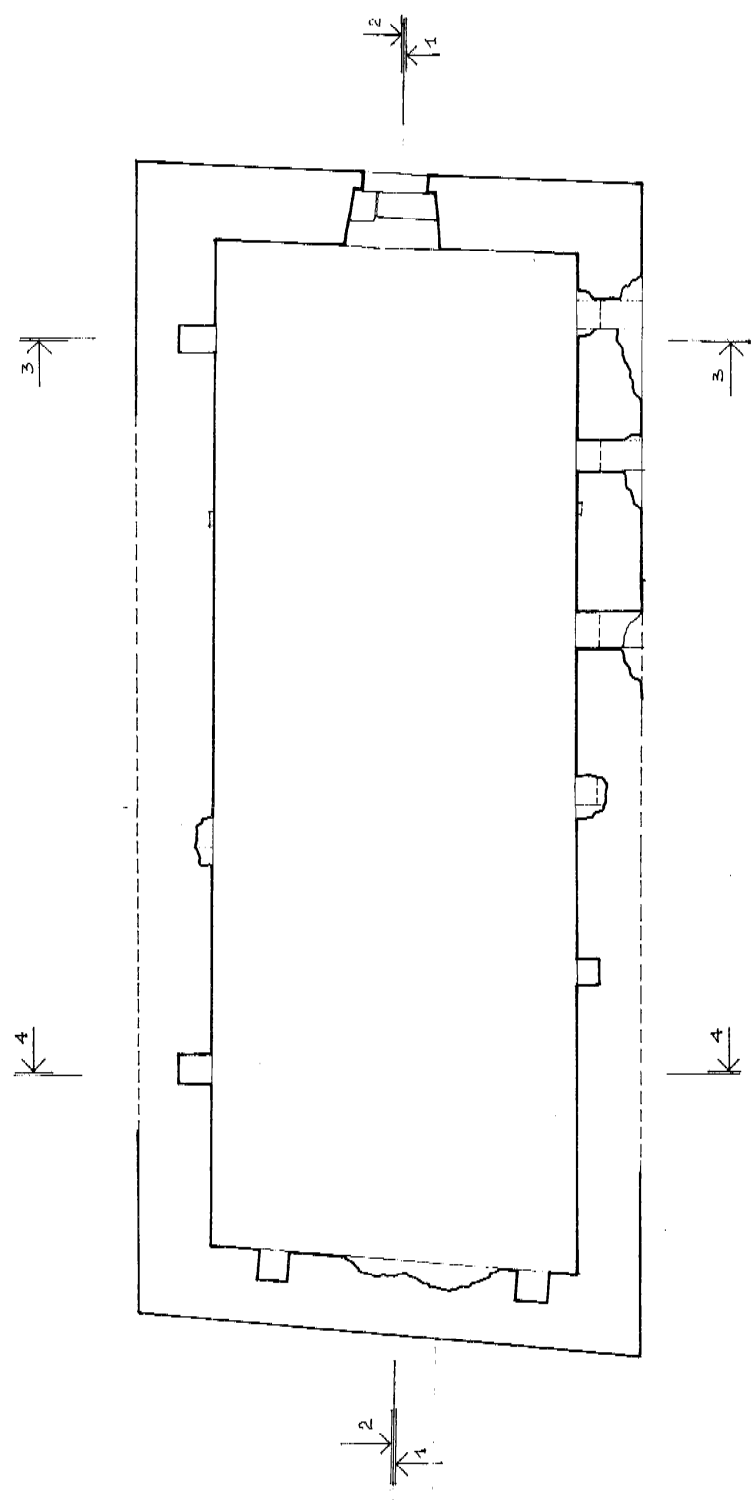


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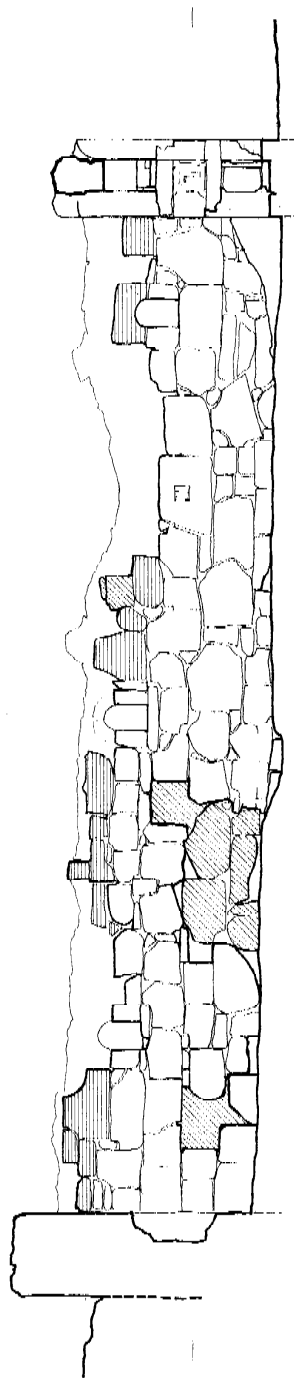
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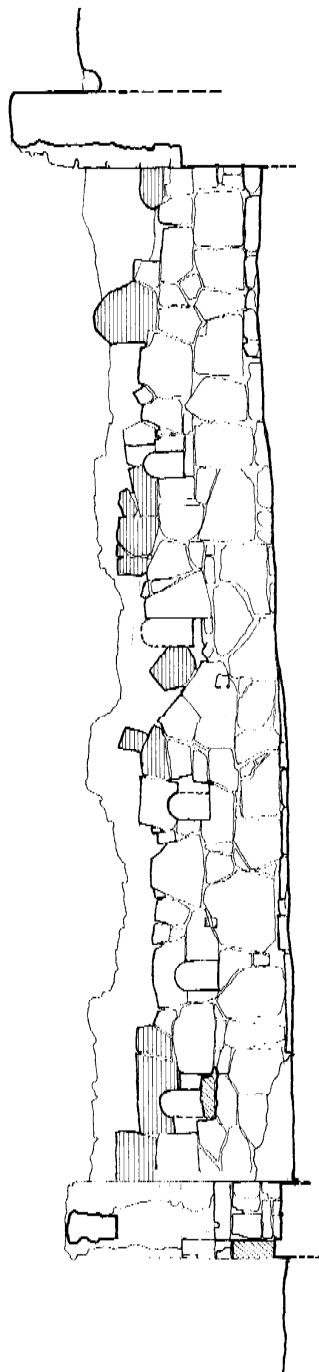
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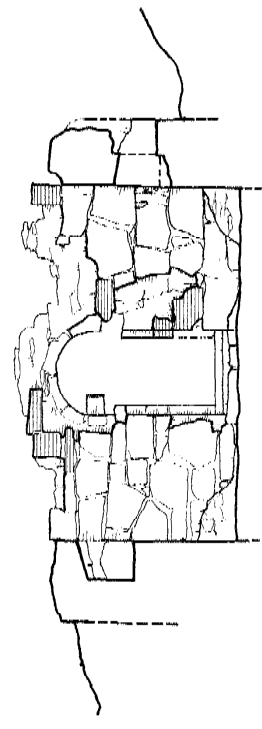
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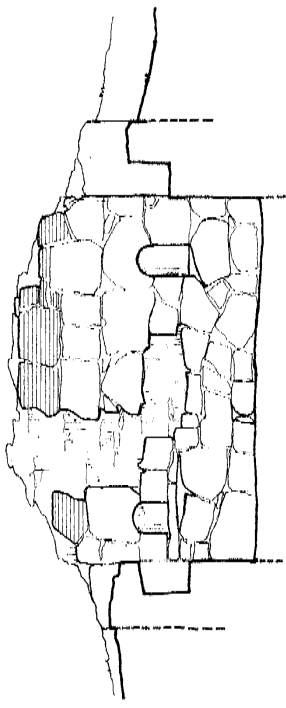
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ბელა 9, კ. 91
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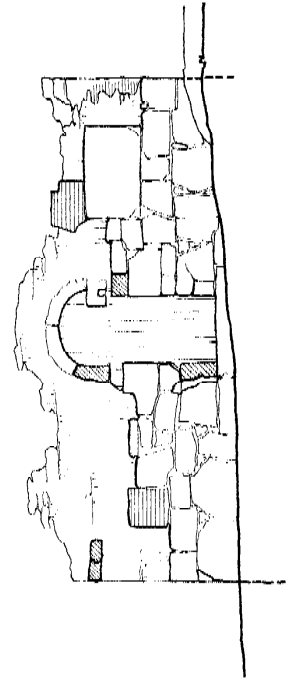
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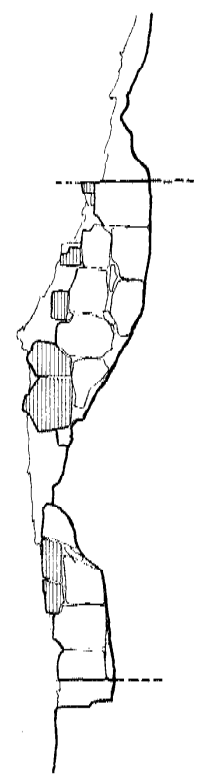
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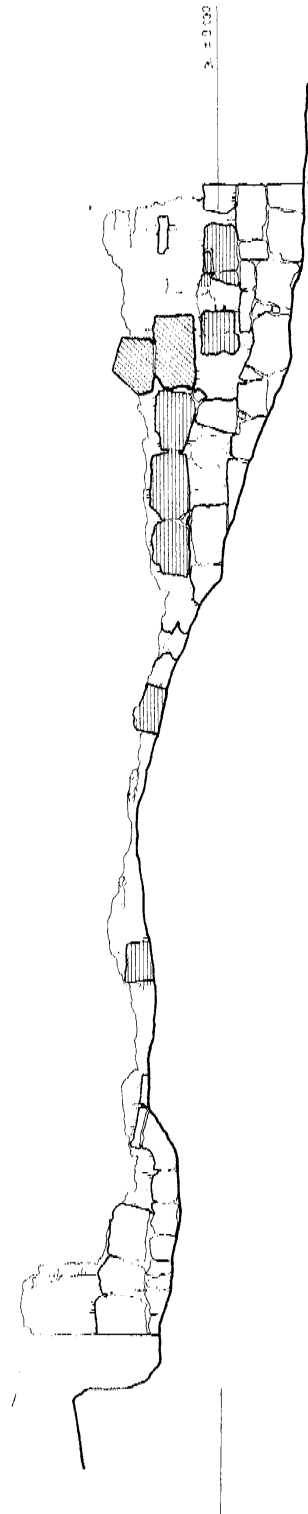
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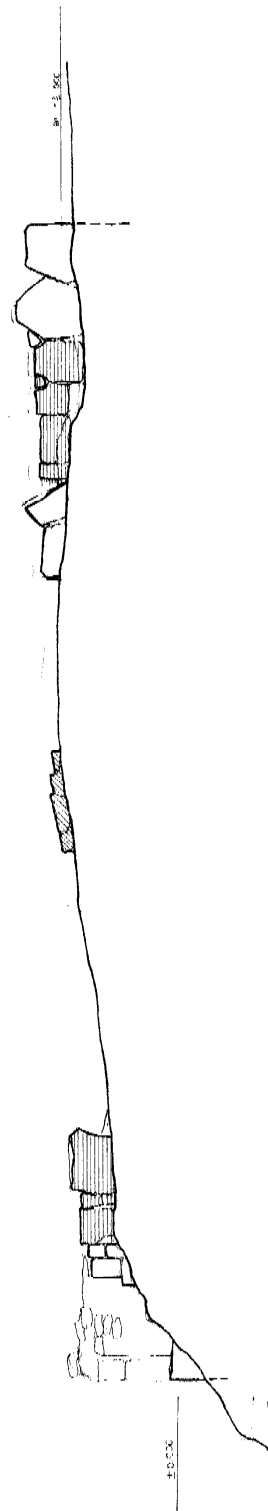
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 სავსოვრებელი ნაგებობა

კლესიკლემის ფასადი 3:1:50



ღასკლემის ფასადი 3:1:50



- ნაგებობის ნაწილი
- ნაგებობის ნაწილი
- ნაგებობის ნაწილი
- ნაგებობის ნაწილი



Palace overall view before clearing



Palace interior before clearing



Palace, fragment of façade south side



Palace façade fragment



Palace interior, view from the south west after clearing



Palace interior view after clearing



Palace door fragment



Palace interior fragment



Dwelling structure, south facade



Dwelling structure, view to the south



Dwelling structure, west wall fragment

Takhtitskaro Remnant of the Village and the Church

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Takhtitskaro Remnant of the Village and the Church
(X-XVI c)



Location

Historic Province
District

- Kvemo Kartli
- Tetrtskaro , 3km East of Ivanovka, right bank of the Riv. Chivchavi, near the railway.

GPS Coordinates

The Church -8448820 – 4606252

Boundaries:

8448950 – 4606250

8448480 – 4605940

8448100 – 4606220

8448440 – 4606300

8448900 – 4606380

8448570 – 4605940

8448340 – 4606135

8448110 – 4606340

8448680 – 4606300

KP -93

Distance to the ROW

The pipeline crosses the West part of the remnant of the Village on the following points:

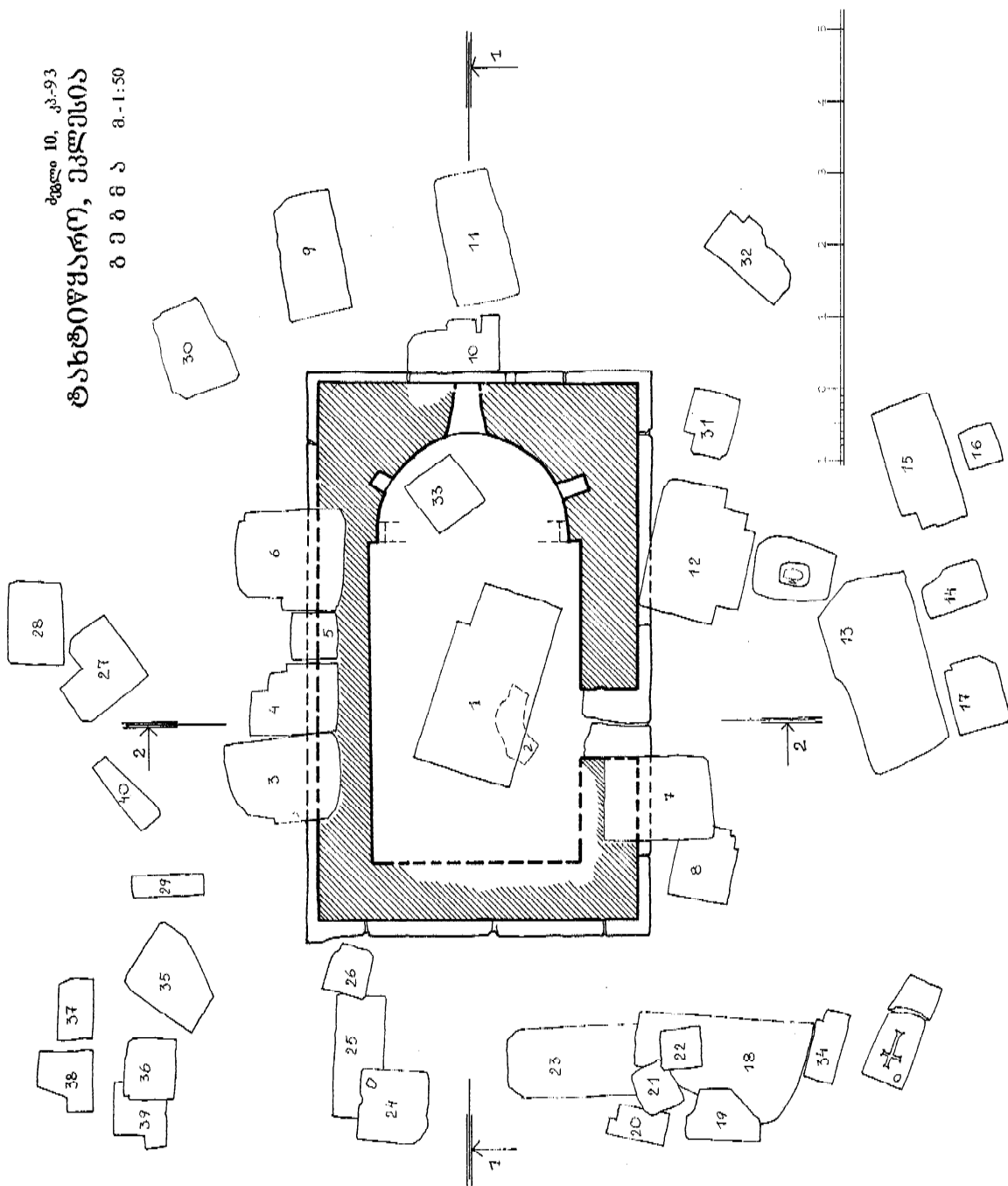
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ბგელო 10, კპ-93
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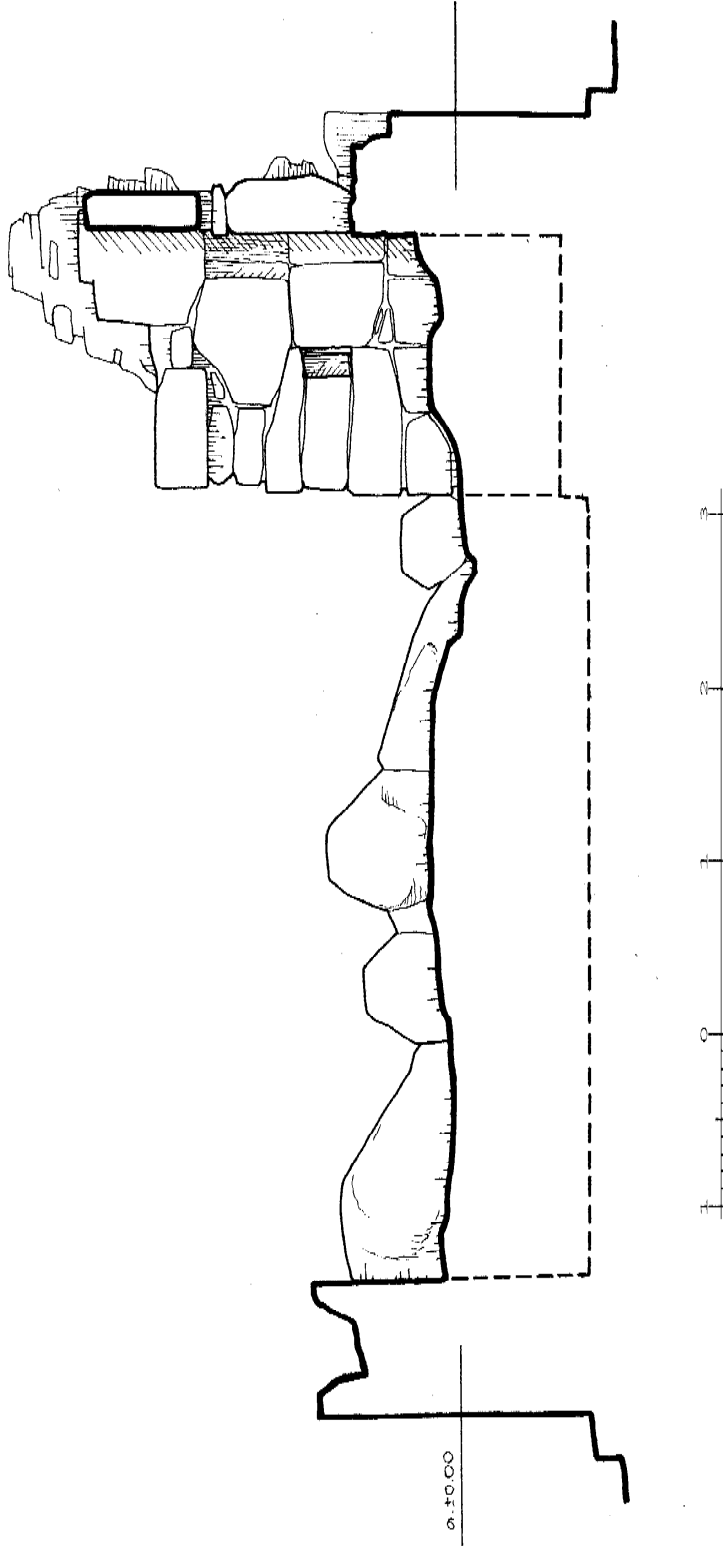
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ფურცელი 10, კვ-93

ტახტოვარო, ეკლესია

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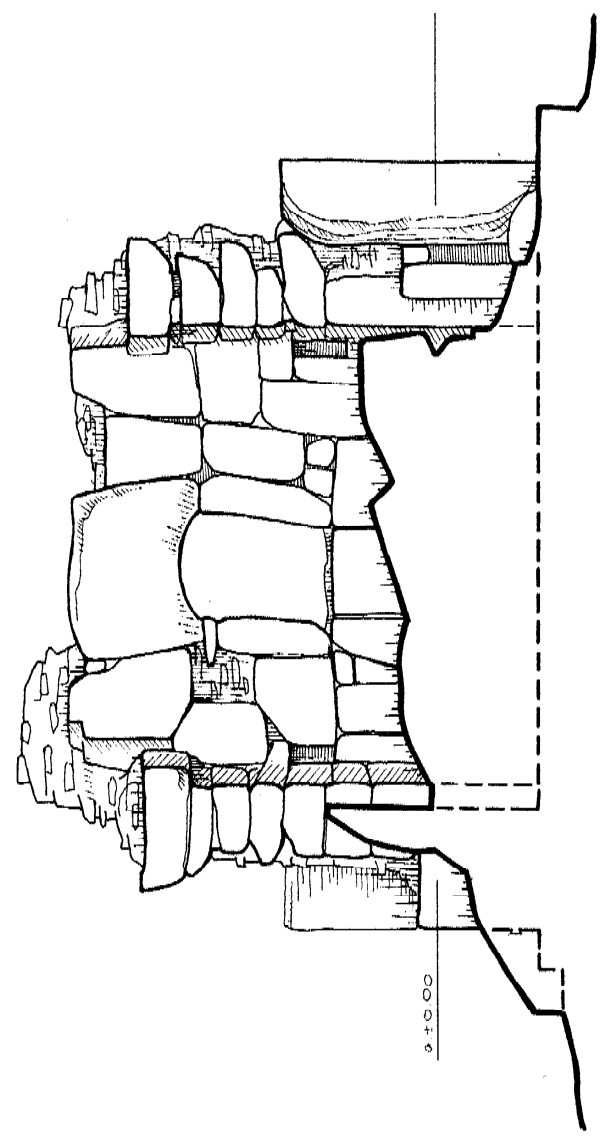
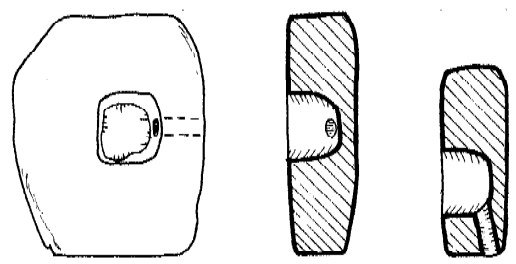


ბეგლო 10, კა-93

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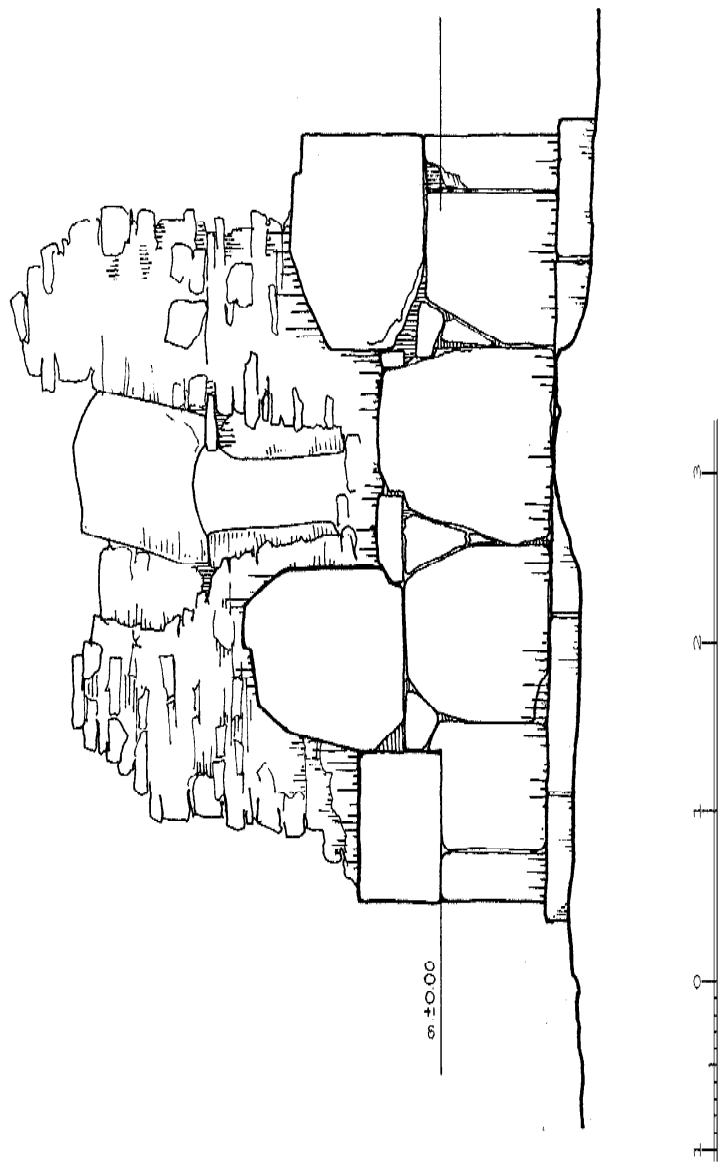
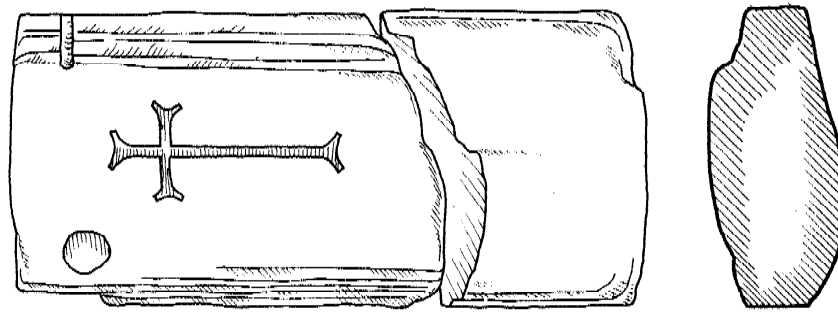
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გეგმა-1:20

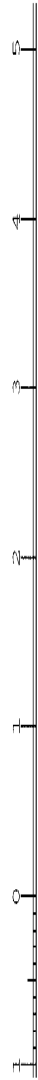
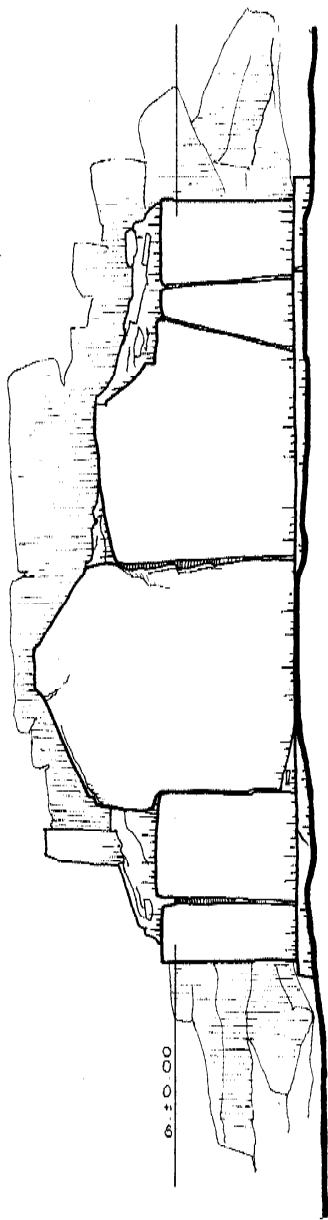


ძეგლი 10, კვ. 93
ტახტიფუყარო, ეკლესია
 აღმოსავლეთის ფასადი მ. 1:50

საფლავის ქვა მ. 1:10



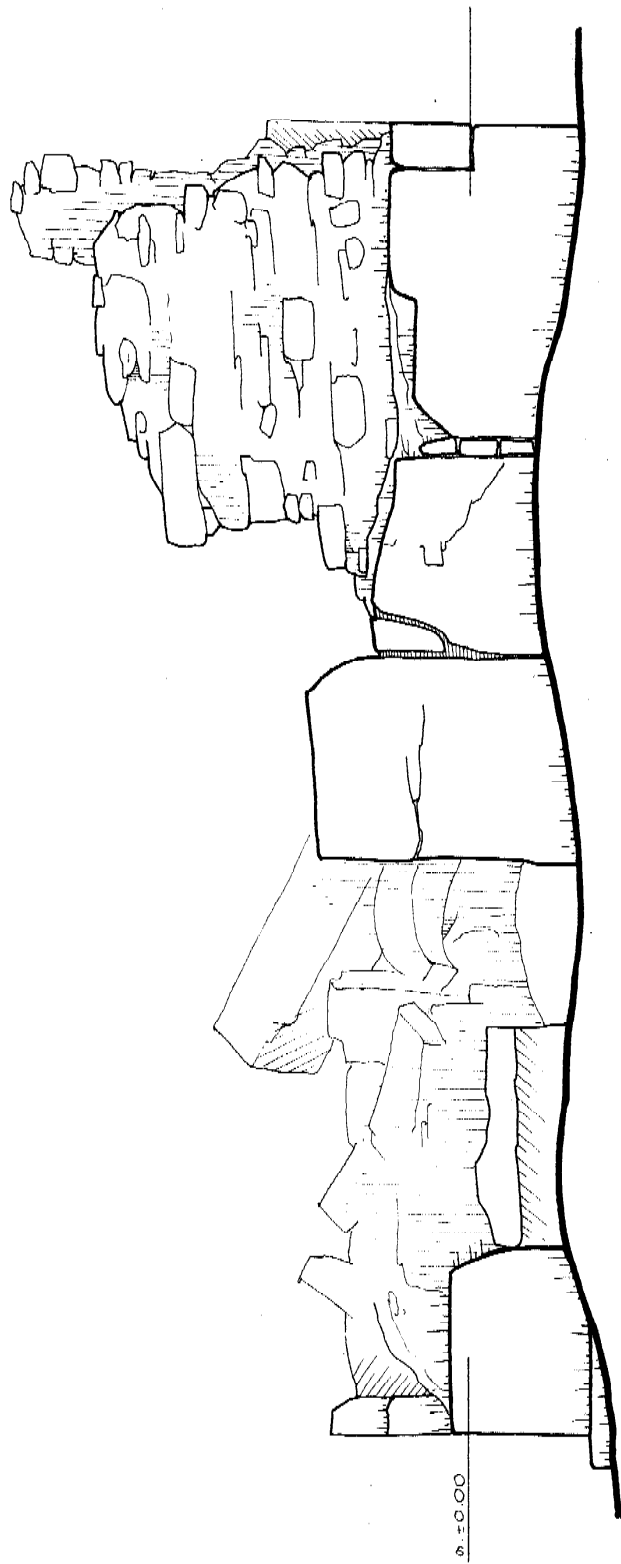
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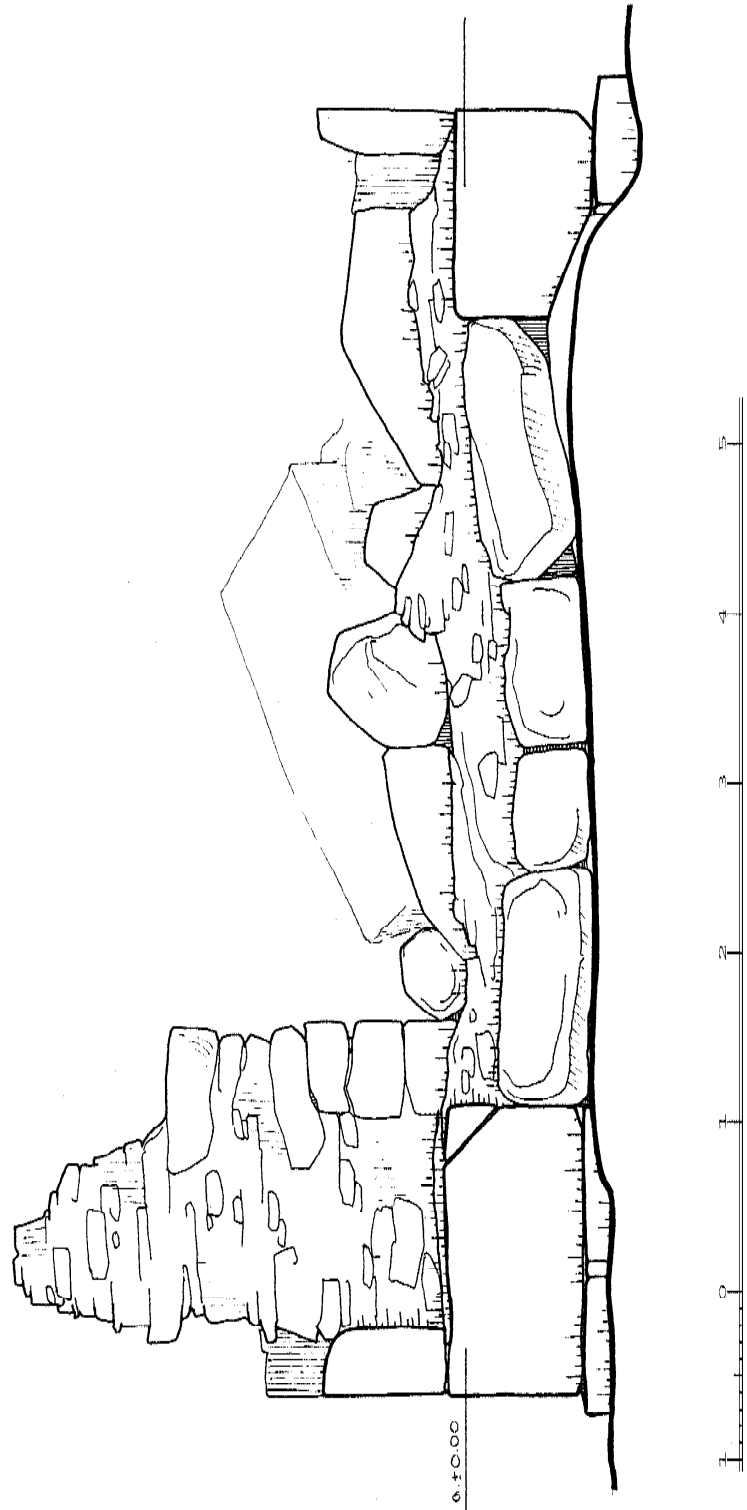
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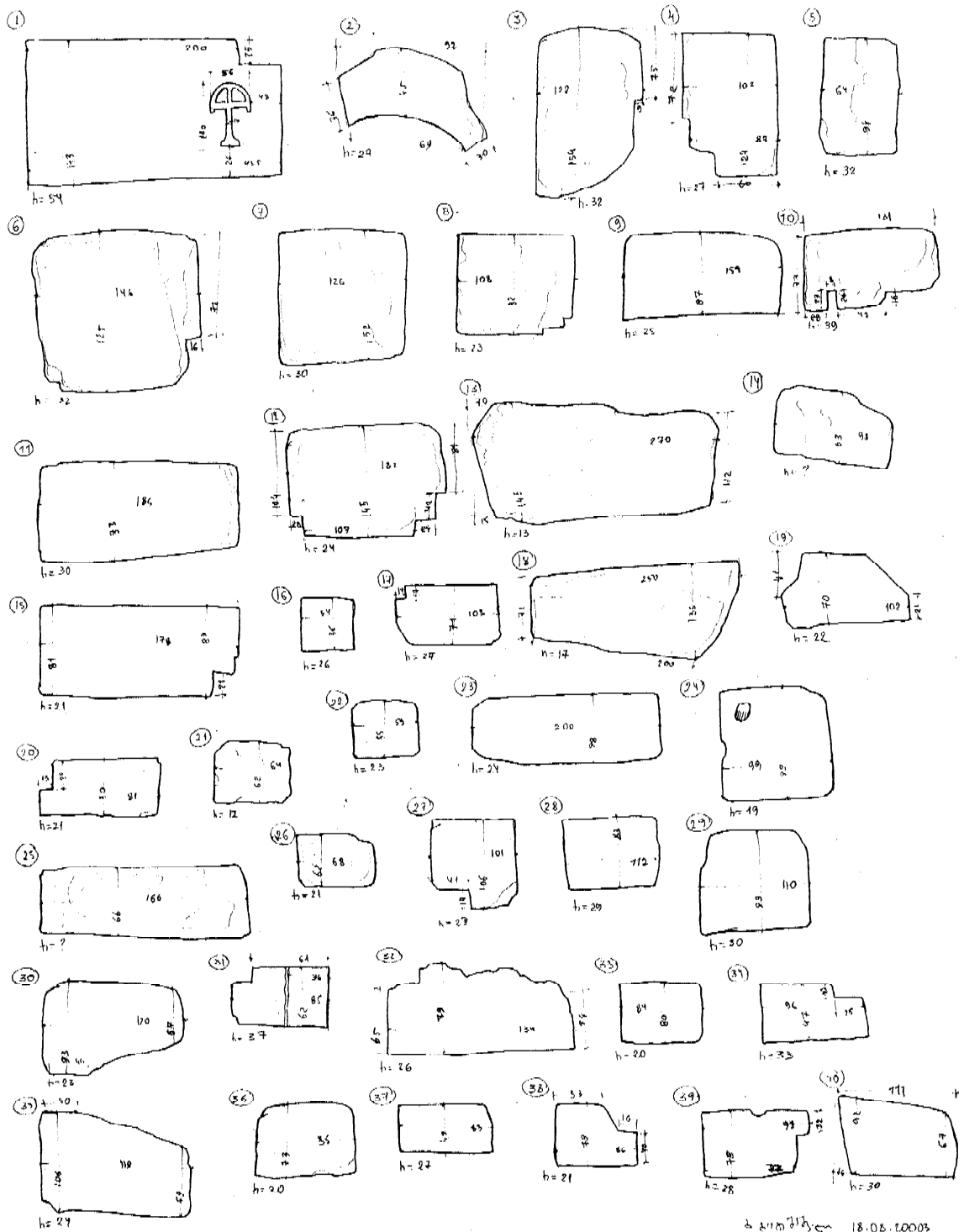
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ბელო 10, კვ-93
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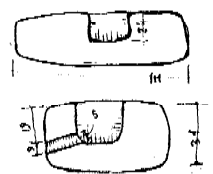
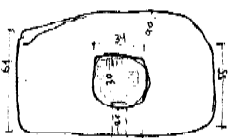


ბ. ბიძინაძე 18.05.2000წ

ბეგლო 10, კა-93
ტახტიშვარო, ეკლესია
წყობის ძეგლი და დეტალები



ბეგლო 10, კა-93



Abstract

Takhtitskaro remnant of the village represents one of the most significant medieval period remnants of the village with a well preserved planning structure. I. Javakhishvili Academy of Science of Georgia conducted walkover research in 1948-50 and identified many remnants of the villages in the region, Takhtitskaro was one of them. The remnant of the village was partially excavated by the CAS expedition during Marabda-Akhalkalaki railway construction in 1980, which revealed the church and several dwelling complexes (to the South and South –East).

The developed medieval remnant of the village was built on the cyclopean remnant of the settlement. It consists of complex compartments, network of roads, double fortification system and the church.

The only traffic road, running from Tetrtskaro to Bedeni Plateau, crosses the South-West edge of the remnant of the village. The village is located in close proximity to the railway.

The General description of the Location and the Planning

The remnant of the village is located on top of the Gorge and runs the length of the wooded slope down to the bottom. To the North it is connected to an open field. The remnant of the village covered a very large area and extends from the East in a South-Western direction. It crosses the only traffic road of Tetrtskaro-Bedeni and spreads on to the other side as well.

It seems that the South-east part of the village was most heavily populated, as it contains multi compartment, dry masonry dwelling structures built from different sized basalt stones. The numbers of rooms in each dwelling structure are vary from one to seven. The southern slope of the village had been fortified by a double enclosure strengthened by piers.

The network of roads designed for wheeled carts and pedestrians are defined in the remnant of the village area. The forestation becomes thicker towards the West which makes it difficult to detect evidence of buildings. This part contains many fragments of cyclopean dry masonry structures.

At the edge of the remnant of the village, north of the main core, a small, basalt stone church has been preserved, which is surrounded by an enclosure. Old cemetery tombstones are located in the churchyard.

The Church

The church consists of a small vaulted structure (7.62 X4. 53m). It has a one-step foundation. The church is built from neatly hewn, large basalt stone quadras. The uneven stones are tightly packed together. The facing stones are fixed with lime solution. The church has a Southern entrance. The corner stones are huge and enclosed with a large architrave stone. The surface of the architrave is plain. The relief cross is cut on the Eastern part of the architrave. The three top hands of the cross are united by the bow.

The composition of the church layout forms a small rectangular, which is completed with a hooked alter deepened to the east. The alter has an arched window in the centre. A huge architrave stone is placed on the Eastern façade, which has a narrow arch for a window in the centre.

A large stone for oil production is also preserved in the churchyard.

Current physical Condition of the Remnant of the Village and the Church

The remnant of the village area is covered with trees, bushes, moss and earth. The surviving walls of the dwelling structures are 1-2 m high.

The church is ruined. The dome has collapsed. The interior is blocked with very large stones from the structure. Trees have grown in the alter. 60 % of the church has been preserved.

The church was cleared with the aim of fixation. The bushes, and branches of the 100-year-old trees, which covered the church, have been cut down. The surviving parts of the façade and facing stones which had been scattered were all cleared from the grass.

A large tree grow in the ruins of the apse was carefully cut down.

Artistic Significance and the Date

Takhtitskaro remnant of the settlement represents an excellent example of medieval period settlements preserved in Tetrtskaro. It provides valuable material about the structure and the typology of X-XIII c settlement. The ideal fortification system of the settlement is remarkable; it represents two fortified walls with piers standing at the same distance from each other. This type of enclosure is typical for the Middle century settlement but such examples are very rare thus making this monument even more significant.

The church of the village is of particular attention. Its structure and high level of construction is characteristic for X century Georgian, particularly for Kvemo Kartli Christian architecture. The relief cross on the architrave stone is very rare, the same analogue of that cross has not been found yet. The style of the architrave work is characteristic of the X-XI century Christian architecture.

Recommended Protection Measures

Phase III work of the project involved the following activities: General reconnaissance, clearing of the church, working out the remnant of the village plan, producing the architectural drawings of the church and its detail, establishing the boundaries, mapping and describing the current physical condition of the church. Takhtitskaro remnant of the settlement represents an excellent example of medieval period settlements preserved in Tetrtskaro. The church of the village calls for particular attention. Its structure and high level of construction are characteristic of X century Georgian, particularly for Kvemo Kartli Christian architecture.

BTC pipeline ROW crosses the West part of Takhtitskaro remnant of the village (the crossing points are: 8448215 – 4606179; 8448268 – 4606179). The monument is also crossed by Tetrtskaro –Bedeni traffic road.

The following protection measures are recommended for the monument:

- Due to the architectural significance and the fragility of Takhtitskaro church and due to the fact that all the main facing stones have been preserved on the church area, it has been considered necessary to conduct the church restoration-conservation activities using the method of anastilose acknowledged widely in international restoration practice.
- Archaeological survey of the ROW and the Remnant of the village crossing points.
- Marking the monument boundaries by the signs (at definite points).

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- 2 I. Grdzelishvili, Archaeological Excavations in Nachivchavebi 1954, (Tetrtskaro region), news of SU Academy of Science of Georgia, T.XVII, # 1, 1956

Graphical Material:

Takhtitskaro, remnant of the Settlement and the Church

1. General Plan

The Church

2. The plan
3. Section 1-1 the North view
4. Section 2-2 the East View
5. The East façade
6. The West façade
7. The South façade
8. The north façade
9. The structure stones and the details



Church view from the south during the process of clearing



Church after clearing, view to the south west



Church after clearing, south west facade



Architrave stone



Church interior, apse



Stone with image of a cross



Stone for oil processing

Cyclopean Fortress and the Church “Ai Ilia”

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**Cyclopean Fortress and the Church “Ai Ilia”
(Pre Christian Period – XX c)**



Location

Historic province – Kvemo kartli

District – Tsalka, between Tsalka reservoir and Kariak Village

KP – 124

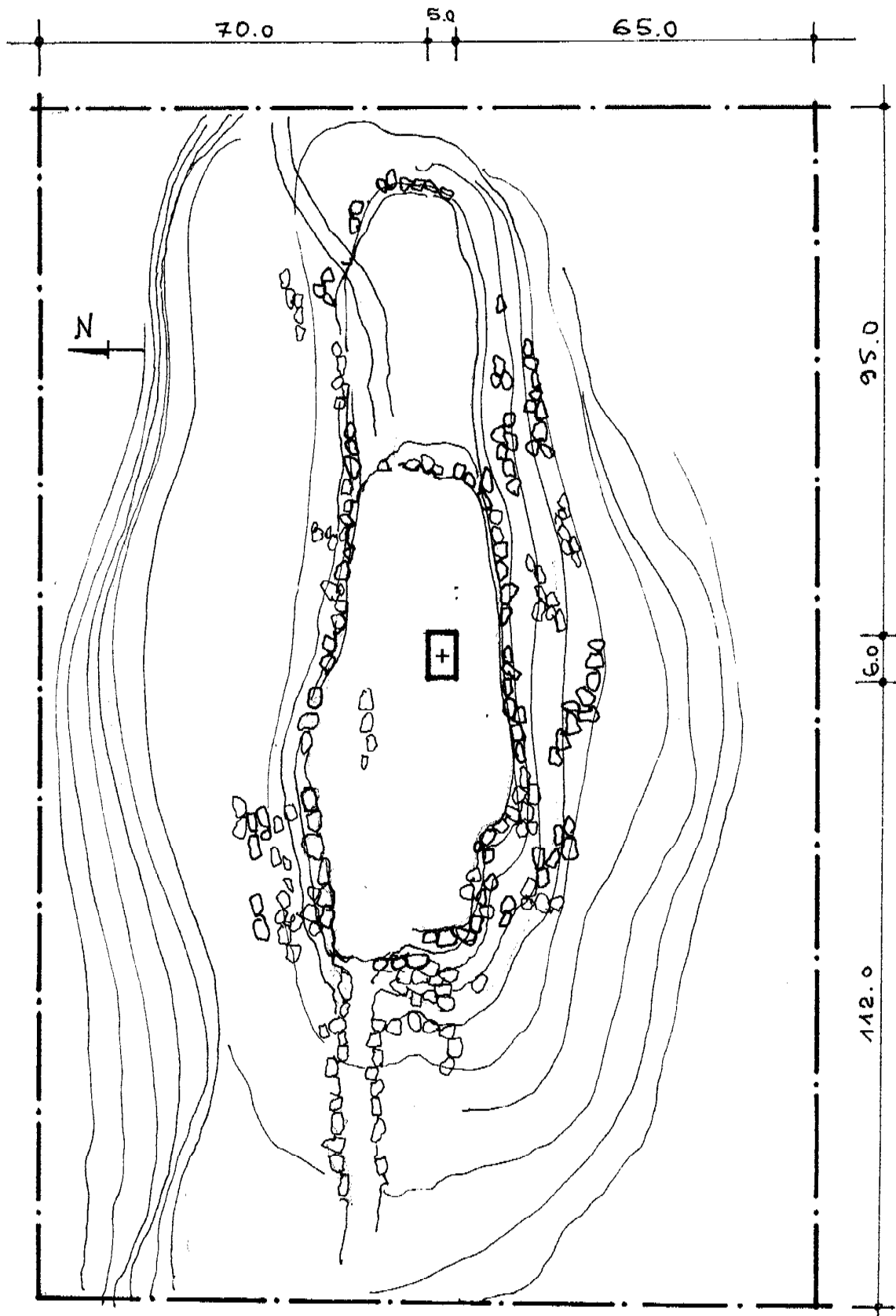
Distance to the ROW - 80 m

Brief Description:

The cyclopean ruins of the fortress are located on the top and sides of hill. Fragments of large uneven basalt stones have been preserved along the sides and the top of the hill. According to the plan the fortress forms an oval shape. And has a dry masonry structure. Single slabs are scattered around. The dome chapel built by the Greeks is located on the flat area of the Fortress. The church is built of middle size basalt stones and is roofed by the tin painted in red. According to the plan it is rectangular in shape. The stone cross in the East interior has a Greek inscription.

Recommended Protection Measures:

The boundaries of the monument need to be marked by the signs (at definite parts).



Menhir “Stone man”

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Menhir “Stone man”
(Pre-Christian Period, smoothened in Christian Period)



Location:

Historic Province – Tori
District – Tsalka, on the field between Kizil-Kilisa and Avranlo

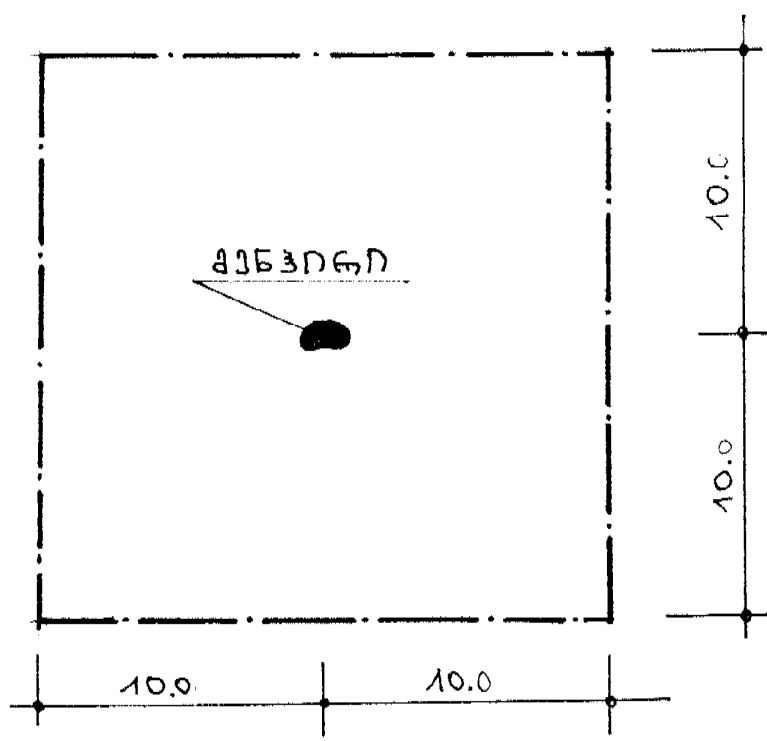
KP – 140

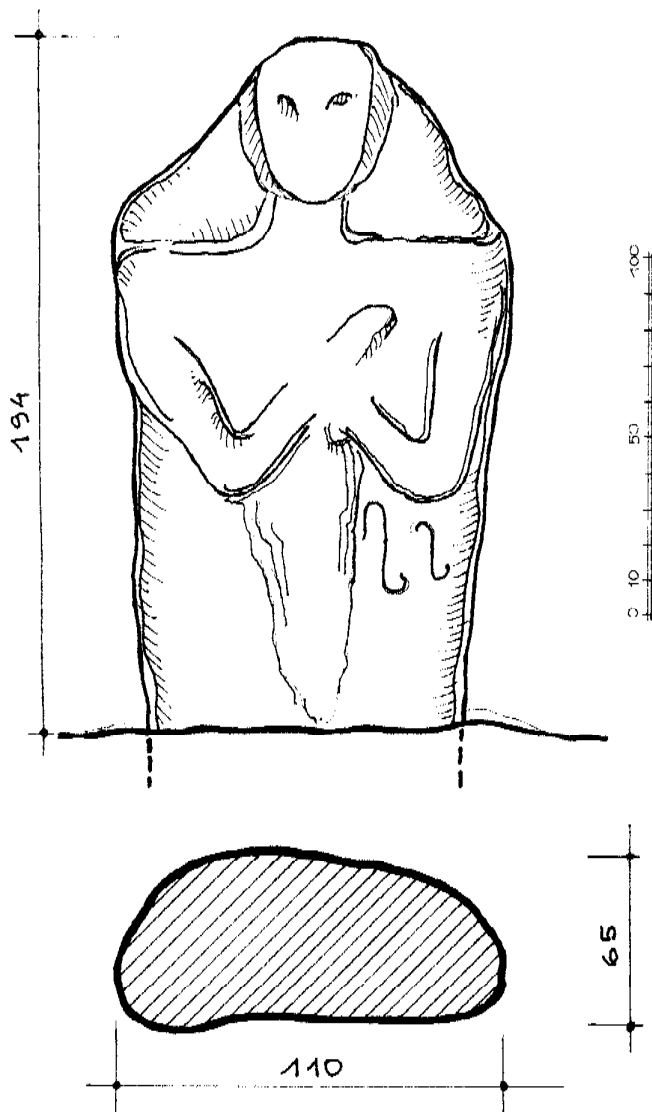
Brief Description:

The Menhir represents a huge basalt stone with rounded base and an image on one side. It generally shows the figure of a round-faced man with his hands on his breast, the figure as a whole has an impression of a monumental statue, it is oriented to the South-West. On the left side it has an image of a cross and an old Georgian script, which is very badly damaged.

Recommended Protection Measures:

The monument needs to be fenced metal wire and sign posted (according to the drawing).





Remnant of the Village in Tskhratskaro Gorge

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**Remnant of the Village in Tskhratskaro Gorge
(Medieval Centuries)**



Location

Historic province – Kvemo Kartli

District --Borjomi , 3-4km East of Village Tsikhisjvari

GPS Coordinates:

8373921 – 4620507

8373591 – 4620736

8373273 – 4621133

8373913 – 4620481

8373913 – 4620481

8373963 - 4620547

8374015 - 4620573

8373986 – 4620474

8373974 -4620465

8373395 – 4620930

8373908 – 4620517

8374005 – 4620462

8374097 – 4620411

Building Boundary GPS Coordinates:

8473865 – 4620450

8474045 – 4620610

8474050 – 4620320

8473915 – 4620590

8474140 – 4620410

ROW crossing Coordinates:

8374136 – 4620406

8373889 – 4602517

KP –185

Distance to the ROW- the remnant of the village is crossed by the Pipeline

Distance to the Road

Two traffic roads join each other on Remnant of the village area.

Abstract

The remnant of the village in Tskhratskaro Gorge (KP 181) had not been recorded in scientific literature. It was first identified by the Cultural Heritage protection Department of Georgia in 2003 during phase II fieldwork of the BTC project. It was discovered that the pipeline would cross the village. Accordingly it was added to the Phase III project list.

This year the village boundaries were established, the remnant of the villages were cleared of vegetation, field reconnaissance was conducted and a general layout for the separate complexes identified.

Unfortunately some compartment groups were ruined by pipeline construction activities before the lab processing of the material and the final report.

Therefore the existing material is of great importance. The monument was generally dated from the medieval period.

General description of the Location and the Planning

The Remnant of the village is located on the slope relief of an open area, this is crossed by several springs from the river Tskhratskaro, this indicates the origin of its name-Tskhratskaro. Due to the location, the remnant of the village is also called “Tskhratskaro “.

The general layout for twelve compartments has been identified in the remnant of the village. Some of the compartments show evidence of being used as cattle- sheds during Soviet Union.

‘Tskhratskaro’ remnant of the village dwelling complexes like other village remnants are built from smooth stone structures. The slabs are tightly grouped together and attached with lime solution. The stones are medium sized and of uneven shape. The walls in some compartments have evidence of later reconstruction with smaller stones. The surfaces of the reconstructed walls are coarse and the stones do not fit well together. The walls are 120-150 s-m wide.

All the dwelling structures have different general layouts but have the same principles of compartment location and distribution:

- the compartments are open to the river side;
- The cattle-sheds are partially built deep into the ground.
- The number of compartments comprise between 3 to 5 according to the plan;
- The doors are commonly located at the corners of the compartments;
- The corners of the cattle-shed are generally rounded;
- The complex consists of two large rectangular compartments; one of which has a small corridor in front; this unit has an irregular shape and is connected to the entrance of the cattle-shed by a narrow passage;
- All the complexes have a small, round room accompanied which stands separately;
- The dwelling and the agricultural compartments in the complexes are separate. It is also adjoined by the agricultural fields surrounded by a wall.

These are the main characteristics of “Tskhratskaro” village complexes.

Its worth mentioning that the ruins of the other larger and rather old remnant of the village is located approximately 300 meters to the west in the woods. Formerly a church, its plan is covered in earth. Only the base of a stone cross from the altar has survived with the image of a round-handed cross on the front side. An old millstone was discovered in the village remnant area this year.

Due to the size of the remnant of the village, the measures of the complexes surviving fragments, existence of the church and the mill, decoration of the altar cross, dry masonry walls built from large slabs, the fragments of the road indicate that this monument represents a well developed, Early Period (X c) remnant of the village.

Current physical Condition and the Date

“Tskhratskaro” represented the ruined remnant of the village, where a general structure and plan of the single dwellings were legible.

The rear parts of the complexes, those that were more extensively built into the ground, have survived in better condition. Most of the surviving walls were 2 m high. Accordingly the fronts of the dwellings suffered greater damage. Here the remaining walls were at ground level or up to 0, 5 m in height, the plan was legible.

As already mentioned “Tskhratskaro” remnant of the village is similar to the remnant of the villages of the same region recorded in scientific literature (Tori, Svinis Dziri, Gogichaant Ghele and etc.) They are similar with the building material –course stone, building technique -dry masonry as well as planning characteristics-number of compartments, the round compartment standing apart, the possible similarity of the roofing etc. Besides these similarities, differences are also evident: the village walls are built from smaller stones within the ROW are thinner than the Early Medieval period walls which were about 2m wide.

This difference must be explained by the later date of “Tskhratskaro” remnant of the village.

As regards to the plan, the structure of the complexes are rather simple, the number and size of the compartments are smaller.

Significance

As noted above, River Tskhratskaro area consists of two remnants of the villages – one possibly belongs to the X c, the other, the subject of our research, belongs to the later period. According to the scientific literature the number of the remnants of the villages in this region indicates the intensity of the population here in the past. The remnants identified certainly contain a considerable amount of additional information. Future reconnaissance will greatly contribute to better identification of the evolution of folk architecture.

At this stage of research, comparing the present remnants of the villages to the villages of the region showed an interesting picture: the style of the settlement, definite details of planning, building material and technique, possible roofing systems are the same.

This helps to prove once again how stable the building traditions of folk architecture were over a long period of time.

Recommended Protection Measures

The above ground research work conducted by specialists included: description, photo documentation, general plan production, fixation of the structures by the architectural drawings, village boundary establishment mapping, and assessment of the current physical condition.

“Tskhratskaro” remnant of the village is included in the list of monuments, which are located within the ROW. As we have already mentioned, the construction activities have partially damaged the monument without permission from the Cultural heritage Protection Department. That’s why the salvage of the remaining ruins of the architectural complexes are essential. It considers the complexes located on the right of the eastern tributary of the river Tskhratskaro, which have well preserved planning structures as they have not been used and reconstructed by shepherds in the recent past. Among them is a well-preserved multi-compartment dwelling.

In order to protect the complex, the following recommendations were made:

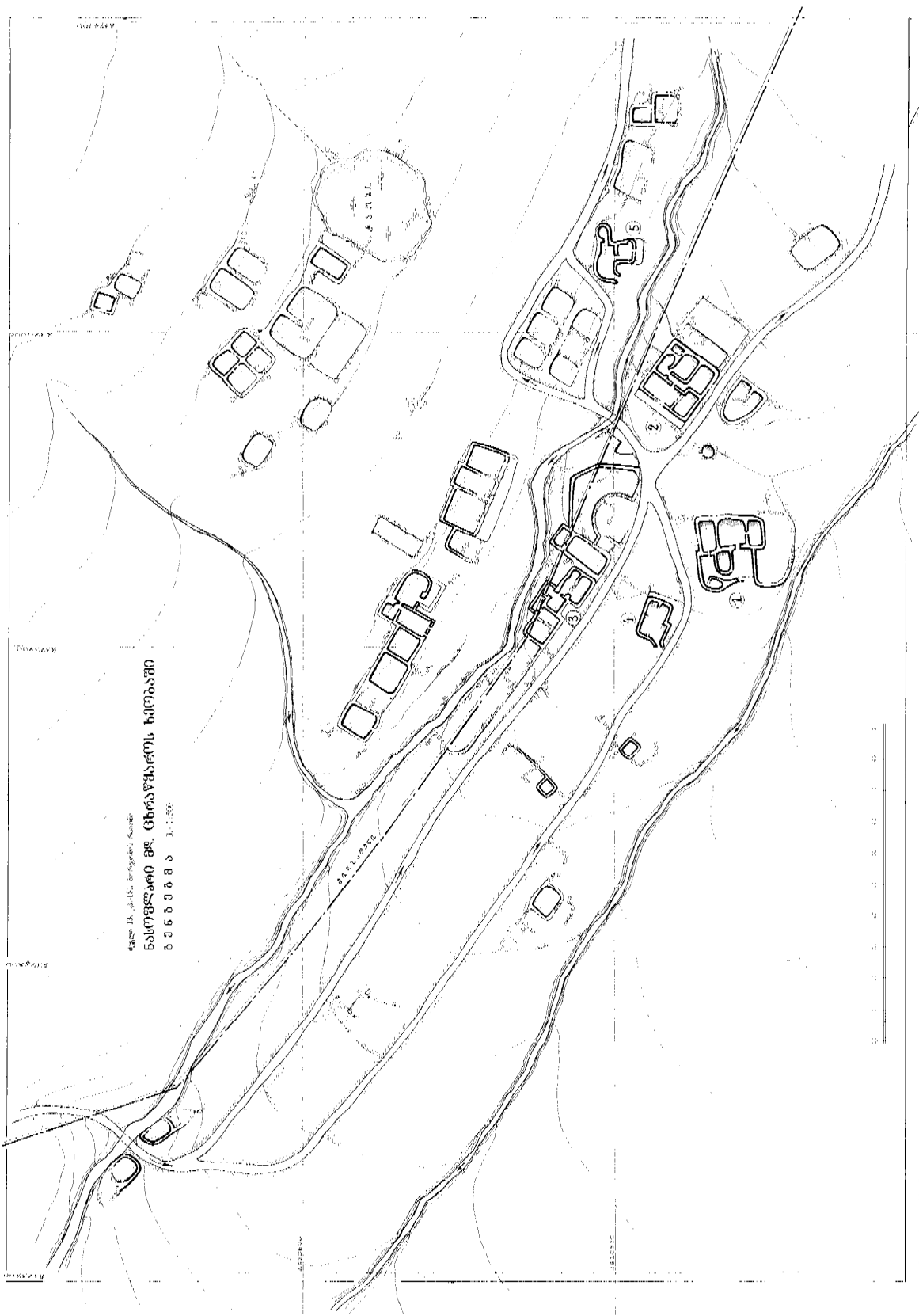
- Marking the remnant of the village by the signs at definite points.
- Fencing the complexes, which have survived construction activities, with wire.
- Place barriers at the edge of the traffic road to prevent heavy vehicles from encroaching upon the underground complexes that are adjacent to the road.

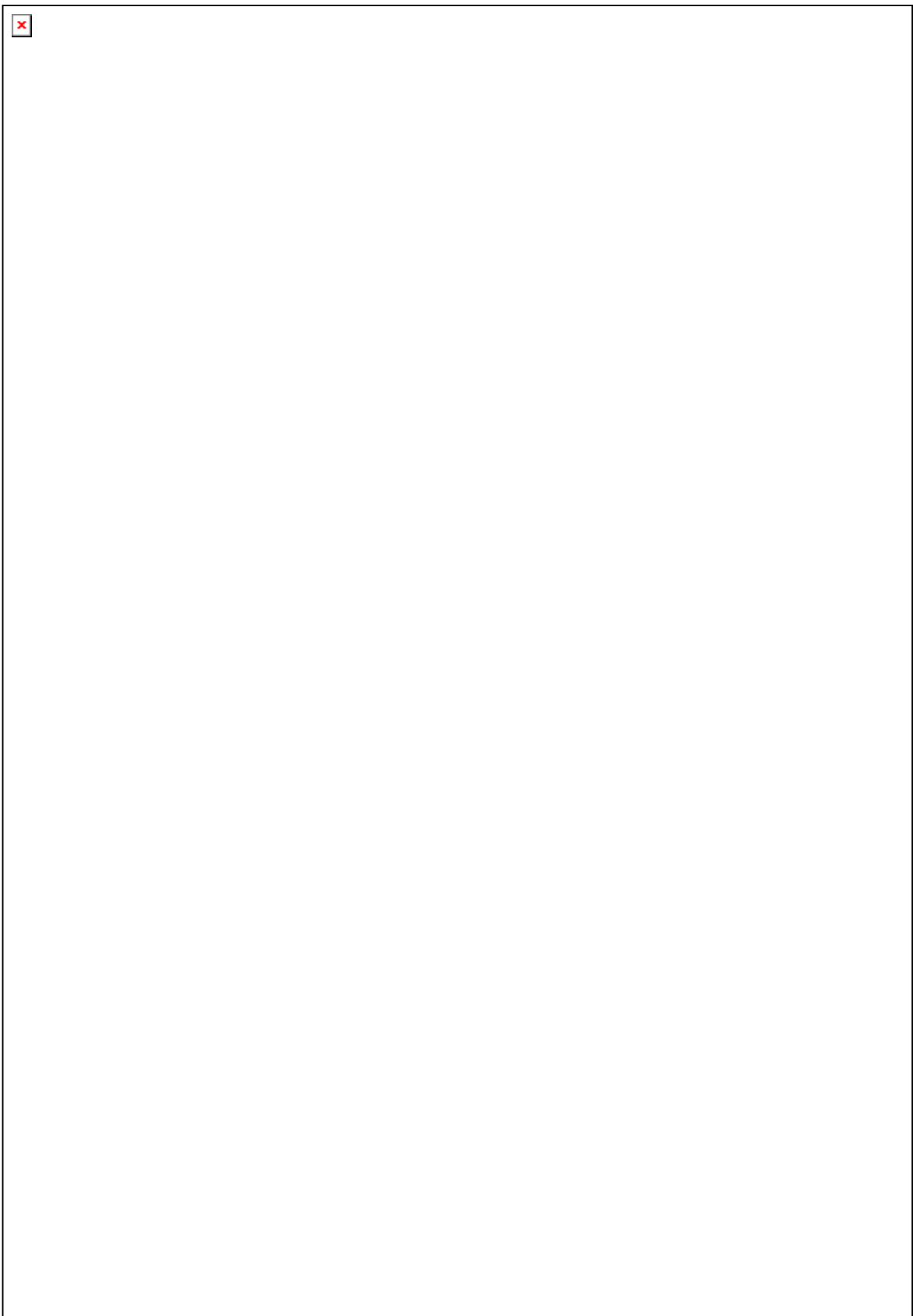
Bibliography

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2. L. Rcheulishvili, Old remnant of the settlements in Borjomi-Bakuriani Area, Essays of the Georgian Art, Tb. 1994

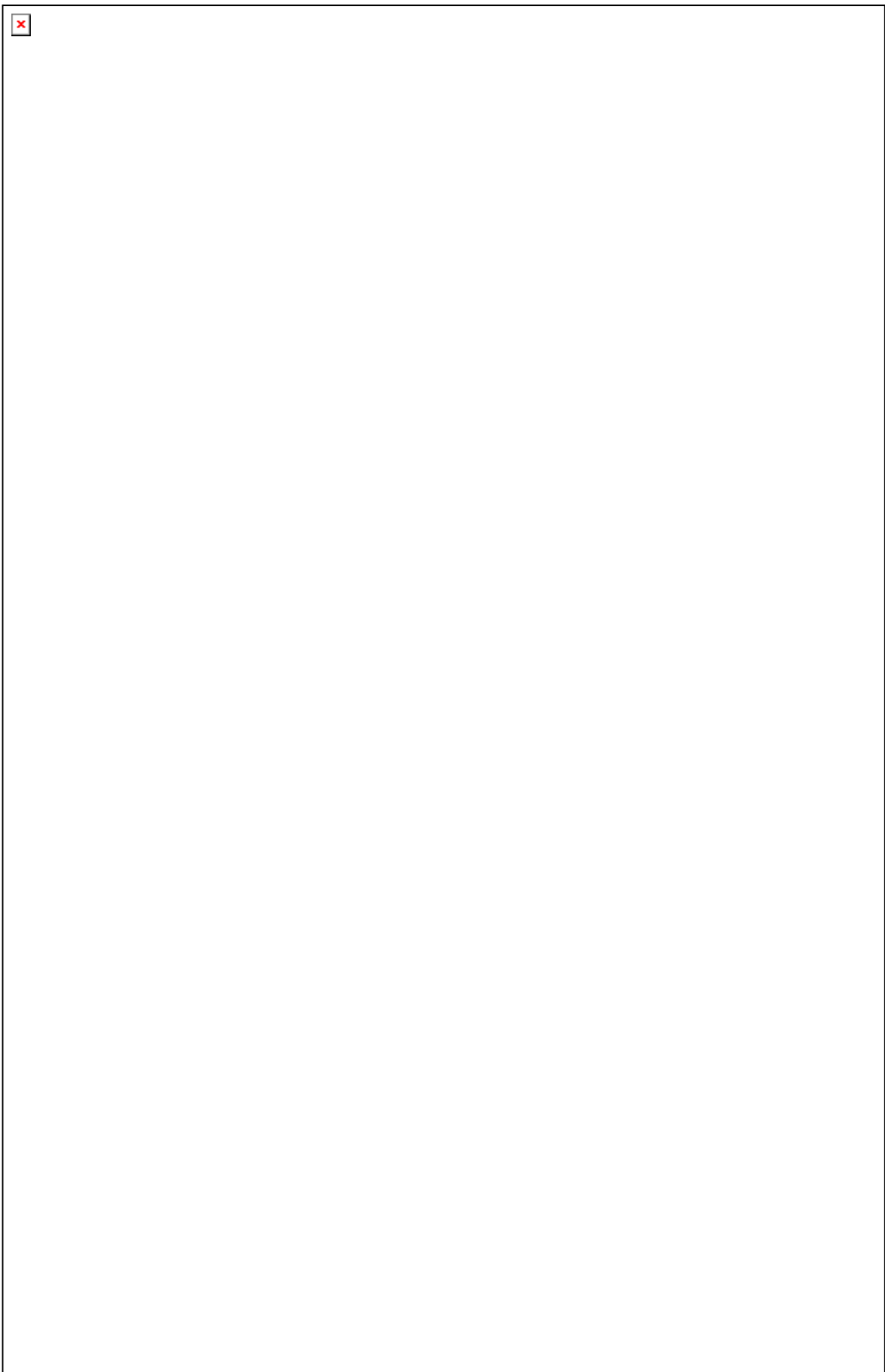
Graphical Material

1. General Plan
2. The Fragments of the remnant of the settlement -1, plan, section 1-1, section 2-2, section 3-3
3. The fragments of the remnant of the settlement -2 and 3, section 4-4, section 5-5
4. The fragments of the remnant of the settlement – 4 and 5, section 6-6, section 7-7











Complex on the Right bank of the Left Spring



Complex on the Right Bank of the Left Spring



Complex on the Right Bank of the Left Spring



Lower Complex on the Left Side of the Right Spring



Millstone



Base of Cross Stone

St. Mary Church and the Remnant of the Settlement

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St. Mary Church and the Remnant of the Settlement
(The remnant of the settlement and ruins of the Georgian church –
Developed middle Ages, Greek Church –XX c)



Location

Historic Province - Tori
District - Borjomi, at the Southeast edge of Tsikhisjvari, on the mountain Slope

KP –185

Brief Description:

XX c Greek, small vaulted church is located on the mountain slope covered with forestation. It is built on the ruins of an old Georgian church. The plan of the Georgian church is bigger than of the present one. The low rows of only the have been preserved.

The remnant of the settlement is built of old monumental stone slabs. Dry masonry fragments have survived here and there.

Recommended protection measures:

- Boundary marking.
- The portion of the monument, adjacent to the ROW, needs to be fenced with metal wire.
- Construction activity needs to be supervised by CAS archaeologist.

Tsikhisjvari Remnant of the Village with the Church

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Tsikhisjvari Remnant of the Village with the Church
(Date is not defined)

***Location:***

Historic Province – Tori
District – Borjomi, 400 m west of Tsikhisjvari, left bank of the River

KP – 186

Distance to the ROW - 200m

Brief description:

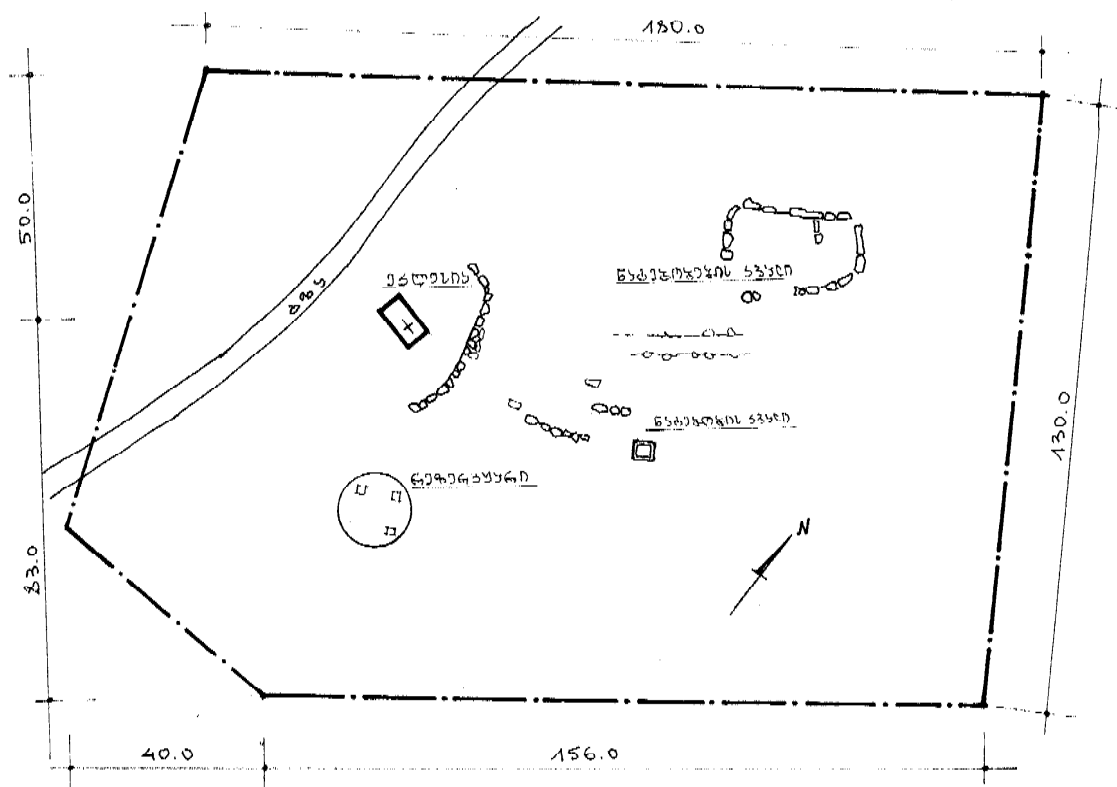
The remnant of the village is located on the high rocky bank of the river; the ruins of the dwellings and the church (St. George) have survived.

The plan of the dwelling ruins is barely legible.

The church is of a vaulted type. Parts of the apse, long walls and the only window to the east have survived. Half of the structure is built into the ground. There is a table stone in the altar. Only fragments of the dry masonry slab enclosure surrounding the church have survived. The church roof was built by the Greeks.

Recommended Protection Measures:

- Monument boundaries need to be marked with signs.
- The construction process needs to be agreed with the archaeological centre which should supervise.



Kvakrilebi (stone piles)
“Cyclopean” Fortress – Remnant of the Settlement

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Kvakrilebi (stone piles)
 “Cyclopean” fortress – Remnant of the Settlement
 (Pre Christian Period Megalith Culture Monument used in the middle Ages)



Location

Historical Province – Tori
 District – Borgomi, 5km east of village Sakire

Boundary GPS Coordinates:

8362600 – 4623180	8362590 - 4623250	8363280 - 4623510
8362900 – 4623570	8363100 - 4623615	8362950 - 4623195
8363270 – 4623350	8363170 - 4623120	
8362800 – 4623230	8362720 - 4623400	

Crossing line GPS Coordinates:

At the east edge 8363197 – 4623182
 At the west edge 8362678 – 4623351

KP – 194

Distance to the ROW- The monument is crossed by the pipeline at the lower part, which is characterised by the special intensity of the destroyed structure and the scattered slabs used for the construction.

Abstract

Megalith culture, grandiose, 800 m long monument is located near Kodiana ridge, on top of the high hill east of village Sakire in Borjomi district.

It represents a fortified settlement with many structures. The majority of the plan comprises ruins of different sizes, round shaped buildings and wall-fortifications surrounding a very large area, the scattered fragments of communications are also legible.

Kvakrilebi was first revealed in 2002 by experts from CHPDG during BTC project phase II field survey. The phase III work in 2003 included the following activities: boundary identification and full (descriptive, graphical, photo, topographic) fixation. The relation to the pipeline was identified, and protection measures were also designed. Due to the particularly large size, extent of damage and the specific difficulties of the monument the given 4 days for research appeared to be very short.

Scientific research of kvakrilebi and its placement among similar monuments as subjects of the future; it's absolutely evident that Kvakrilebi represents one of the interesting fortified "Cyclopean" remnant of the settlement, which was functioning for a long period of time; it's also quite possible that regardless of time modification, it had a strategic duty for centuries, which is probably explained by its control and defence of the important highway.

General description of the Location

Megalith culture monument, Kvakrilebi, is located near Kodiana Ridge, on a large steep sloping area from the top of the mountain. The locals call this area black-lake hill. The length of the cyclopean settlement is 800 m. The upper part of the structure ruins is located at 2233m above sea level. And the lower part in Sakire shepherd's summer dwelling is located at 2090 m above sea level. The area here is bare with no vegetation covering.

Description of the “Cyclopean” Fortress and the Remnant of the settlement

According to the size of the area monuments are located and the sizes of the separate structures and also the construction material, Kvakrilebi represents a grandiose megalith culture monument. The natural and the built structures in the “cyclopean” fortress are so well constructed that it’s hard to distinguish between them. In some places the stones are piled so that they look natural. The only way to identify the ruins of the independent structures from a ruin of the fortification wall is in the way the stones are placed either in one pile or lined along a long territory.

The ruins of the structures are concentrated to the South-East. Large slabs are used as construction material in this part and the plan is clearly legible. It seems that the plan consisted of mainly round shaped structures. This type of round structure, which varies in size, is mainly found in the fortress area. The surrounding lines of ruined walls have been preserved at the Southern edge of the settlement near the Kokjhi –spring. It’s quite possible that the walls surrounded agricultural fields.

Traces of the strong wall and porch are legible at the end part of the monument, in extremely large monolith piles.

Significance and date

According to the building material, dry masonry, building technique and the extension measures, Kvakrilebi is a characteristic example of Megalith culture.

In regard to its general plan, the monument had not only a fortification duty, but it also represented a stationary settlement.

This type of monument is found in Trialeti, Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli. Lately the same type of monuments were also found at Aragvi, Ksani and Tergi Gorges. Nearly all the monuments are located in strategic centres: on the Ridges, highways of big and small Gorges.

Several “cyclopean” settlements and fortifications were archaeologically studied and architecturally and topographically measured and planned in Trialeti and Javakheti. They are dated as II millennium BC monuments.

Megalith culture monuments are spread all over the world. Their origin and function have not been studied previously. Therefore their protection is essential not only for Georgia but for world culture history as well.

Like any other “cyclopean” monuments, Kvakrilebi would apparently change its structure, after long use, in the Middle Ages. Identification of the monument, which is badly damaged, is very difficult. The future study of this interesting example of megalith culture will greatly contribute to the fulfilment of knowledge.

Recommended protection measures

The Phase III work of the project included: topographic fixation of the remnant of the settlement and the fortress, production of the general plan and photo documentation. At the same time the extension boundaries were established and mapped and the current physical condition of the monument was described.

BTC pipeline crosses the fortress –remnant of the settlement (the crossing points are: 8363197 – 4623182; 8362678 – 4623351).

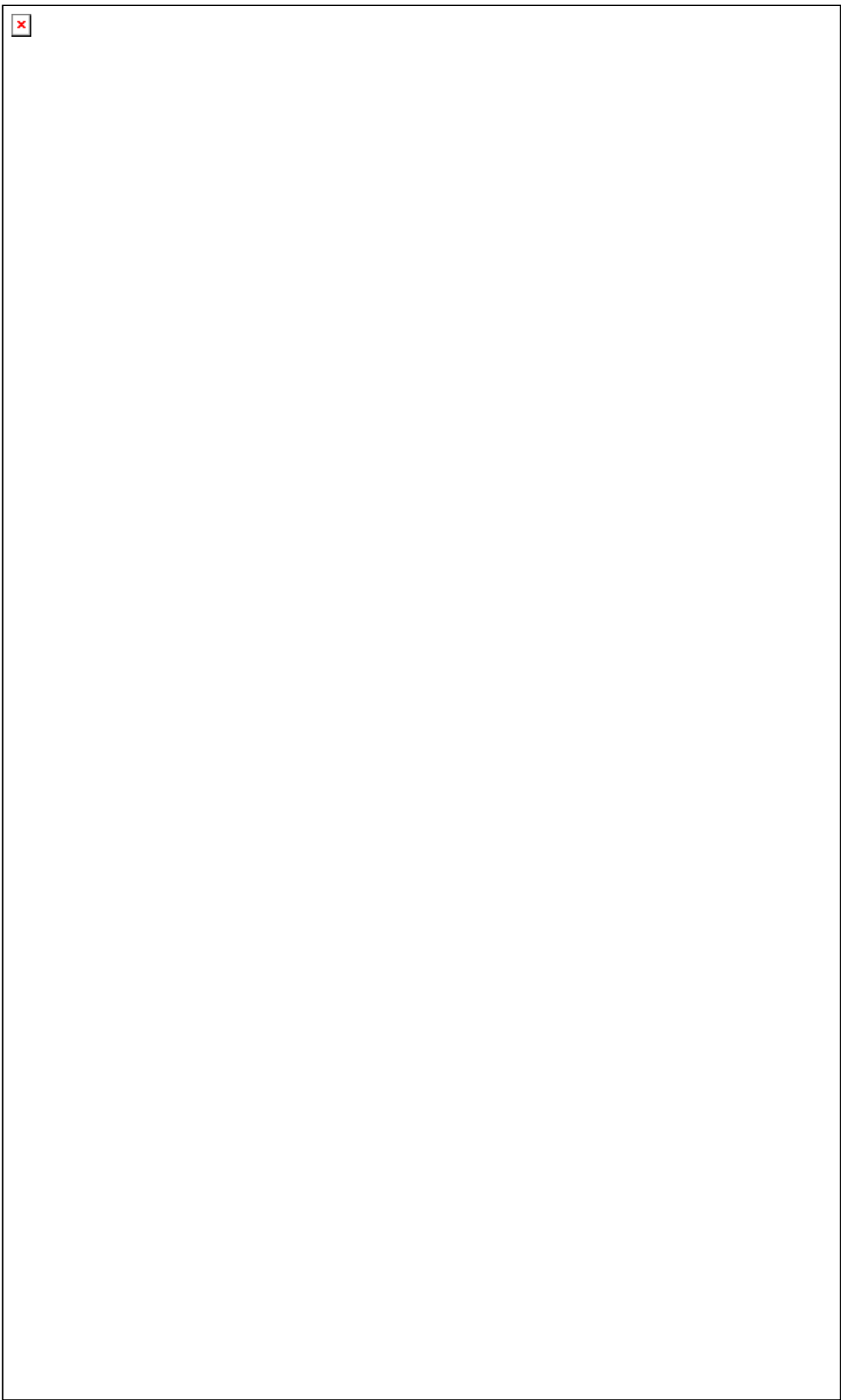
These Pre Christian period (dating from XV c BC) monuments are threatened by demolition. Thus revealing and protection of all the new examples is essential. Accordingly this applies to Kvakrilebi as well.

The pipeline will cross the best-preserved part of the monument. Therefore the establishment of the following protection measures is critical:

- The pipeline needs to be rerouted to the south., where the borders of the monument may be extended but currently they are not visible;
- If the pipeline route is not altered, the territory, to be affected, must be archaeologically researched.

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3. L. Melkiset-begi, Megaliuth Culture in Georgia, Tb., 1938
4. Trialeti “Cyclopean” Structures, Materials for the computerised bank (executed by: G. Narimanashvili, G. Mindiashvili, N. Shavshiashvili, L. Akhalaia, G. Chanishvili, Sh. Melikidze, A. Tevzadze, B. Glurjidze), the program of national Heritage, 1998





Structure Remnants after crossing



Structure Remnants between Sera crossing



Fortress remnants of the settlement of stone piles



As previous picture



Structure remnants in the lower part

Ortso Remnant of the Village

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**Ortso Remnant of the Village
(VIII – X c)**



Location

Historic province – Tori
District – Borjomi, 3 km east of the village Sakire,
500 m from Sakire summer dwellings

Boundary GPS Coordinates:

8361700 – 4623200
8361685 – 4623130
8361600 – 4623110
8361540 – 4623120
8361515 - 4623160
8361550 – 4623230
8361600 – 4623270
8361685 – 4623250
Stone cross base – 8361790 – 4623114

KP- 195

Distance to the ROW -

*The traffic road crosses the remnant of the village.
The pipeline passes at 100 m distance from the remnant of the village.*

Abstract

Ortso remnant of the village represents a very interesting example of VIII –Xc historic village, previously unknown to scientific literature.

The remnant of the village covers a large area and represents a complete structure comprising many fortified dwelling compartments.

The composition of the surviving plan consists of differently shaped compartments containing compact, multi storage, multi function compartments. The structures of the different combination of dwelling and storage compartments and village roads are detected in the monument area.

A Stone cross base detected on the opposite side of Sakire-Kodiana traffic road, at a distance 40-50m from the remnant of the village. The discovery of the stone cross base indicates the existence of a village church (the church as yet has not been discovered), or it indicates the beginning of a historic road, the fragments of the road have been preserved over a very long area in the direction of Sakire village.

The village is built from dry masonry.

BTc pipeline ROW passes 100 m north of the remnant of the village, and the present traffic road, which provides the only access for heavy traffic movement- therefore it will presumably, cross the remnant of the village.

Location and Planning

Ortso remnant of the village is spread over the mountain slope covered by forestation and is progressing in south-westerly direction. It has a narrow gorge along the north. The fragments of the Old cyclopean remnant of the settlement are preserved along the whole gorge, from the top of the mountain till Kvakrilebi. One small flank of the gorge turns to the west, passing the remnant of the village and ends at Kodiana-Sakire traffic road. This represents the lower boundary of the village. A stone cross base was detected on the other side of Sakire-Kodiana traffic road, at a distance of 40-50m from the remnant of the village. The discovery of the stone cross base indicates the existence of a village church (the church has not yet been discovered), or it indicates to the beginning of the historic road, the fragments of the road have been preserved along a very long area to the village Sakire direction

The village represents a large, fortified settlement; it consists of many dwellings with different purpose compartments. Its bad physical condition complicates the fixation of the whole structure, though the composition of the dwelling plan is fragmentally legible. According to the revealed compartments, it's possible to define the structure of the dwellings. The dwelling unit consists of the composition of some rooms connected to each other. The sizes of the rooms vary. Three room structures represent two small compartments, which are united by one room. The entrances are either at the corners or the centres of rooms. Some of the dwelling units have front doors. The uniform shapes of front doors or rooms are generally round.

Ortso remnant of the village is built from medium size basalt stones and dry masonry.

Current Physical Condition and the Results of the Surface Cleaning

The present condition of the remnant of the village is very poor. Only 40% of it has survived. The area is covered with forestation. The dwelling complexes with a preserved 2 m high walls are covered with coniferous trees and remains from cut down tree-logs, branches, moss and grass. The pits in the ground show traces of the former compartments.

During BTC phase III work, one of the better-preserved dwelling compartments was cleared of logs, branches, mosses and grass; as a result the plan and the structure of the walls were revealed. The wall height of one compartment is 1 metre.

60-65 s-m deep prospect trenches were dug within one of the compartments within the complex. The floor level was identified. The floor was built from a well-pressed, reddish basalt crushed and mixed with soil. No archaeological artefact was recovered.

Significance and date

Ortso remnant of the village represents a significant example of VIII-X c historic village.

It is of great art-historical value. The composition of the plan from surviving dwellings are characterised by variety. The complexity of the planning structure indicates a developed social level of that period. The walls built from dry masonry represent the continuation of an ancient, Pre Christian period building tradition.

The remnant of the village was not previously known to scientific literature, which then increases the interest in the monument more.

The building technology, the structure of each complex has its analogy in Borjomi Gorge VIII-X c remnant of the villages. Though, the same large and well preserved complex like Ortso remnant of the village is very rare in this Gorge.

Recommended Protection measures

The following activities have been performed during the Phase III work of the project: topographic fixation of the remnant of the village, producing a general plan, architectural measuring of the fragments of building walls and photo documentation. The boundaries of the remnant of the village were established and mapped; the physical condition of the monument was described and generally studied.

Ortso remnant of the village is located 100 m from the BTC pipeline. It is crossed by Sakire-Kodiana traffic road, this route will definitely carry project heavy traffic movement.

The following measures were recommended for the protection of the monument:

- The construction process should be monitored by specialists.
- The monument boundaries should to be marked by signs (at definite parts)
- The traffic road should not be widened.

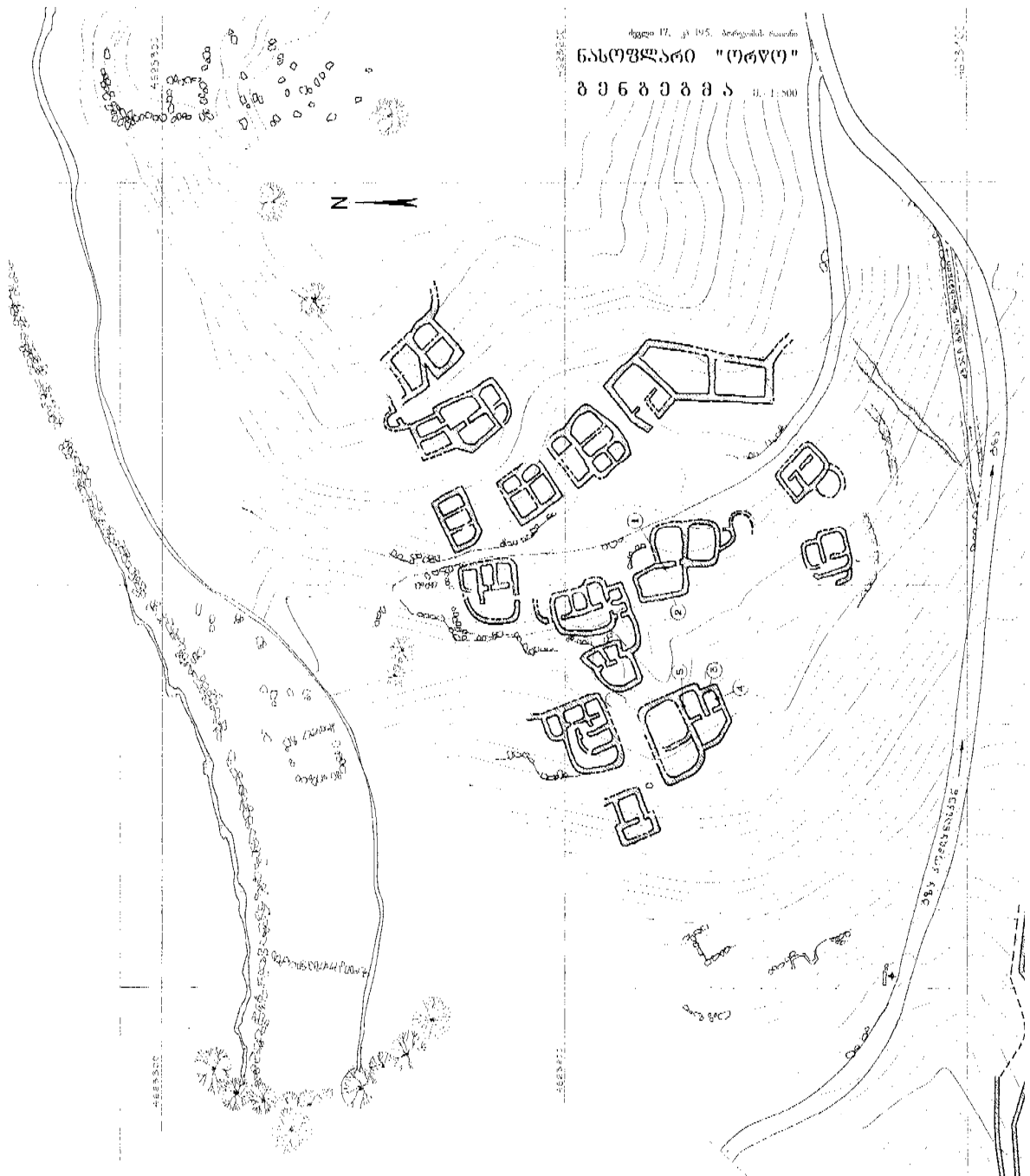
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1. L. Rcheulishvili, Old remnant of the settlements in Borjomi-Bakuriani Area, Essays of the Georgian Art, Tb., 1994

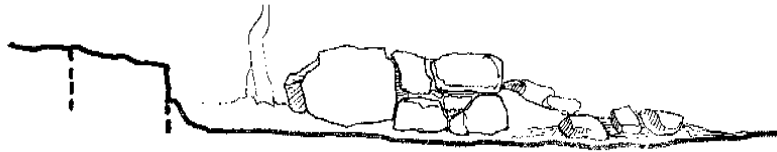
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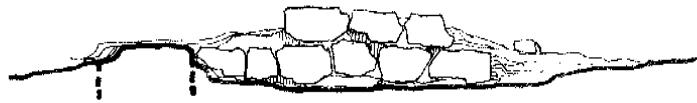
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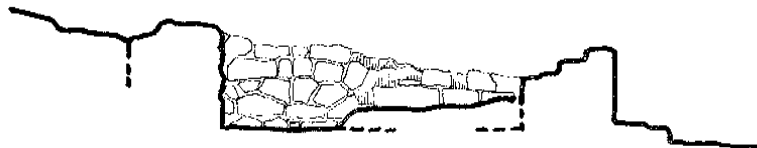
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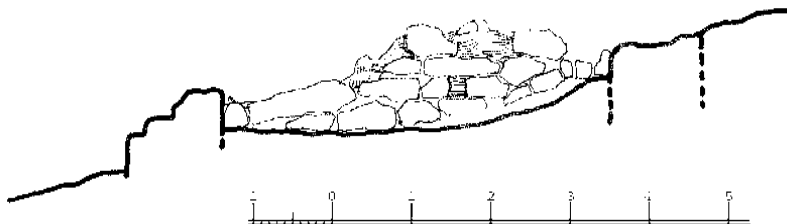
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Remnant of the village Dwelling unit in the process of clearing



Remnant of the village Compartment in the central section of the village



Remnant of village dwelling in the process of clearing

Historic Road in Village Sakire Area

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Historic Road in Village Sakire Area (Middle Ages)



Location

Historic Province – Tori

District – Borjomi, 2.5– 3.5 km east of village Sakire.

500 m west of Sakire shepherds summer dwellings.

50 – 100 m south of Ortso remnant of the village,
right bank of Kodiana Gorge.

GPS Coordinates

8361800 – 4623134	8361810 – 4623110	8361720 – 4623104
8361740 – 4623085	8361697 – 4623069	8361713 – 4623044
8361597 – 4623049	8361584 – 4623019	8361512 – 4623100
8361493 – 4623072	8361422 – 4623099	8361428 – 4623071
8361277 – 4623008	8361285 – 4622983	8361210 – 4623000
8361230 – 4622976	8361130 – 4622955	8361134 – 4622923
8361008 – 4622988	8361058 – 4622944	8360938 – 4622918
8360941 – 4622868	8360854 – 4622788	8360878 – 4622778

KP – 196

Distance to the pipeline and the Road

The historic road aligns with the relief, to come close to the pipeline in some sections and in others far from the pipeline. The closest distance being 170m, Distance to the operating traffic road, is 20 m.

Abstract

An extensive group of varying periods and monuments of different topography were detected in Borjomi region during BTC field reconnaissance. A very interesting old road, with stone curbs flanked on both sides, was identified together with megalith culture monuments, Church-monasteries, castles, and medieval remnant of the villages in the same region.

These areas belonged to historic Tory, which represented one of the richest and politically important regions in Georgia. The roads for state, strategic and foreign trade importance passed through Tory, their routes are widely known.

It is worth mentioning that, the origin of these roads has vanished in common with most of the historic roads in Georgia. Thus the identification of fragments from this road is of special value and provides an insight about the culture and economic growth of this region during the medieval period. It also represents an interesting example of engineering art.

This road presumably had more functions rather than connecting the churches-monasteries, villages and fortification complexes to each other, it was also strategically important road passing over the Kodiana Ridge. Preservation will greatly enhance future studies of the past in this region and help to form a full and interesting picture of this complex historic road.

General description of the Location

The historic road is located at the bottom of the mountain, east of Sakire village. However the present traffic road passes over Kodiana Ridge, on top of the mountain. Naturally the route of the historic road would have passed here, but unfortunately no traces of the old road have found as yet. The base of the stone cross, which is located within the fur trees, is of great interest. Fragments of the old road start 70 m from the base, in the middle section of the mountain slope, and south of the current traffic road.

The historic road follows an east-west direction; down the mountain towards the village. The road has been preserved in long, continuous portions in some places or as fragments in others. A large section of the road travels through an area of cut forestation, for approximately 500m towards a swampy field and all traces are lost. At this point the general direction of the road is crossed with modern subsoil; traces from the road then continue into the coniferous wood and towards the west; after 500 m it emerges from the wood and disappears into empty fields. At this point it is worth noting that traces of similar type of road have been detected in Sakire area, at the top of the village.

Description of the Historic Road

Gray colour, basalt stone base (80 s-m 85 s-m) is located on the mountain slope at the beginning of the coniferous wood. The base is two storied and has a cross cut in the front side and a socket of the stone cross on top.

The road with stone curbs on either side starts in the vicinity of the base, its width is 2, 5 - 3 m.

The route of the historical road develops on a quite steep relief. The portion of the road at the top of the mountain has a complex profile. It is important to remember that the road was functioning in poor climatic conditions. Frequent rain in spring and autumn; winter snow and smog would make the traffic movement difficult. In this case stone curbs provided the best measures for safety and protection of movement.

Most of the curbs were built from dry masonry, various sized basalt stones and large rectangular slabs. Accordingly the heights of the curbs vary in different areas. Parts built from large slabs are lower as only one row has survived, as for the pebble stone, dry masonry walls they reach 150 s-m in some places.

According to locals, the road was paved with stone tiles, which have not been detected during the survey.

The historic road gets wider, up to three metres, at turning points, which indicates good engineering experience on the constructors part.

The conducted field work included: detailed description of the road, graphical fixation of the well-preserved parts (a plan, characteristic fragmental sections), photo fixation and topographic measuring.

Physical Condition and the Surface Cleaning Results

At present the historic road is not in use. A modern road has been constructed to the north. The road outline has been deformed due to damage caused from the roots of hundred-year-old trees. The cut down wood, logs, needles and thick soil covering has covered and damaged the road in parts. Only the curb fragments are visible on the surface. As for the road pavement, it was impossible to identify them without surface clearing.

The better-preserved portion of the road along the Ortso village was selected for clearing. As a result it has been identified that, the bottom of the road was covered with a mixture of pressed, red basalt pound. The width of the road comprised 2,5m. The height of the dry masonry curbs, built from different sized pebble basalt stones, was 150sm in some places. No archaeological artefacts were found during the clearing.

Date and Significance

The road identified in village Sakire area is the most interesting example among similar types of engineering monuments. What distinguishes it from the others is the provision of curbs during periods of construction, which ensured safety in bad weather on the complex relief. People could have added measures for safety during any period of time but here the interesting part is the way it has been decided. Fragments from the curbs show two different styles of construction engineering. Definite parts of the road are flanked by one row, coarse, rectangular slabs, though the main part is enclosed with dry masonry, basalt pebble wall-curbs. This difference must be caused by the different periods in which they were built, construction with basalt pebbles must be of later period.

The ruins of many historical roads have been detected in different parts of Georgia. Most of them are paved with the stones. Ones with stone curbs have also been identified. One of them has been archaeologically studied in Kakheti, in Gavaz, the XI-XV c remnant of the city.

The location of the stone cross base at the beginning of the road is of great interest. Traffic signs used in Georgia are vertical stones, oval shape stone piles and stone crosses, which were generally placed on Ridges or at crossroads. These signs gave direction during bad weather.

While dating the road, the historical and geographical aspects of the region-Tori need to be taken into account. Tori, with its rich natural resources and the available geographical location, played an important role in the past;

Tori was connected to its adjacent parts by roads passing on difficult ridges. It's obvious that fragments of the road in village Sakire wood are small parts of a very important strategic route.

The curbed old road constructed on the dangerous ridge represents an interesting monument of engineering art. It also proves the connections between Ortso remnant of the village (VIII – IX c), Kvakrilebi - Medieval period cyclopean monument, Sakdrivake monastery (IX – X c), Sakire fortress (XI – XIII c), Gujriskhevi Monastery (IX – X c) and other medieval monuments and remnant of the

Villages in Tadzrisi – Sakire – Dgvari area

Accordingly the road should have been functioning in the same period of time.

Recommended Protection Measures

The conducted field work included: topographic fixation of the historic road, working out of the general plan, graphic and photo fixation of the better preserved fragments of road. The boundaries were established and mapped; the physical condition was also described.

The fragments of the historic road are currently in a worse condition due to old age, woodcutting and neglect.

As a result of the recovered material analysis the following activities were recommended for the protection of the monument:

- Marking of the boundaries at definite places.
- In order not to loose the traces of this significant engineering monument, the better-preserved part of the historic road, near the modern traffic road, needs to be cleared and strengthened.

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Figure 12
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Ջրերի թափումը - 2



Ջրերի թափումը - 1



Ջրերի թափումը - 3



Ջրերի թափումը - 4



Ջրերի թափումը - 5



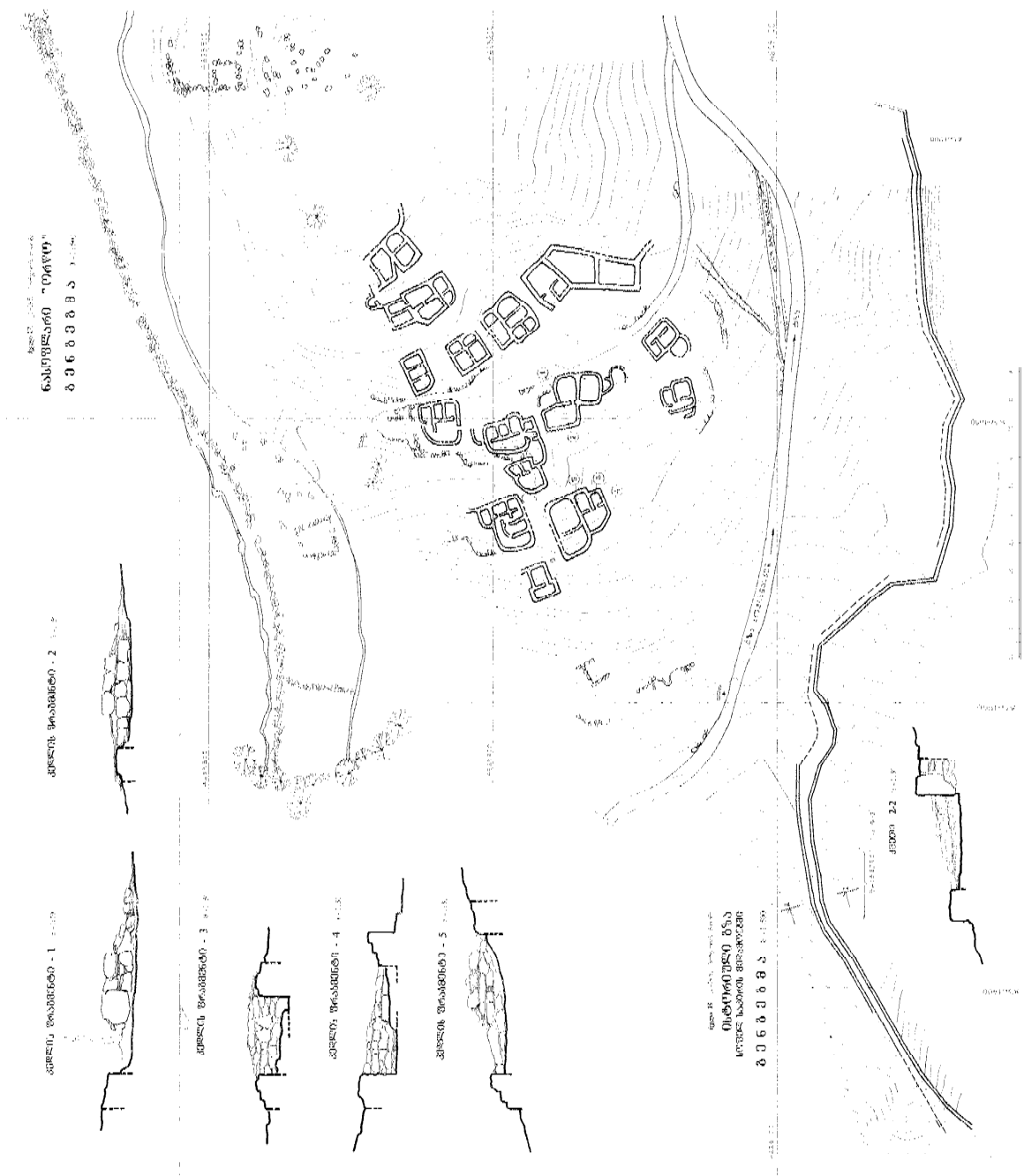
Figure 13
 Ուժեղացված ծնկ
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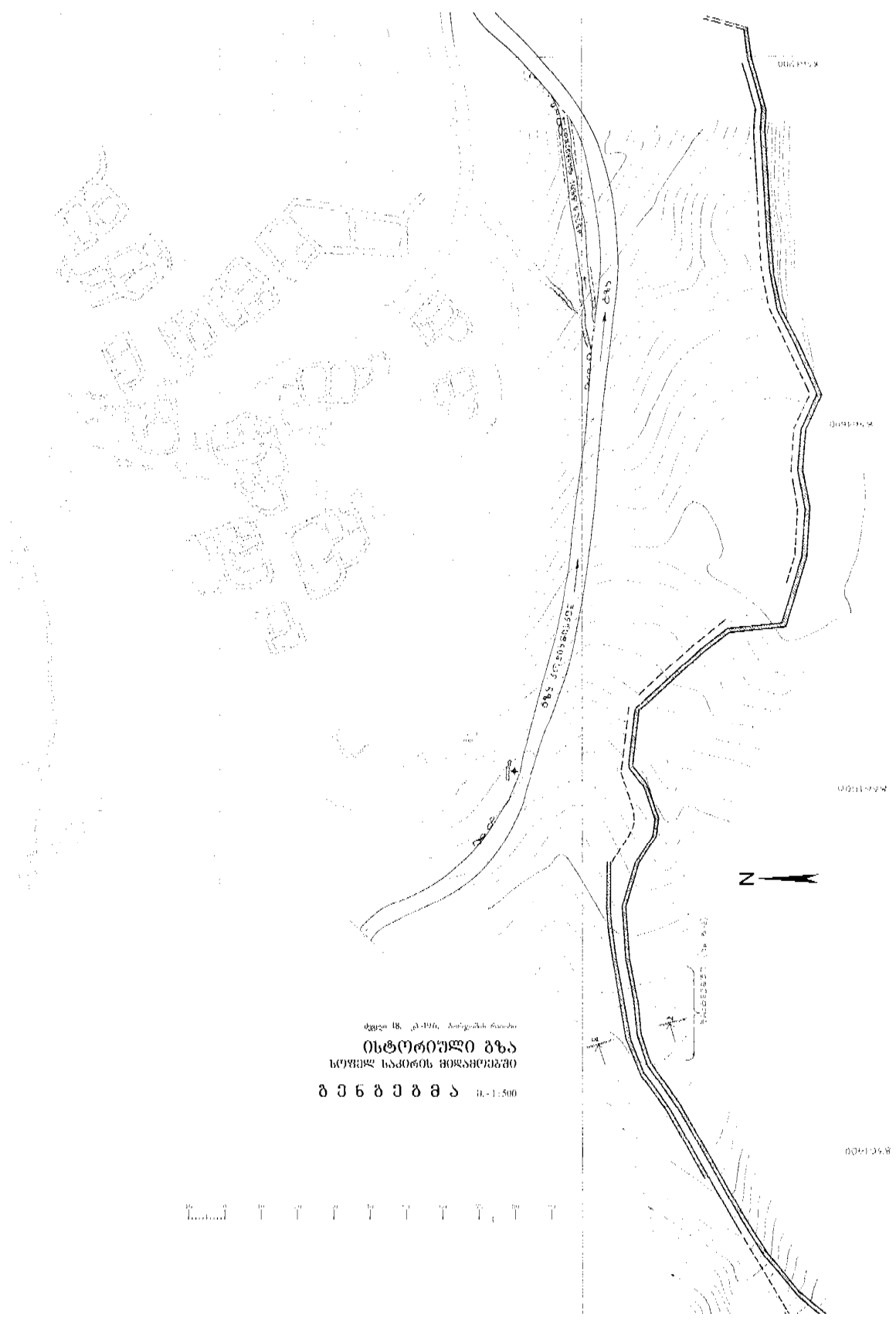
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Ջրերի թափումը - 1

Ջրերի թափումը - 3





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საბა'ს მდებარეობის მდებარეობა
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Road Section



Clearing Process, on the Pavement



Base of the Stone Cross



Historical Road fenced with Quadras



Pavement after clearing

**Sakire Fortress
St. George Church (“ground chapel”)
And the Ruins of the Monastery**

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Sakire Fortress
St. George Church (“ground chapel”)
And the Ruins of the Monastery
(X – XIII c)



Location

Historic Province – Tori
District – Borjomi, Southeast edge of village Sakire

GPS Coordinates

8357843 – 4622929 – Fortress
8357935 – 4622929 – St. George Church (ground chapel)

Extension Boundaries:

8358135 - 4623083	8358146 - 4623048
8358090 - 4623048	8357964 - 4622900
8357845 - 4622818	8357738 - 4622971
8357741 - 4623036	8357802 - 4623090
8357983 - 4623142	8358013 - 4623084

KP – 199

Distance to the pipeline:

Fortress – 150 m
Monastery – 50 m

Abstract

Sakire fortress represents an interesting example of a fortification type of structure. This fortress represents a medieval period feudal residence, where the dwelling and fortification functions are mixed. In addition it has its own church.

The fortress (XI – XIII c) has a wonderful location. The pictorial character church and different colour stonewalls are amazing.

Strategically the fortress had a convenient location and could control a big territory. The settlements around it were under its control. During enemy' invasions the feudal governor was locked into the fortress and the inhabitants escaped to woods.

Before construction of the fortress, a functioning X century monastery was located on this site. The monastery is dedicated to St. George ("ground chapel"), and is an example of rare, three nave basilica architecture. Only the ruins of the monastery, south of the church, have survived.

General Description of the Location

Sakire fortress was erected at the mouth of two rivers-Sakiristskali and Gujriskhevi, on top of the cape and overlooks all directions: Sakire and Tadzrisi villages are visible to the north-west, Gurjiskhevi narrow gorge is visible to the south- east and flows between the coniferous covered mountains. The remnants of the villages are located in the eastern part and around the high hill.

The ruin of the church ("ground chapel"), buried in the ground is located 100 m south-east of the fortress. The ruins of the Monastery buildings are located on a lower area.

Sakire Fortress

Sakire fortress as a complex includes a tower, enclosure, church and second line of enclosure wall to the south-east side. About 60% of the whole complex remains.

The fortress is built from coarsely hewn, mostly same sized, but different colour stones. The structure of the church interior is very similar to the fortress structure. The church is faced by smooth, wine colour quadrics tightly fitted together.

General Description of the Planning

Sakire fortress is situated on a south-east / north-west direction. The rectangular dwelling tower is located in the central part. This is surrounded by an oval yard divided into three parts and an enclosure. The north-east and south-west parts of the enclosure have been strengthened with piers.

The enclosure and the tower appear to have been built in the same period. The fortress has a southern entrance, which is rectangular and has an architrave stone on top.

A small vaulted church is located north-east of the dwelling tower. The altar of the church is attached to the wall of the lower enclosure.

The lower enclosure commences from the south-east corner and ends at the pier, close to the fortress entrance. The lower enclosure had an entrance with a lock on it.

The lower enclosure is strengthened by semi circular, elongated piers from the south-east, constructed from built of lime solution.

The Tower, Yard, Church and Enclosure

The dwelling tower was the highest point and best-protected part of the fortress. Its lower section was filled to provide additional strength.

The tower has the only arched entrance, at a higher level than the ground. The removable stairs were used for accessing the tower (presently the ground level has come up so that access into the tower is possible without stairs).

Two incomplete storeys of the dwelling tower have been preserved. The style of roofing between the storeys can't be defined without clearing of the monument, but it is presumed to have been flat.

The enclosed area, west of the dwelling tower, was for battle and agricultural purposes. Its walls have slit holes inserted. The north wall has pointed stone heads; as for the south wall it has stair cases cut into the wall. These presumably were used as pedestals for roofing the buildings, attached to the enclosure, and the top parts were used for battle purposes.

The most accessible side of the building is strengthened by a second enclosure. The slit holes inserted in the south wall help to control the gorge.

The church of the fortress is a vaulted type; only 30 % of it survives. Its entrance is from the west.

The lower part of the window frame has been preserved on the south wall of the interior. This wall has a preserved one- step pilaster, which is concluded with a niche and flat capitoll. The wine colour cornice stone was also detected in the ruins.

Physical Condition

Sakire fortress is the best preserved of all similar monuments in Georgia, (the height of the walls reach 10 m at some parts), but from a technical point of view it's in a very bad condition. Some parts of the building are very fragile.

The entrance of the lower enclosure is in a particularly poor condition; the arch could fall down any time. The top parts of the buildings are also in danger of collapse;

The level of the ground inside the monument has risen. Trees have grown within the dwelling tower and the fortress yard.

The church is also in a very bad condition. The walls have survived on a different level; it has no roofing; all frames have been ruined; the interior is full of ruins; most of the façade has no facing stones.

Date and significance

The date of Sakire fortress is unknown to historic materials and scientific literature.

The only building which can be given a date of origin for the architectural complex is the church. The characteristics of its wall structure and cornice shape indicate to a period not earlier than XIII c.

Sakire fortress has been mentioned in XVIII c historic materials, which proves that it had not lost its significance in Late Medieval period. The building has traces of renovation, though this is not extensive.

Sakire fortress is of multi significance:

- Architectural complex puts the finishing touch to a cape at the mouth of two rivers and as a whole represents a landscape monument made by nature and man.
- The monument is distinguished by the artistic craftsmanship of the work, individualism and high level of construction engineering;
- Sakire fortress possesses significant historic information; it shows that the feudal fortress and the associated area in Georgia and medieval period Europe represented a definite political-economic unit, which played an important pole in the life of the country.
- Sakire fortress remained significant even in medieval periods, this is proved by mentions in the XVII c historic materials.

Recommended Protection Measures

The Phase III work included the following activities: description, topographic fixation, photo documentation; production of the general plan and the graphical, architectural drawings; the boundary establishment and mapping; assessment of the physical condition.

BTC pipeline passes south of fortress. The fortress is located 200 m off the ROW; the monastery is located at a distance of 50 m.

The recommended protection measures include:

- Due to the artistic-architectural and historic importance of Sakire fortress and its poor physical condition, the monument requires full complex of emergency conservation-restoration activities.
- It's also worth mentioning that the fortress, with its planning and size, represents the only well surviving fortification structure in the ROW area.
- The pipeline construction will seriously damage the monument if no conservation-reinforcement activities are carried out, and will cause significant loss not only to the history of Georgian fortification architecture but also generally to Georgian Medieval history.
- The fragile parts of the monument need to be accurately fenced with the barriers and signs.

St. George Church

(“Ground chapel”) and Ruins of the Monastery

St. George church and the ruins of the monastery are located on terraces, 100 - 150 m south-east of Sakire fortress.

Half of the church is covered with earth; hence the name “ground chapel”. 20 % of the whole structure has survived; as for the monastery compartments, these been preserved on a plan level only.

The church is built from coarsely hewn, large size quadra's. Only places of artistic and constructive significance where built with smooth stones for the interior. Like on the north part of the church, where the arch and the window frame is decorated with smooth stone. The dome is built from vertically placed pebbles and lime masonry.

The monastery buildings are built from dry masonry large hewn slabs. Some of the storage compartments are smoothened with lime solution.

Surface Clearing Results

The lower rows of the apse outline were cleared in the interior of the central part. The 120 s-m high loose soil was removed. The pile of ruins includes XX c table fragments.

Three rows of the structure were clearly revealed at the south-east corner of the central apse of the church. The facing stones at the north-east corner have vanished. The prospect trenches were not deep enough to identify the floor level.

The outline of the apse to the south church was revealed after careful clearing. A tree which has grown at the north-east corner has damaged the church. Accordingly the facing stones have also fallen out.

Due to the fragility of the building walls no clearing activities were performed on the façade side. Only the lower rows of the south-west corner and the foundation were revealed. 80 s-m high loose soil was removed.

The south area of the church is sloped and the south wall stones apper to be sliding down. It was impossible to draw a whole picture of the church without complete archaeological excavation of the whole church and associated area.

Apart from that trees and bushes which grew in the north part of the building and also on the east walls of the central part were cut down.

Architectural Type and the Composition of the Plan

St. George church ("ground chapel") represents one of the examples of three-nave basilica, known widely in Georgia but not outside it.

This is a three nave church divided by the walls of which only three rows have survived. The church has a narthex from the west. All three churches have apse endings.

The central part of the church typically is bigger and wider than the other side churches.

The plan of the St. George church has survived fragmentally. Despite that, the church characteristics can easily be identified after surface clearing, the details become more visible.

As it appeared, the central church has a semi-circular apse ending to the east, which changes the previous dating. So, instead of middle of the X century, now the monument should be dated as not further than IX – X c.

The north church of the three nave basilica, which is completely covered with earth, has a semi circular shape dome and window on the east side.

The north church, which is divided into two parts, has a semi circular east ending, and the west part has an arch opening towards the narthex.

The narrow space of the south church has a semi-circular apse ending to the east. (Only small part has been preserved).

The church presumably had a south entrance. The prospect trench, dug at the south-west corner, identified one-step foundation.

The compartments built from dry masonry and large boulders, south of the church, represented the monastery buildings. The width of some of their walls is 130-150 sm. The surface clearing identified rounded shape, 70 s-m high storage compartment built with lime solution.

The interior of the church

Despite the fact that the monument has survived fragmentally, we can still have an idea of its interior space: it seems that the central church had a large, monumental space whenever the side churches were more central, the narthex was an isolated, independent unit.

Artistically the interior of the church was simple, monumental.

Later the church presumably was painted, as the fragments of the remaining smoothening has survived in the north church.

Significance

St. George Church is an interesting example of a rare type of architecture- three-nave basilica. This type of architecture ended its development still in VI-VII c, and commenced functioning again in a very particular way. One example of this is St. George church.

It's interesting to know that the construction of this monastery church is associated to the activities of the students of IX c famous Georgian Ecclesiastic person Grigol Khantsteli.

Physical Condition

Only fragments of the St. George church have survived. These remaining parts are in a very poor condition.

Only the north church with its dome, which is buried in the ground, has survived from the three-nave basilica; the west and east walls of the central church have survived at 3-5 m height. Only the small part of the apse has been preserved from the south church; the beginning of the dome with the west wall arch has survived from the narthex; the lining stones of the building completely missing; trees have grown through the walls of the building. Only the north church window frame has been preserved of all frames in the whole church; the narthex dome has changed its form;

The monastery buildings are ruined; they are covered with earth and vegetation; some have survived on a plan level or at very low height;

Recommended Protection Measures

The Phase III work included the following activities: description of the remains of the church and the monastery buildings, photo documentation, graphic drawings, assessing the physical condition.

St. George church is located at 50 m distance from the ROW, as for the ruins of the monastery; it is adjacent to the ROW.

The following measures are recommended for the monument protection:

- The church and the monastery building boundaries need to be fenced with barriers and signs.
- Construction should proceed under the supervision of CAS.

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Graphic Material

Fortress Complex,

1. General plan

Sakire fortress

2. The plan
3. Section 1-1, view to the west
4. Section 2-2, section 3-3
5. Section 4-4, section 5-5
6. Enclosure wall, south view

View from the west and view from the east

7. Enclosure wall, view from the north

Sakire fortress, Tower

8. Plans at -0.50 and +1.50 points
9. Section 1-1, section 2-2
10. Section 3-3, section 4-4
11. West façade

Sakire fortress, church

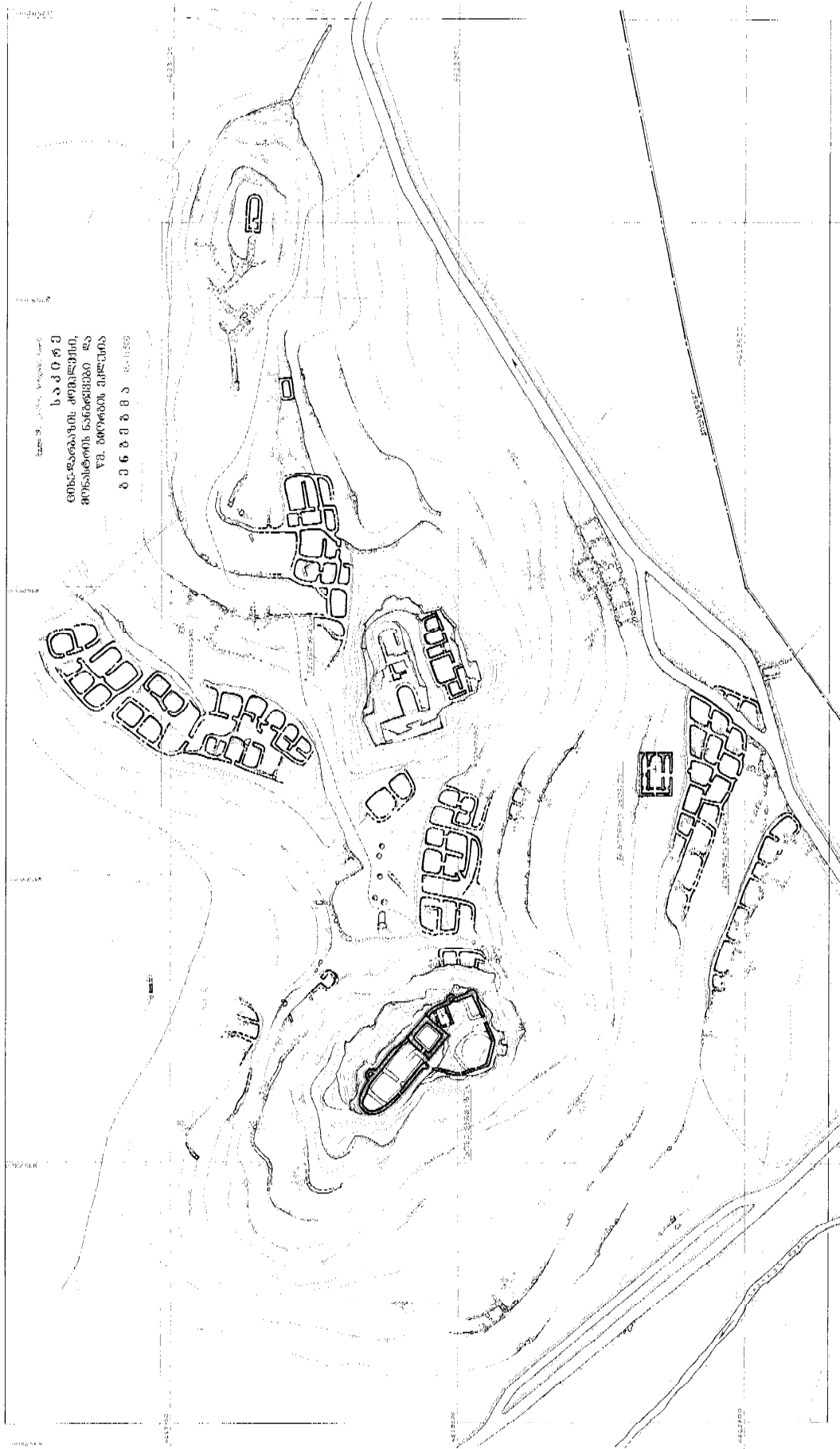
12. The plan, section 1-1
13. Section 2-2, section 3-3
14. West façade, South façade

St, George Church (“ground chapel”)

15. The plan
16. Section 1-1, section 2-2

Compartment south of “ground chapel”

17. The plan, section 1-1, view from the south

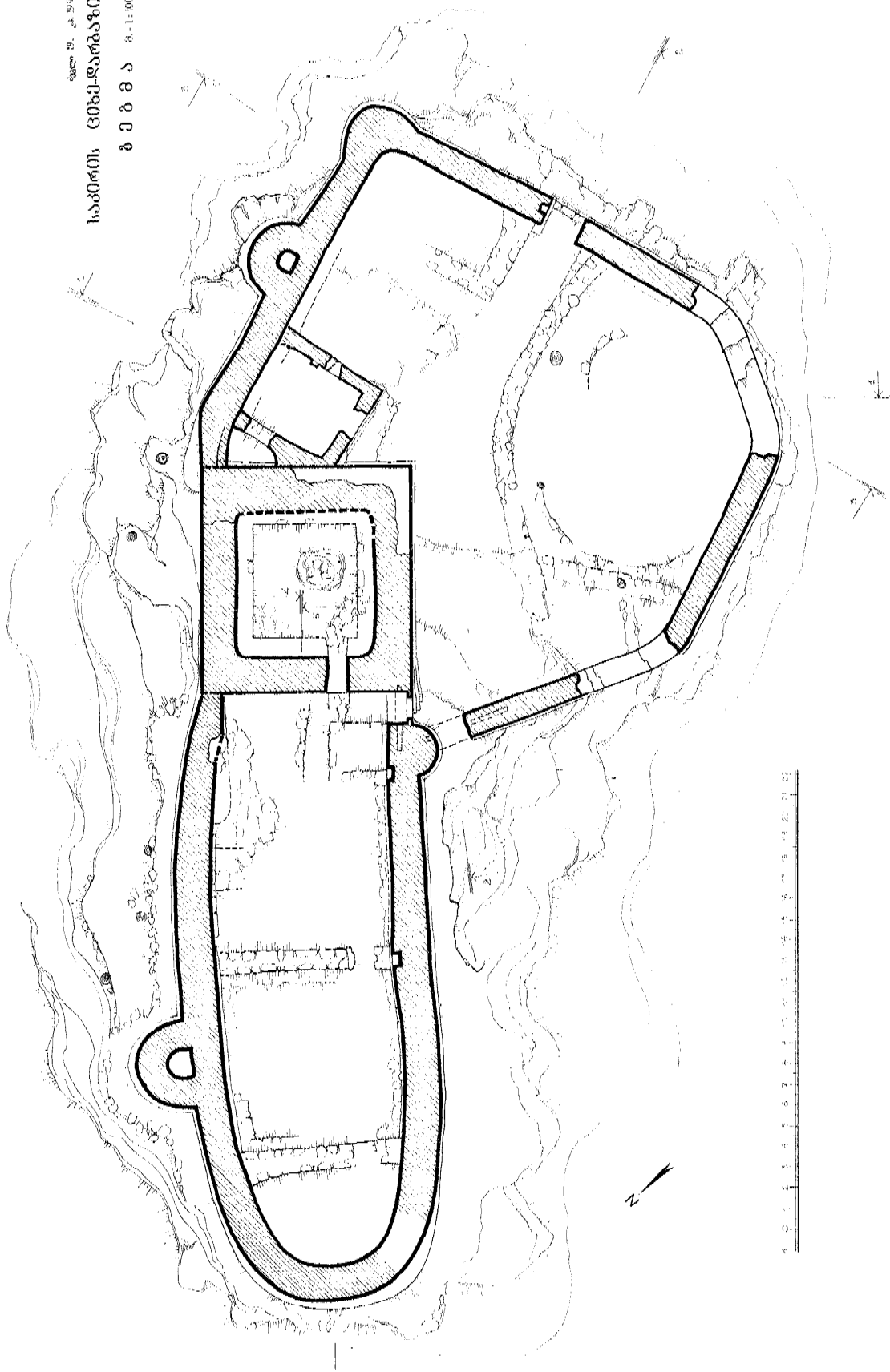


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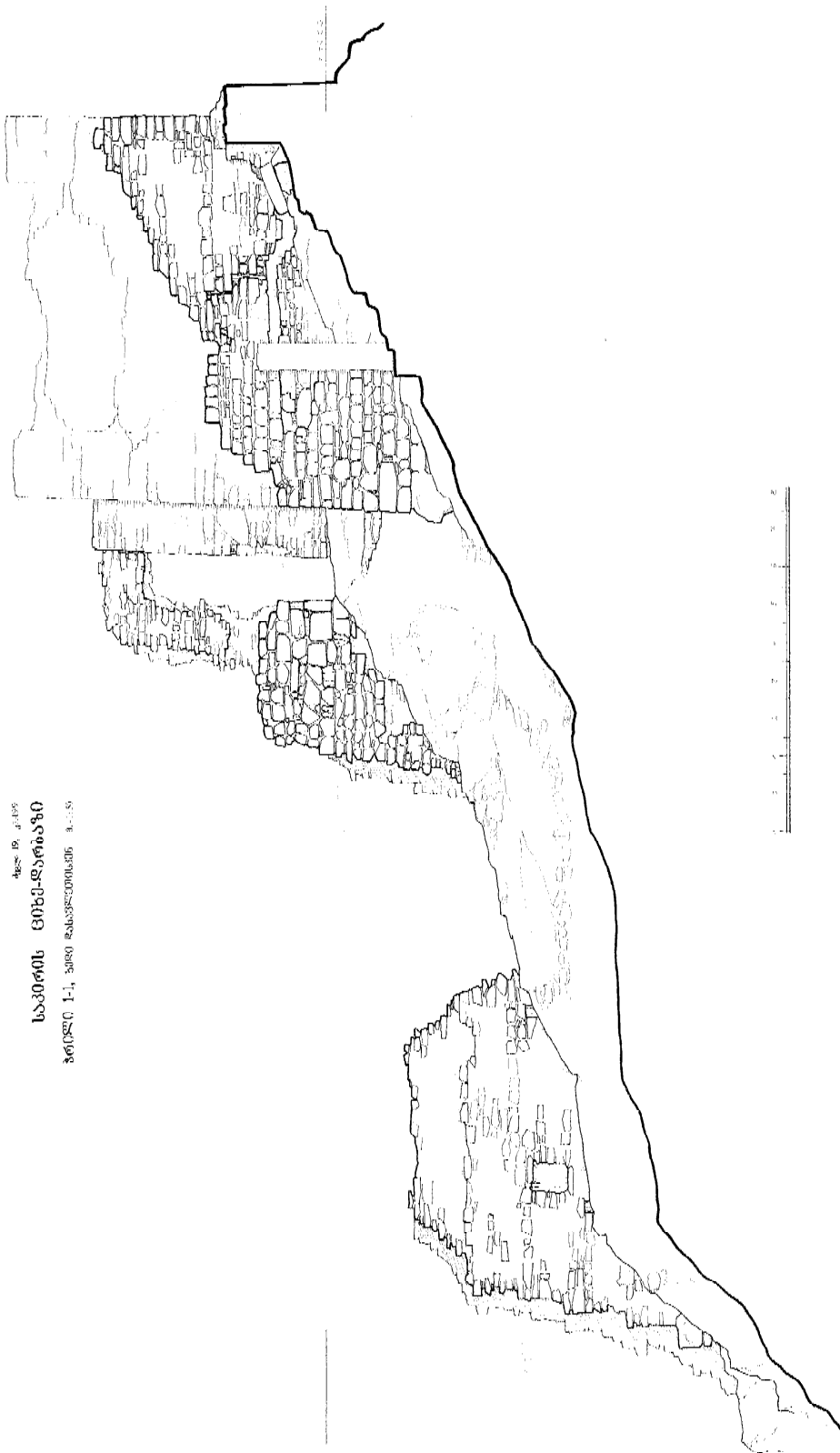
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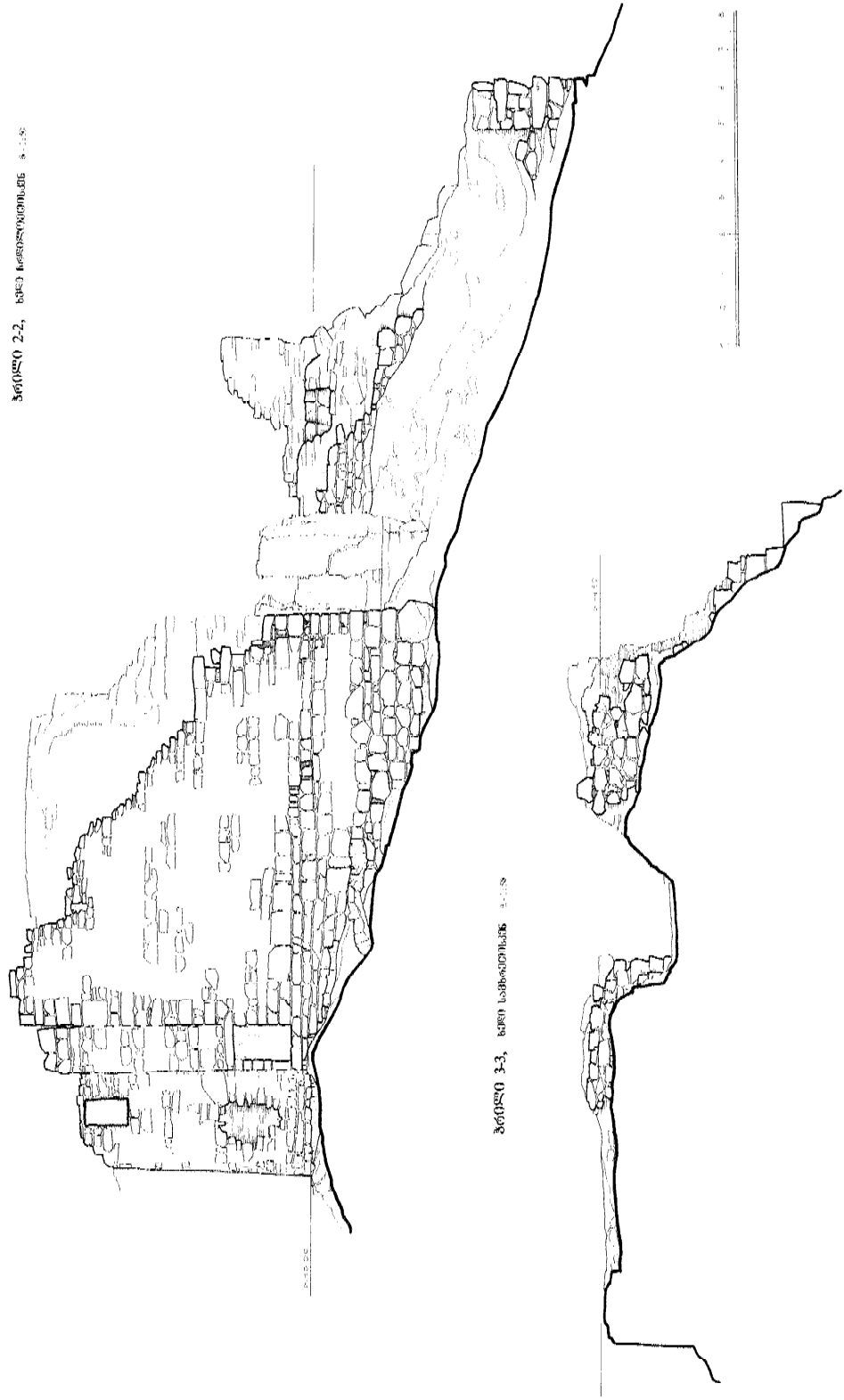
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ფურცელი 19, 1959

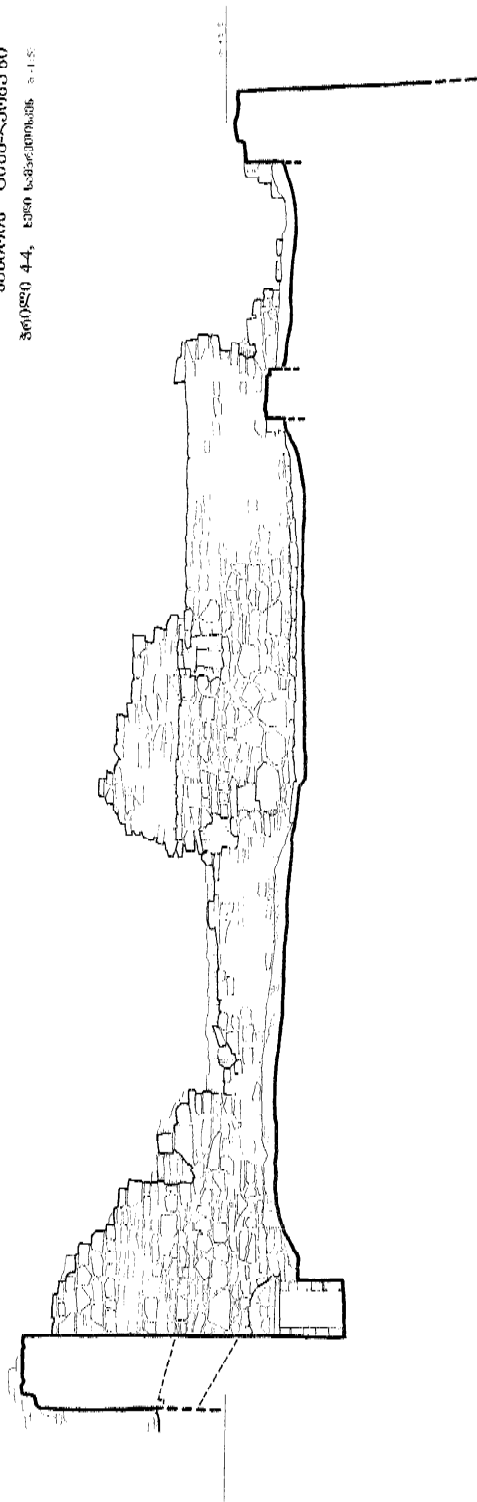
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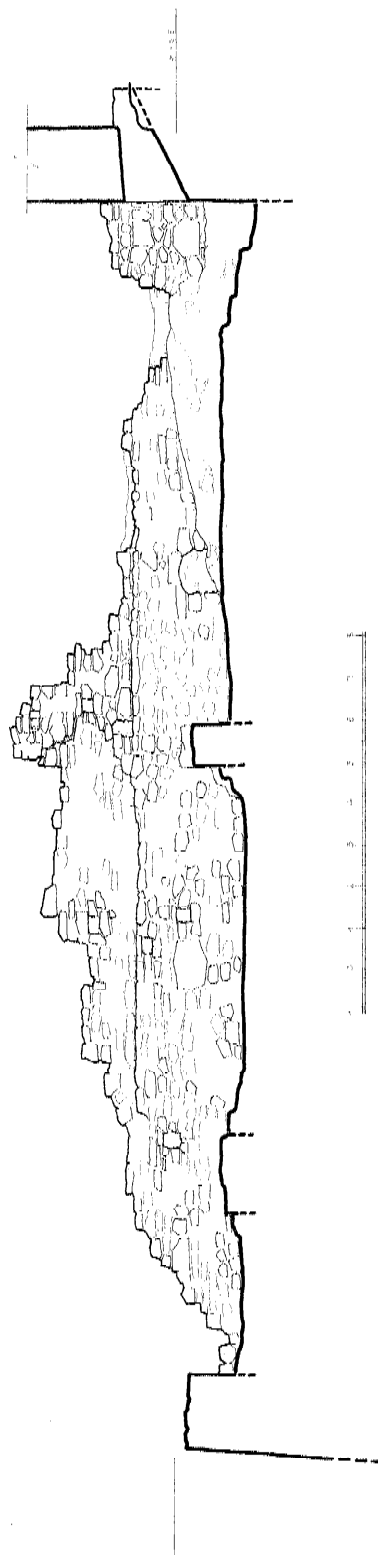


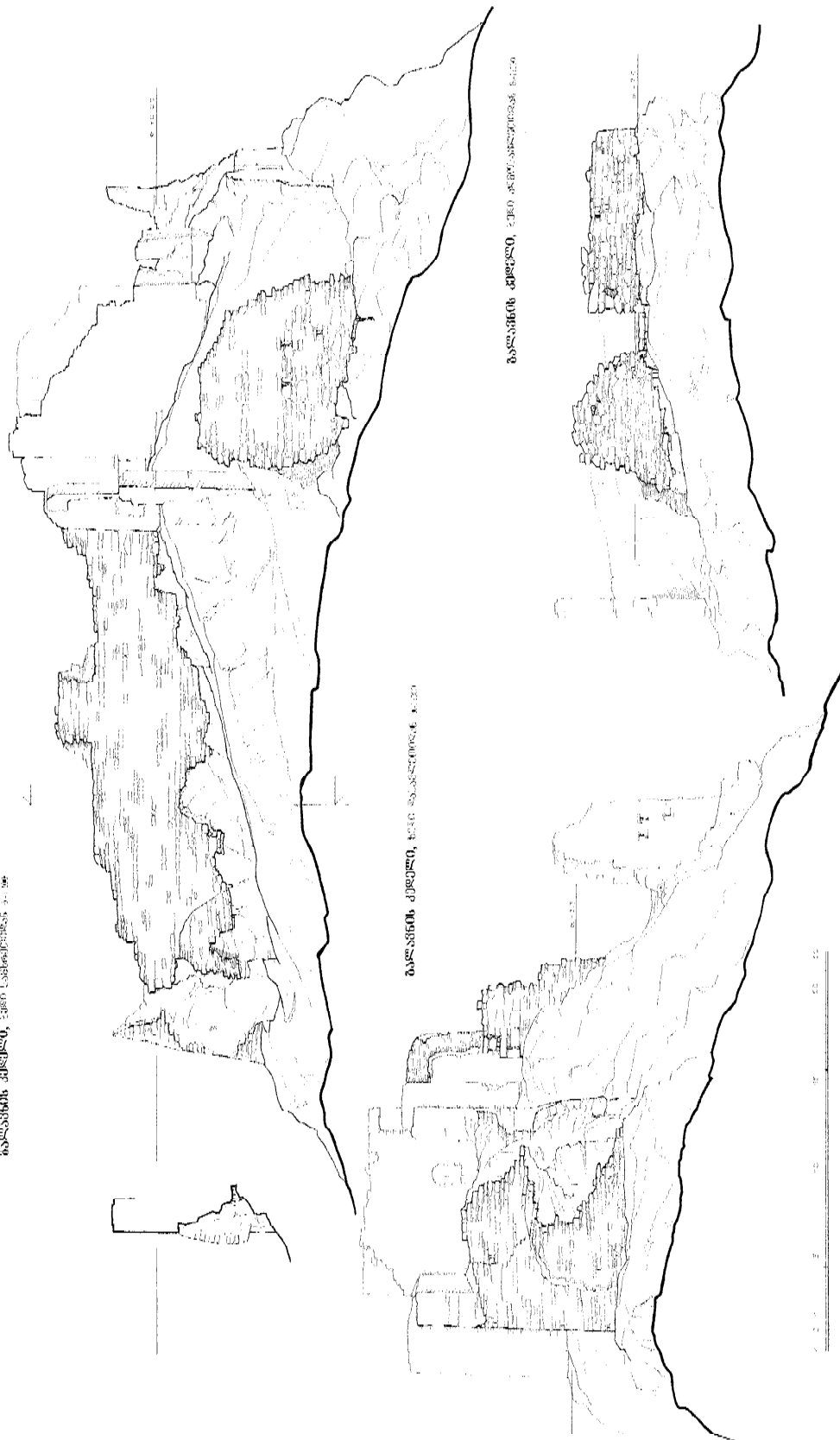
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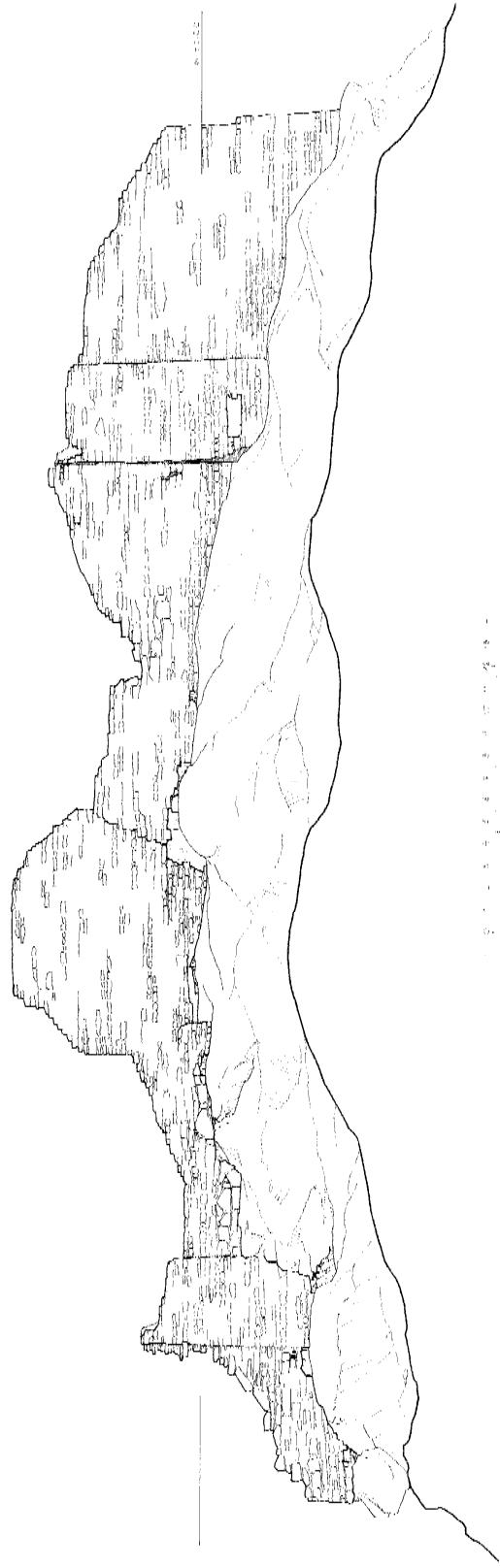


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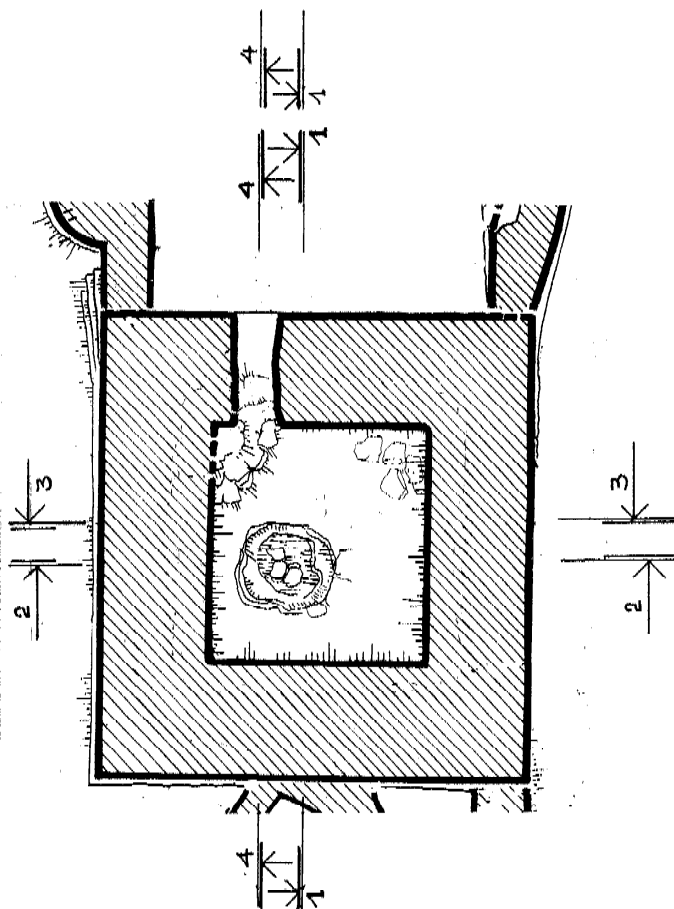
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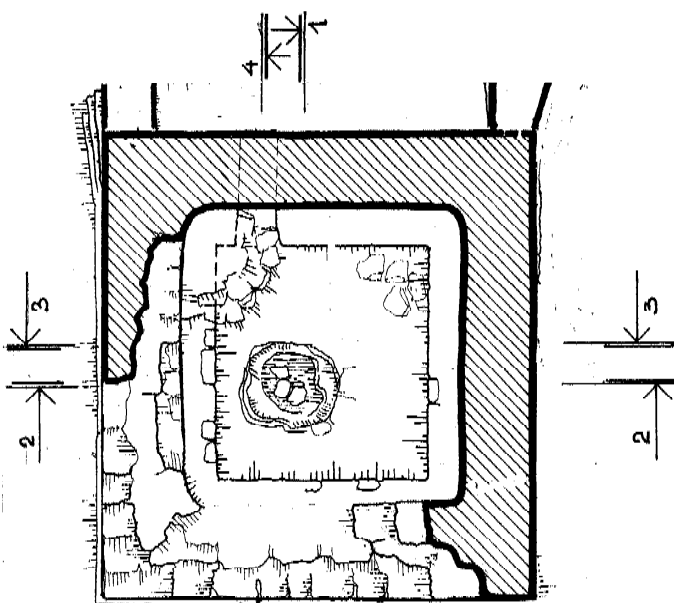
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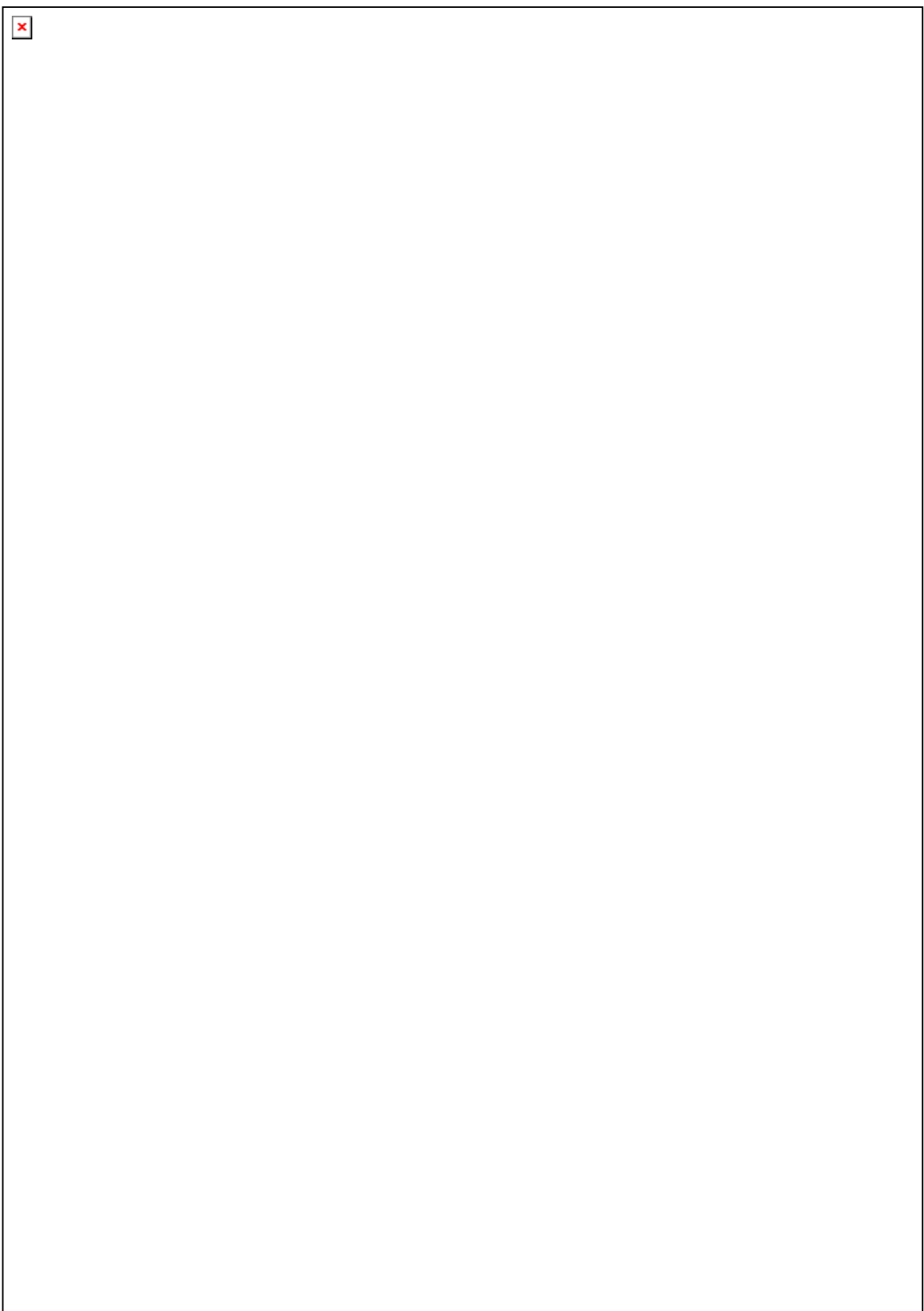
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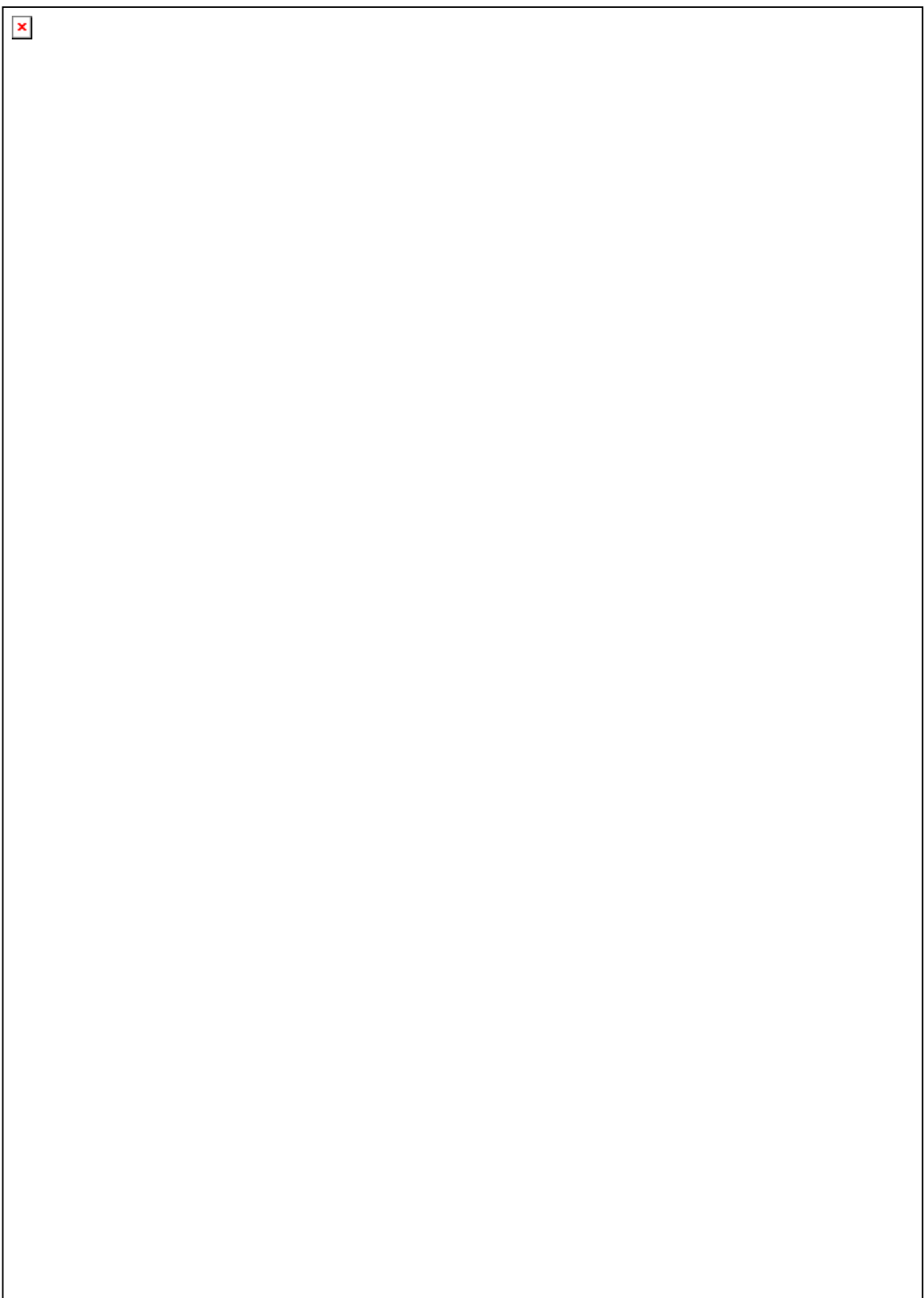
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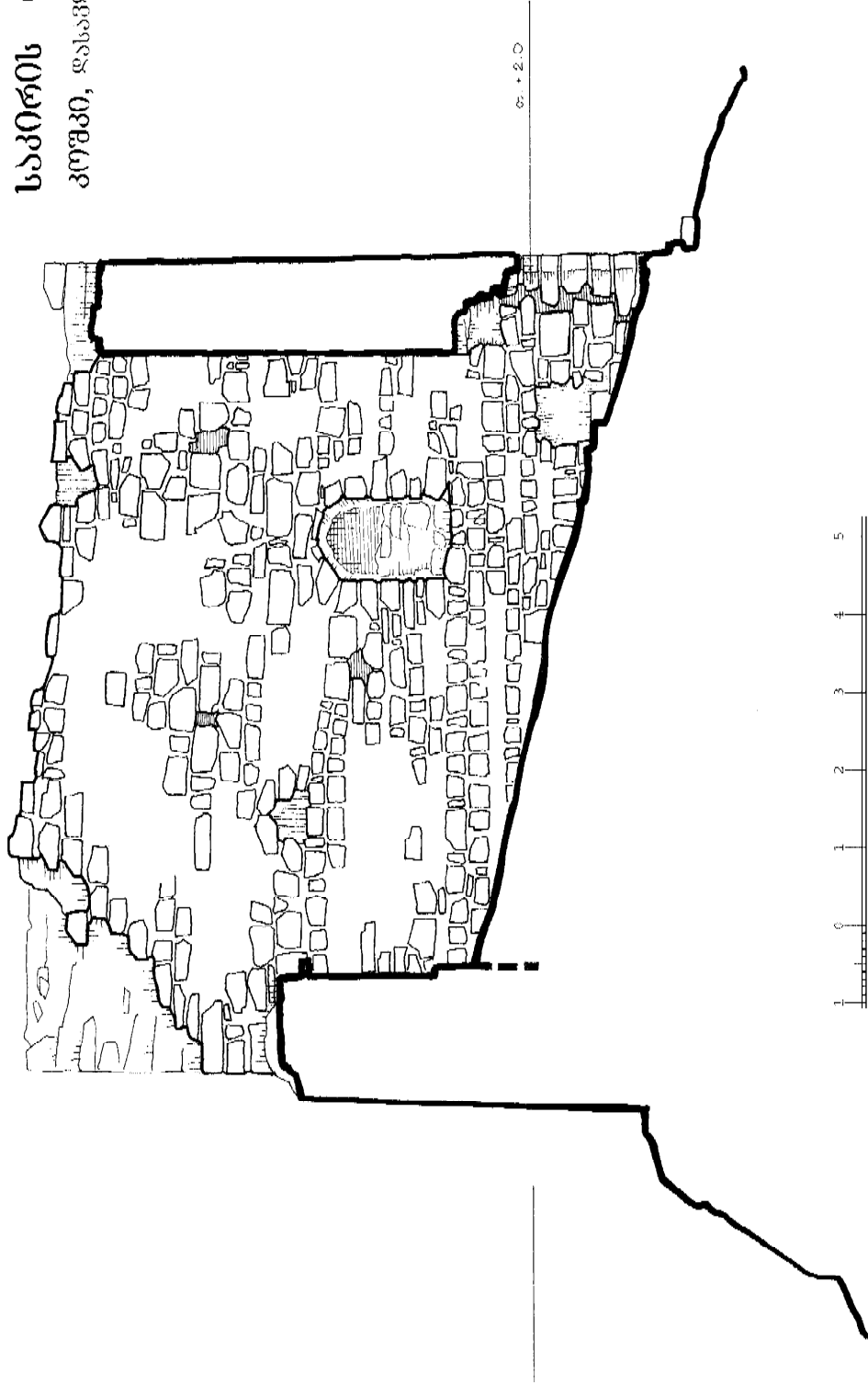


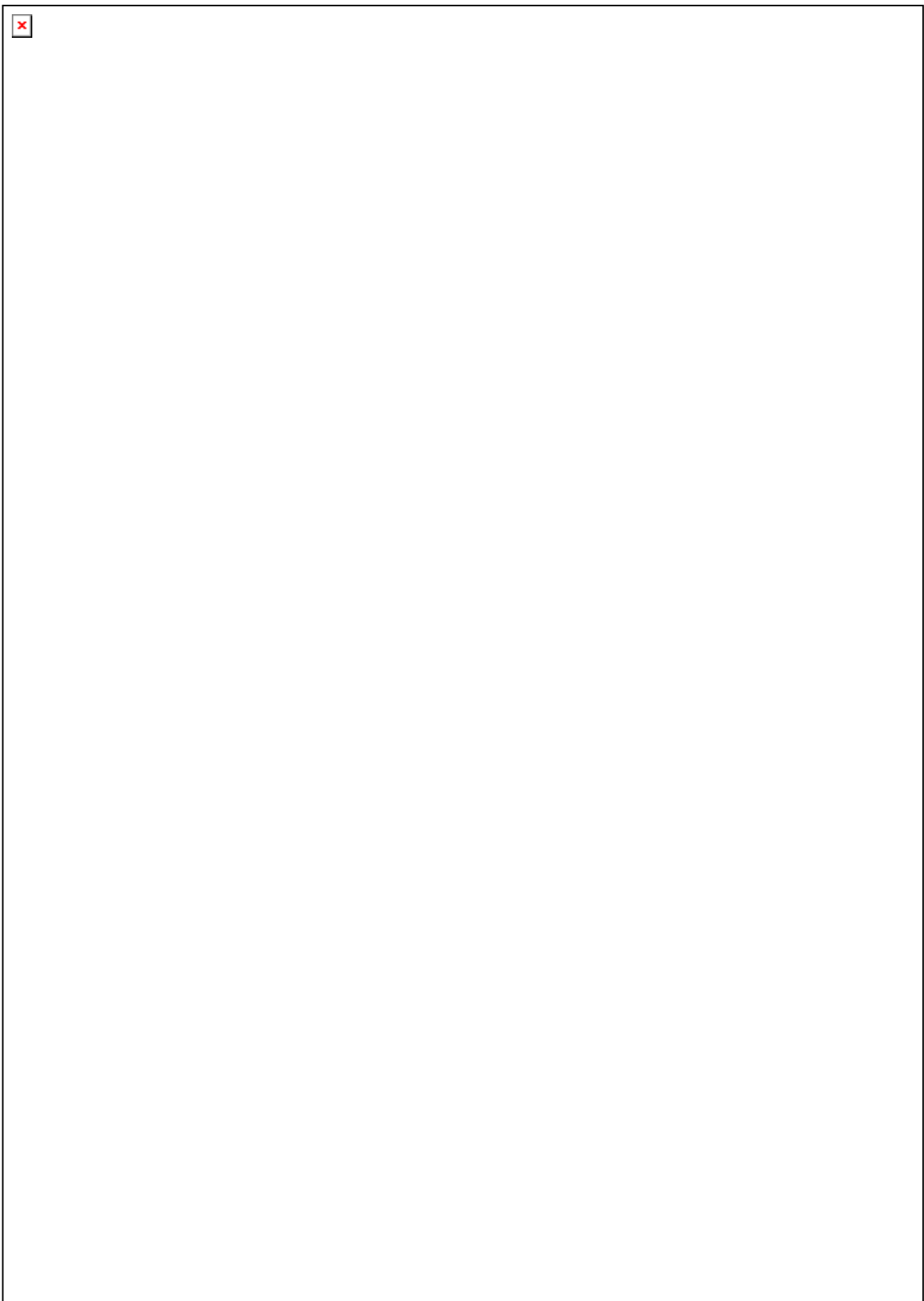


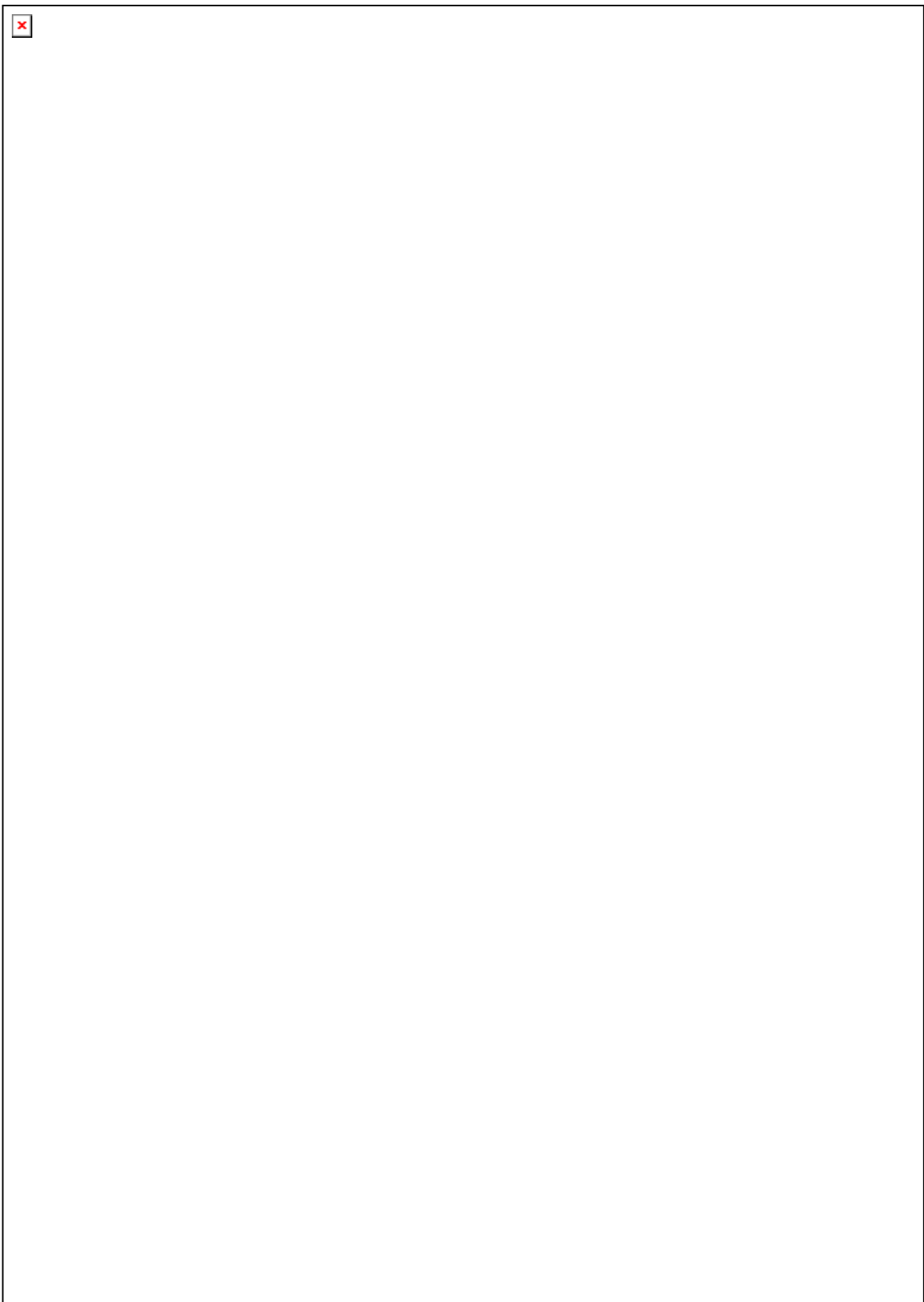
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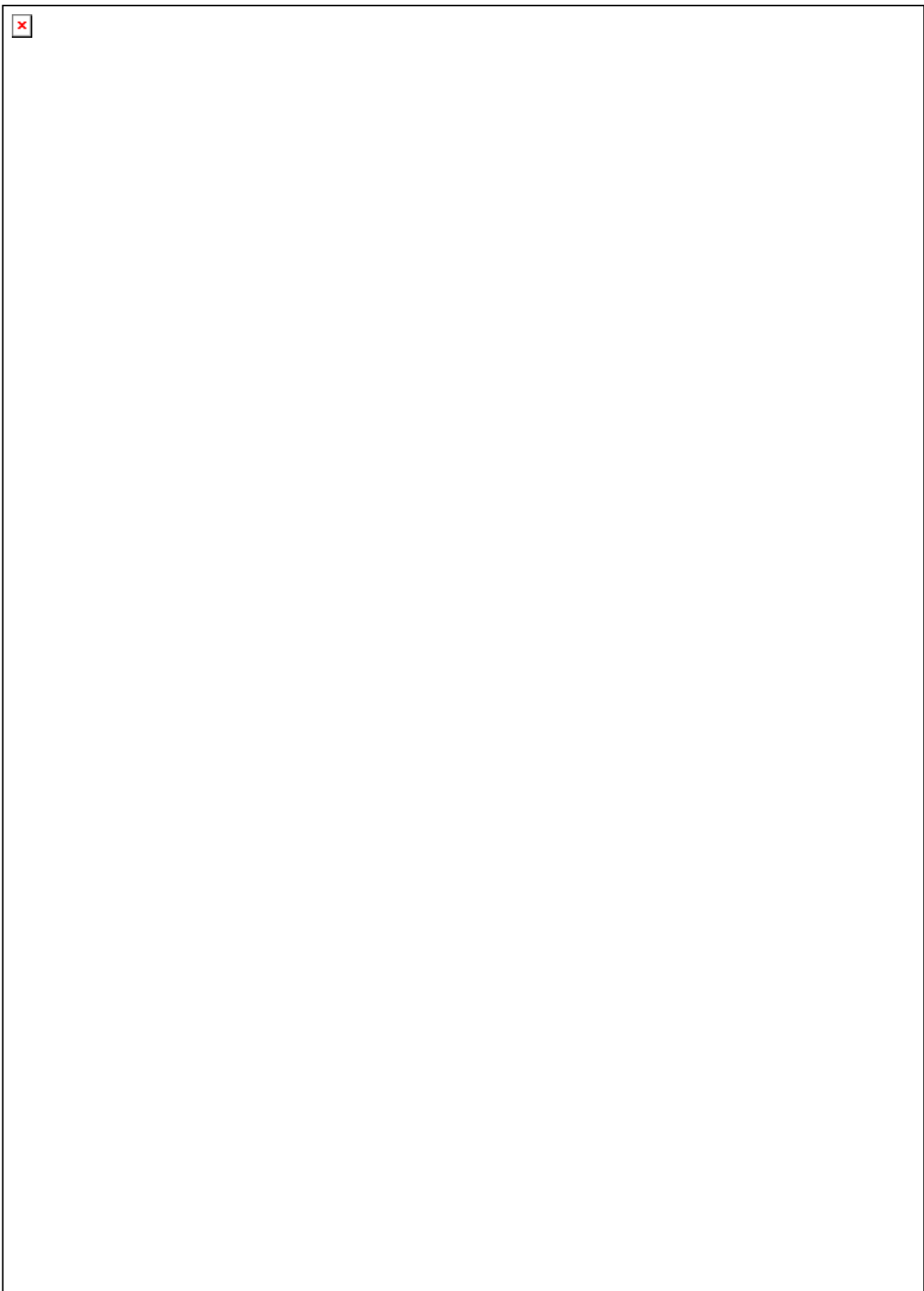
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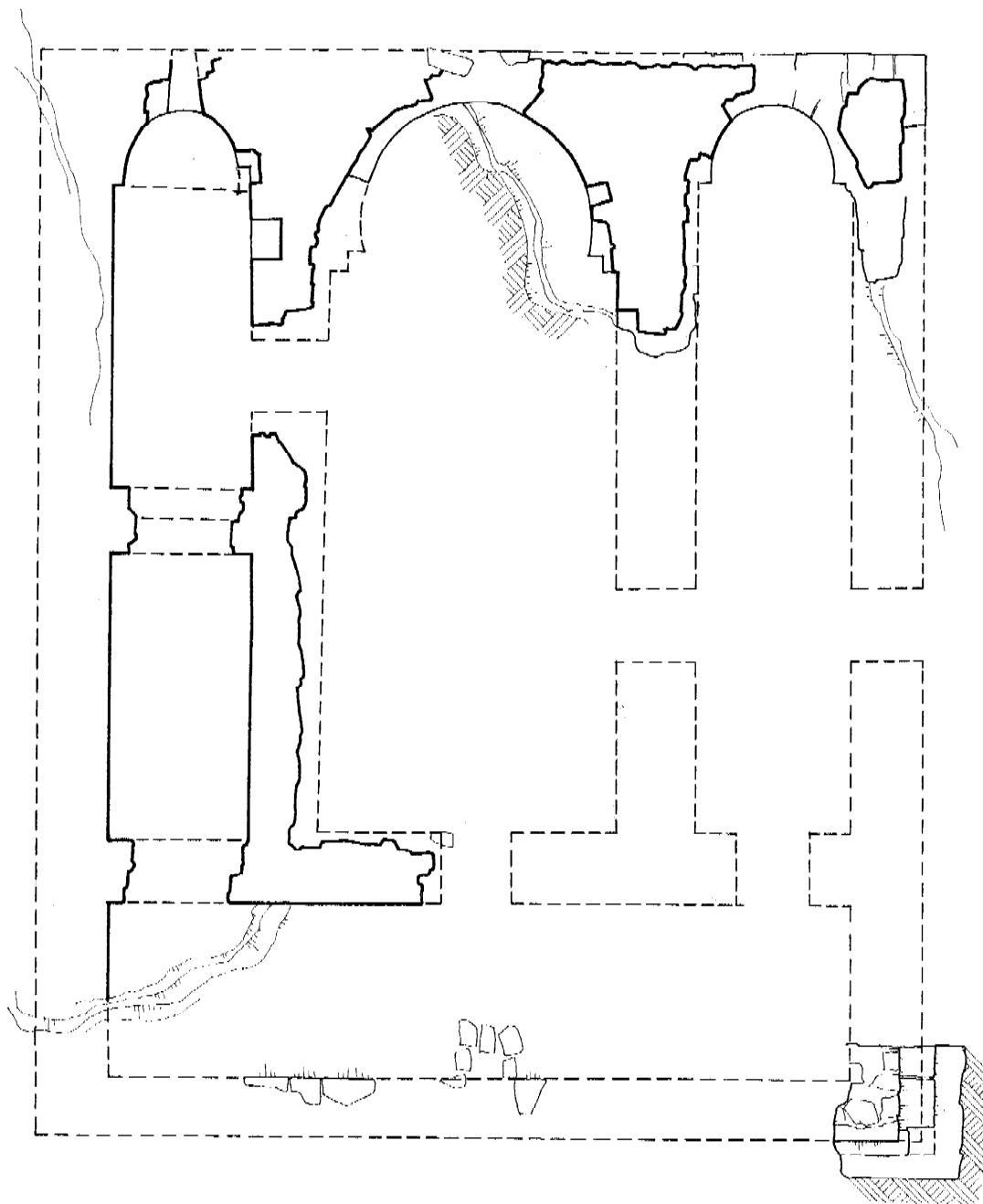


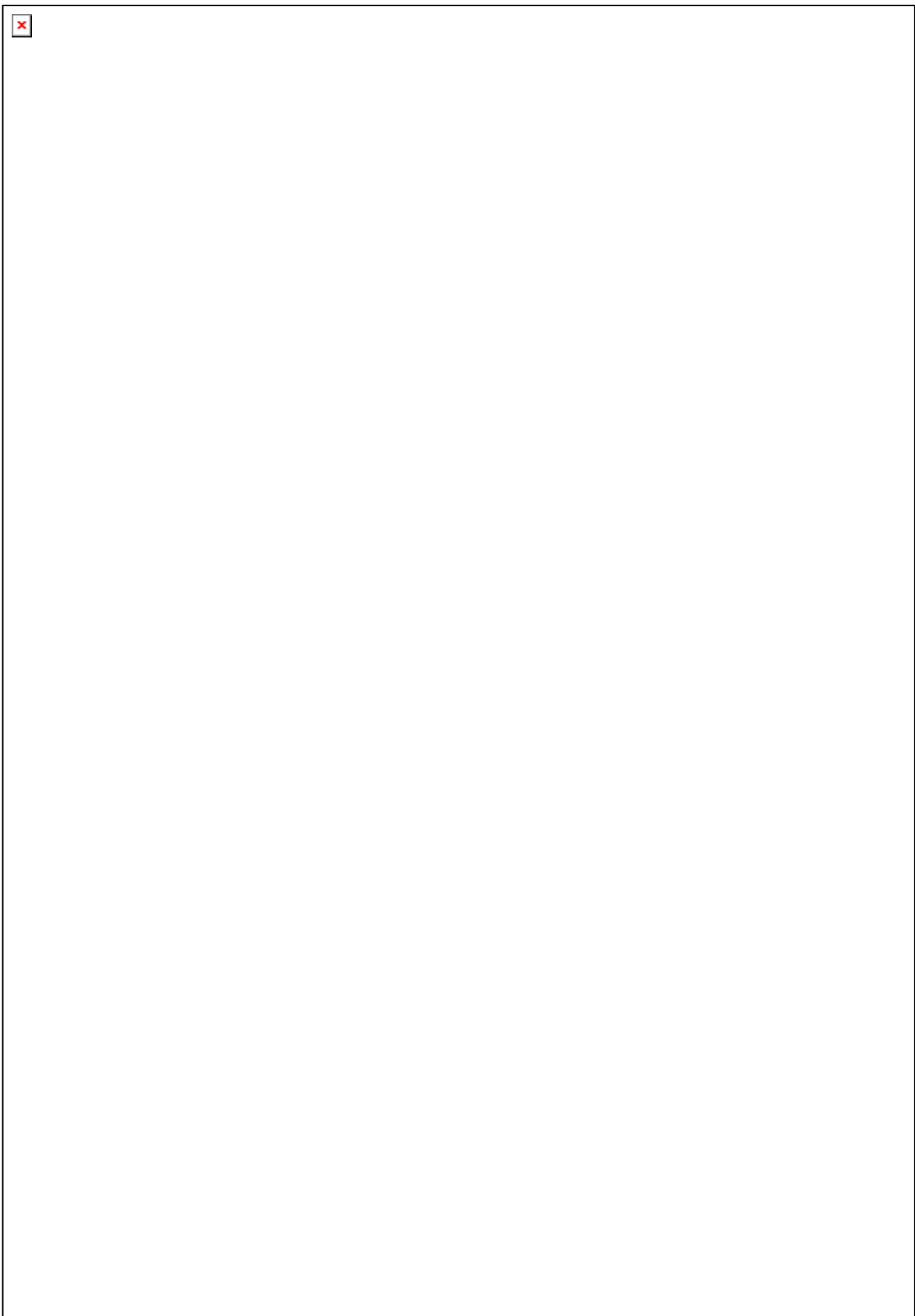


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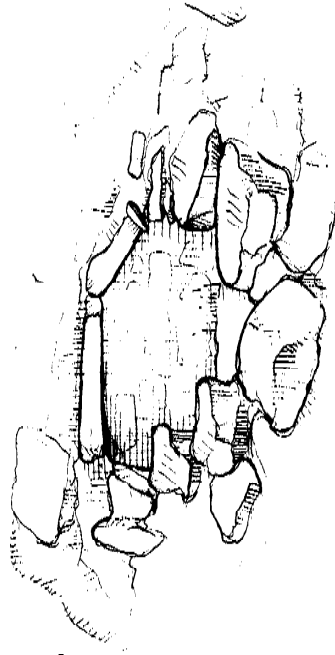
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წმ. გიორგის ეკლესია ("მთის საყდარი")

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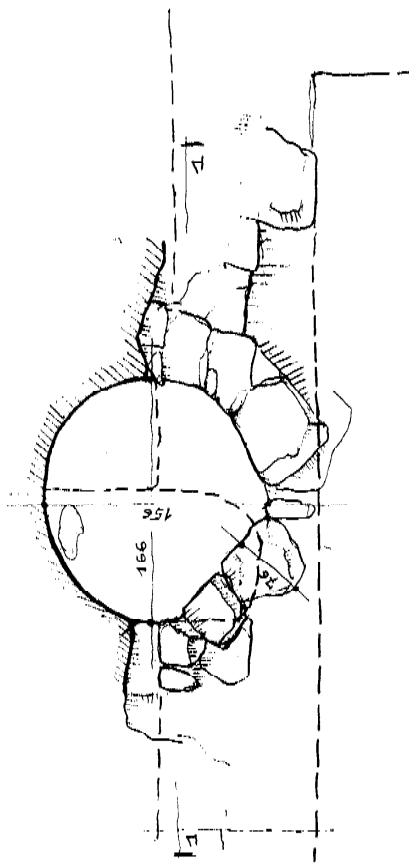


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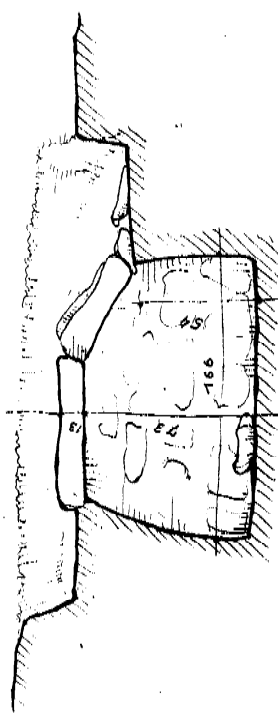


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 მდებარეობს
 პირილი 1-1
 ხედი სამხრეთითაა
 / მანძი სეფიდან 10მ-ზე /

ბეჭედი



ფანა 1-1





South-west part of Sakire fortress-palace



Fragile fragment near the frame



inside entrance enclosure



Tower view from the south



Entrance to the Dwelling Tower



Church at the Tower, west façade



Church wall, interior

Remnant of the Settlement in Sakire Fortress Area

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Remnant of the Settlement in Sakire Fortress Area (Developed middle Ages)



Location

Historic Province	– Tori
District	– Borjomi
Village	– Sakire

KP – 199

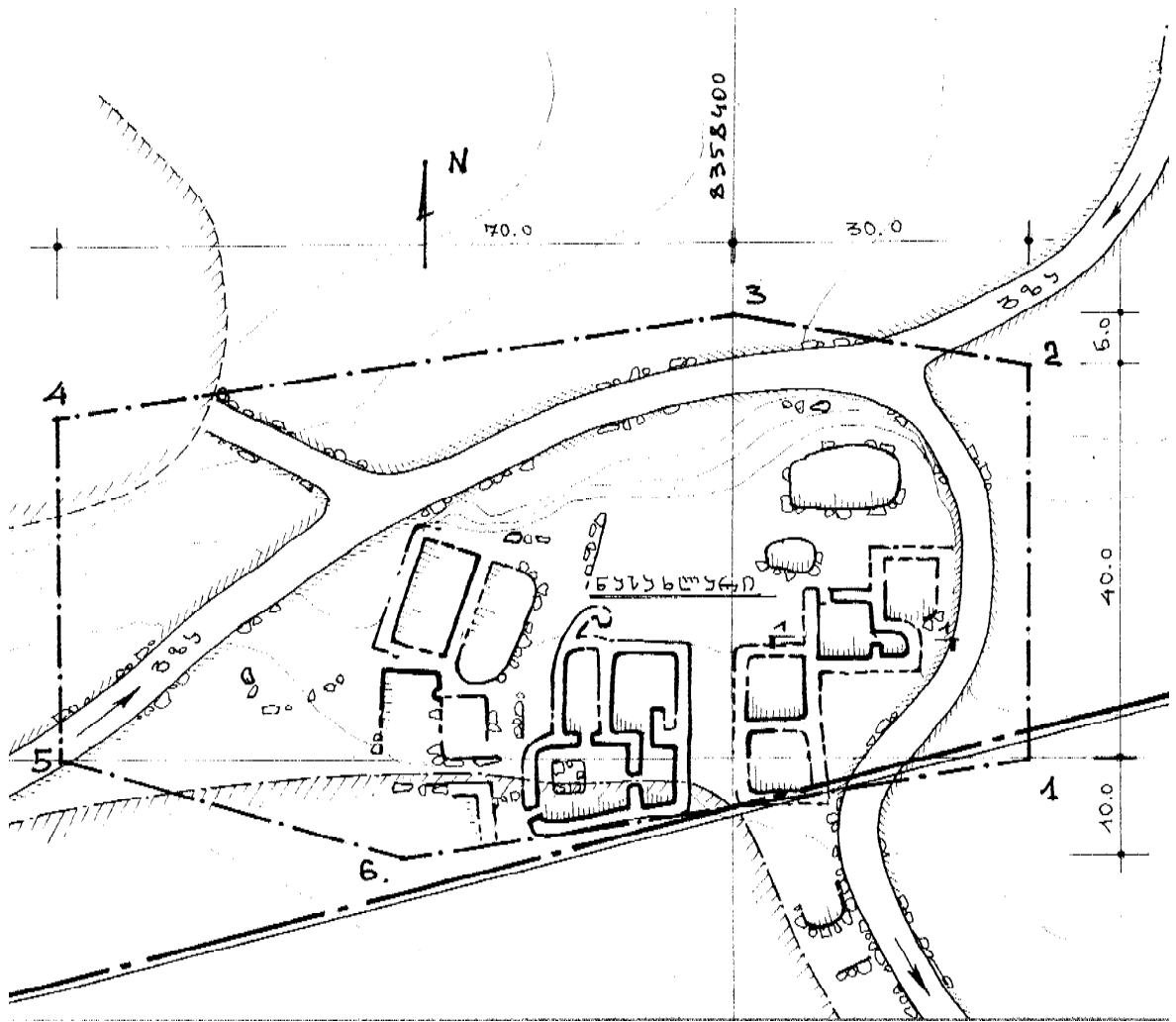
Distance to the ROW – the pipeline crosses the remnant of the settlement at the southern edge.

Brief Description:

The ruins of the old remnant of the settlement has been preserved at the bottom of Sakire fortress, on the right of traffic road in north-east of village Sakire. The walls have survived fragmentally. They are built from different shaped large slabs and dry masonry. The walls are 130 s-m wide.

Recommended Protection Measures:

- The boundary extensions need to be marked by signs.
- The construction procedure needs to be agreed with CAS and developed under their supervision.



Tadzrisi Monastery

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**Tadzrisi Monastery
(X-XIII c)**



Location

Historic province – Tori

District – Borjomi, at the edge of Tadzrisi village, on the cemetery

GPS Coordinates:

Big church: 8356352 – 4622802

Small church: 8356350 – 4622812

Boundaries:

8356170 – 4622750 8356300 - 4622670

8356370 – 4622700 8356400 - 4622800

8356420 – 4622880 8356370 - 4622920

8356320 – 4622950 8356240 - 4622950

8356180 – 4622850

KP – 201

Direction to the Pipeline: The pipeline crosses the enclosure wall

The pipeline crossing coordinates:

8356202 – 4622880 8356202 - 4622880

Abstract

Tadzrisi monastery represents the X-XI c most important ecclesiastic centre in Georgia. Its origin is associated to the activities of the students of Grigol Khantsteli.

The monastery represented a densely populated complex. It includes the ruins of two churches, monastery buildings, and residences for priests. Later, in XIII c, a castle was added to the complex. The whole complex was surrounded by an enclosure.

BTC pipeline runs passed at the bottom of the monastery and cross the enclosure wall.

Location and General Description of the Plan

The monastery is located on the elevated hill, on the site of the modern cemetery, at the southern edge of village Tadzrisi. The main core of the monastery is located in the central part of the hill, on the XIX – XX c cemetery area covered with old trees and bushes. The complex comprises of two churches, standing side by side, and the ruins of monastery buildings. The monastery buildings which have been identified are located around the churches, mainly on the North Slope of the hill, and in a westerly direction. Monastery buildings represent small, elongated, rectangular shaped compartments adjoined to each other. They are built from dry masonry large slabs.

The residence of the priest, an isolated complex surrounded by the enclosure, is located to the south-west of the monastery, represents a post monastery chronological period. The complex comprises larger compartments with a large, three- part, rounded corner hall. The additional compartments are aligned in one row; they are rectangular in shape and rather small. It's of distinguished construction engineering- the walls are built of medium sized stones and lime solution.

The ruins of the castle have survived on top of the hill, north-west of the monastery complex. The fragments of the castle walls are aligned around the top of the hill. The castle was built from large, uneven stones tightly packed together with dry masonry. The fragments of different shape compartments are detected in the castle area.

The monastery and the castle have a common enclosure; Enclosure fragments have been identified at the bottom of the castle, on the side of the road.

Churches

The churches, which stand side by side, represent the central, most significant parts of the monastery.

X c St. Mary church

A small vaulted type, size (5.4X7.2) church is built from wine and grey coloured, medium- sized stone quadras. The coarsely worked stones are well packed together. The rows are lined horizontally. The church has a rectangular plan composition, and has a semi-circular apse ending to the east. The window cut in the altar has two arched niches on both sides. The altar stone has been placed in the centre of the apse. The only entrance for the church is from the west and has an architrave covering. The architrave stone containing an image of three cross composition is placed in front of the entrance at present. Only 70% of the church has survived.

II half of the X century St. George church

St. George church represents the main part of the monastery. It' formed a large, three-nave basilica (15X6 m), built from light colour, medium sized pebbles, in more or less horizontal rows. Only the main "church" and eastern fragment of the northern annex where visible before clearing. The south "church" was covered with earth. Only 60% of the church has survived. According to the plan the central "church" of the building represented a wide hall with an easterly semi-circular shape, open altar at the end. The altar has a window in the centre which is flanked by deep and high niches; the niches have a trapezium shape, narrowed top and arch; the altar stone, is attached to the wall, and located in the centre of the apse. The north wall of the main "church" is connected to the northern one through two doors, and to the south church through the door cut on the west part of the southern wall in the central church. Another door is cut in the centre of the west wall. The entrances are identical- they have an arch on the inside and an architrave on the outside. The long walls of the central "church" are divided into two unequal parts by two double-step pilasters. There's another window cut in the west wall, at the top of the entrance. The window is narrow and high. It widens towards the interior of the church. The window is arched from the inside.

Physical condition of the Monastery and the Conducted Cleaning Activities

The monastery is in poor physical condition. Only 10-15% of the dwelling buildings from the monastery assembly have survived. The area couldn't be cleared due to the shortage of time.

The churches are in a better condition. The dome of St. Mary church has collapsed. The level of the ground around the church has risen. It seems that the locals have cleared the area, as ground has been removed from the interior on the church floor level. The ground has been removed in front of the west entrance also. Stones and dirt removed from the interior is piled outside, in front of the west façade.

The main, St. George three nave basilica is in the worst condition. Only the central "church" and fragments from the north "Church" apse are preserved. The remainder has been covered with earth.

Archaeological surface clearing activities were conducted in order to reveal outlines of the church facade and side "churches". The area around the basilica was covered with the grass, bushes and the branches of large trees. The lower rows of the building are covered with stones and loose soil.

Firstly all trees, covering the church façades were cut back. The nut trees at the eastern façade were completely cut down.

To avoid further damage to the ruin of the fragile church, branches from trees located at the west entrance, north wall and north-east corner of the north "church" were not cut down.

A soil pile south of the church was fairly high (100-170 s-m). The east-west contours of the annex were revealed. The surface was cleared of bushes, grass and 30 s-m ground layer of soil, this area contained fragments from broken bottles, glasses, plates, and medieval period tiles. The surface of the south-east corner of the annex became visible after clearing.

A 70 s-m wide and 50 s-m deep prospect trench was cut to reveal the shape of the altar. The down rows of the apse were clearly seen.

A deep prospect trench (150X70 s-m) was cut at the south-west corner of the church, in order to establish the extension boundaries from the south wall of the annex.

A layer of church wall ruins were identified while removing 30 s-m top -soil. A pile of large facing stones made the digging process difficult. The leads of the burials (stone boxes) were detected at 140 s-m depths from the surface, above the foundation level, and digging was stopped.

So, we couldn't establish the west extension of the annex as our task didn't include conducting archaeological excavations; however the facing structure on the south-west corner was clearly defined.

Some fragments of broken bowls and flat and chased tiles were recovered during digging. The same type of bowl, together with the glazed pottery is dated as XII-XIV c artefacts in scientific literature.

Presumably these ceramics within the ruins of the walls appeared after the ruin of the church.

The north "church" outlines started to appear from south-east of the altar. The apse contour was revealed after careful clearing of the surface. Tree roots have made the structure stones very fragile.

A large tree at the north-east of the annex has damaged this part of the structure. Facing stones have fallen to the ground.

Due to the shortage of time and the blockage of the research area, the outline of the west wall of the annex couldn't be defined.

The prospect trench (150X70sm) was cut at the crossing section of the central church and the annex. One step foundation was identified at 140 s-m depth of the ground.

It is built from basalt stone quadras like a church. Clay pottery shreds were also identified here. These materials are also analogues to the ceramics discovered in the south part. Only 10 % of the priest's residence has survived. The composition of the central plan is legible. The elevated surface indicates to the potential discovery of more compartments. Tadzrisi fortress is in the same condition; only the plan of the fortress fragments is legible. 20% of it has survived above ground.

Artistic significance and Date

Tadzrisi monastery represented the most important ecclesiastic centre of X-XVIII c Georgia, and its origin is associated to the activity of the students of Grigol Khantsteli. This monument is of great historical as well as artistic importance. According to the historic source, Giorgi Mtatsmindeli grew up here under the care of his sister Tekle. Giorgi Mtatsmindeli was a famous ecclesiastic man, the leader of Athoni Iveri monastery, who has greatly contributed to the Georgian hagiography and Apocryphal writing, dogmatic, himnography and ecclesiastic regulation. The children of famous statesmen also lived here, which indicates the high standing and reputation of monastery.

The preserved buildings in the monastery area have a great chronology: X c monastery churches, XI c priest residence, and XIII c fortress. Tadzrisi complex represents the unity of different periods.

(X-XIII c) structures. It was of great historic and ecclesiastic significance. This gives a complete picture of medieval period monastery life. The monastery complex with the priest residence is fairly rare among Georgian monastery architectural monuments surviving today.

As for the monastery architecture, the surviving churches in the area represent significant examples of Borjomi Gorge IX –X c monastery architecture.

St. Mary vaulted church is dated from the beginning of X c. monument according to the architrave stone on the west entrance of the church, which has the image of three cross composition. Similar compositions are popular in IX-X c so-called “Transition Period” (II half of VII c and I half of the X c) Georgian Christian architecture.

The main St. George church (II half of X c) is of particular importance. The pilasters and wall arch decorations play an important role in the monument’s dating process. All decorative features and the construction engineering of the church are characteristic of the II half of the X c Georgian Christian architecture.

St. George church has an interesting plan composition, which belongs to the “three-church basilica” type. St. George church has combined specifics of local architecture and spatial - composite tendencies and principles, characterised for the generally Georgian Christian architecture. The above-mentioned distinguished historical significance makes the monument particularly valuable in a artistic-architectural point of view.

Recommended Protection Measures

The following activities were conducted during the Phase III field work: topographic fixation of the complex, photo documentation, working out the general plan and architectural drawings of the church; boundary establishment and mapping; Description of the physical condition of churches and assessing their fragility. Surface clearing and identification of the main configuration of the St. George church. (It's impossible to define the complete composition of the monument until it's fully cleared).

Tadzrisi monastery represented the most important ecclesiastic centre of X-XI c Georgia. It is of great historic as well as artistic value.

As for the architectural value, Tadzrisi churches are one of the best examples of IX-X c Borjomi gorge monastery architectures. St. George church (II half of X c) is of particular significance. Its planning composition, "three-church basilica" type, is not known outside of Georgia.

BTC pipeline crosses Tadzrisi monastery complex area on the following points: 8356202-4622880; 8356415-4622885). The churches are at 50-55m distances from the pipeline.

Tadzrisi monastery churches, esp. St. George church could potentially suffer further destruction during pipeline construction.

The following recommendations need to be implemented for the protection of the monuments:

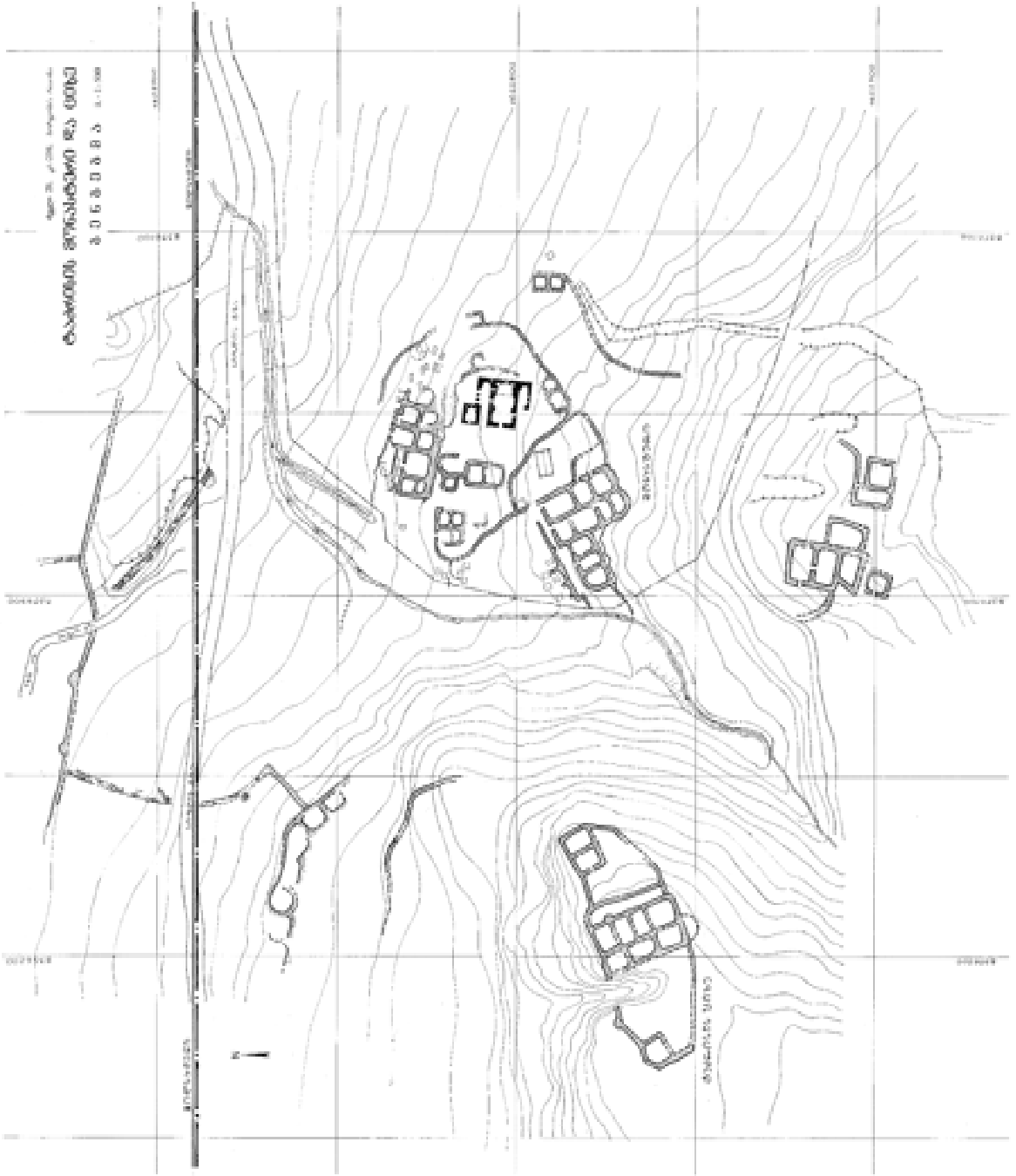
- Due to the particular historic-cultural significance and fragility of Tadzrisi monastery churches, the monument is recommended to undergo full complex of restoration-conservative work. Otherwise serious damage may not be avoided during construction and exploitation period of the pipeline. Locals still go to pray and celebrate religious holidays at Tadzrisi churches. Accordingly even a small amount of damage could cause serious indignation.
- The construction process on the monuments' crossing points needs to proceed under the supervision of CAS.

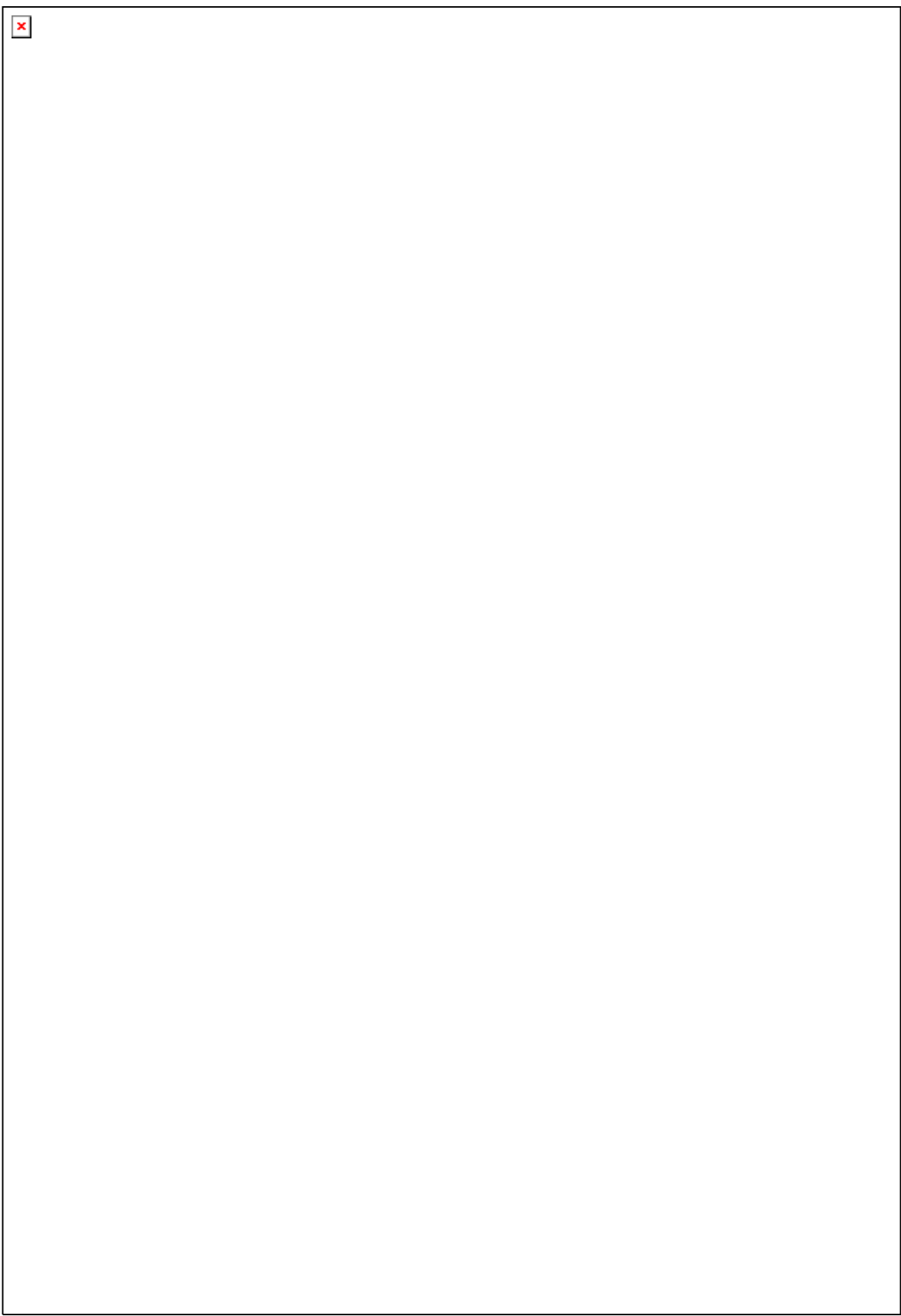
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2. S. Makalatia, Borjomi gorge, Tb., 1957
3. L. Chilashvili, Old Gavazi, Tb., 1975
4. G. Rcheulishvili, Pshavi Aragvi Gorge Archaeological Monuments, Tb., 1990

Graphical Material:

1. General Plan
2. Plan (St., George and St. Mary churches)
3. Section 1-1 (St. George and St. Mary churches)
4. Section 2-2 (St. George and St. Mary churches)
5. Section 3-3 (St. George church)
6. Section 4-4 (St. George church)
7. East Façade (St. George church)
8. North Façade (St. George church)
9. South Façade (St. George church)
10. West Façade (St. George and St. Mary churches)
11. Section 5-5, 6-6, south and north façade (St., Mary church)

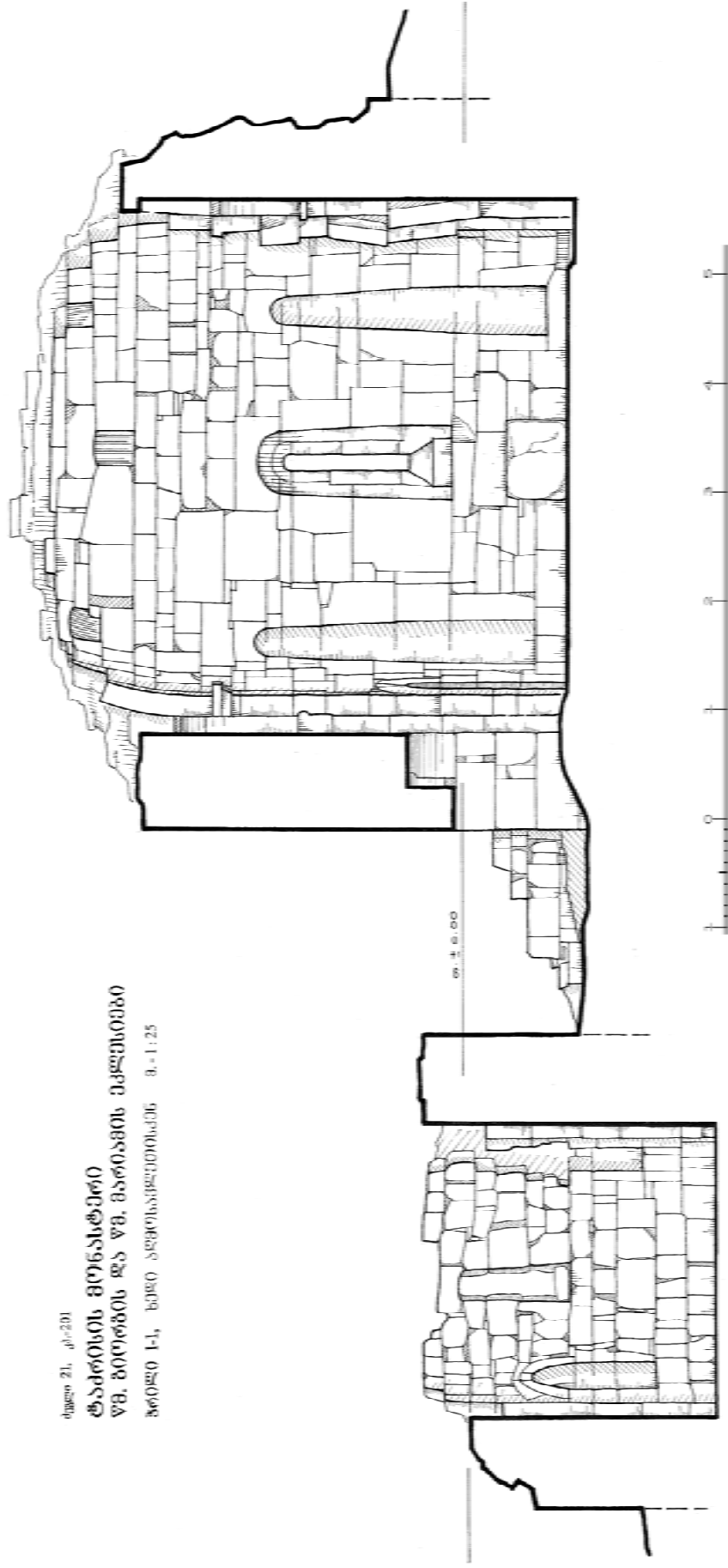


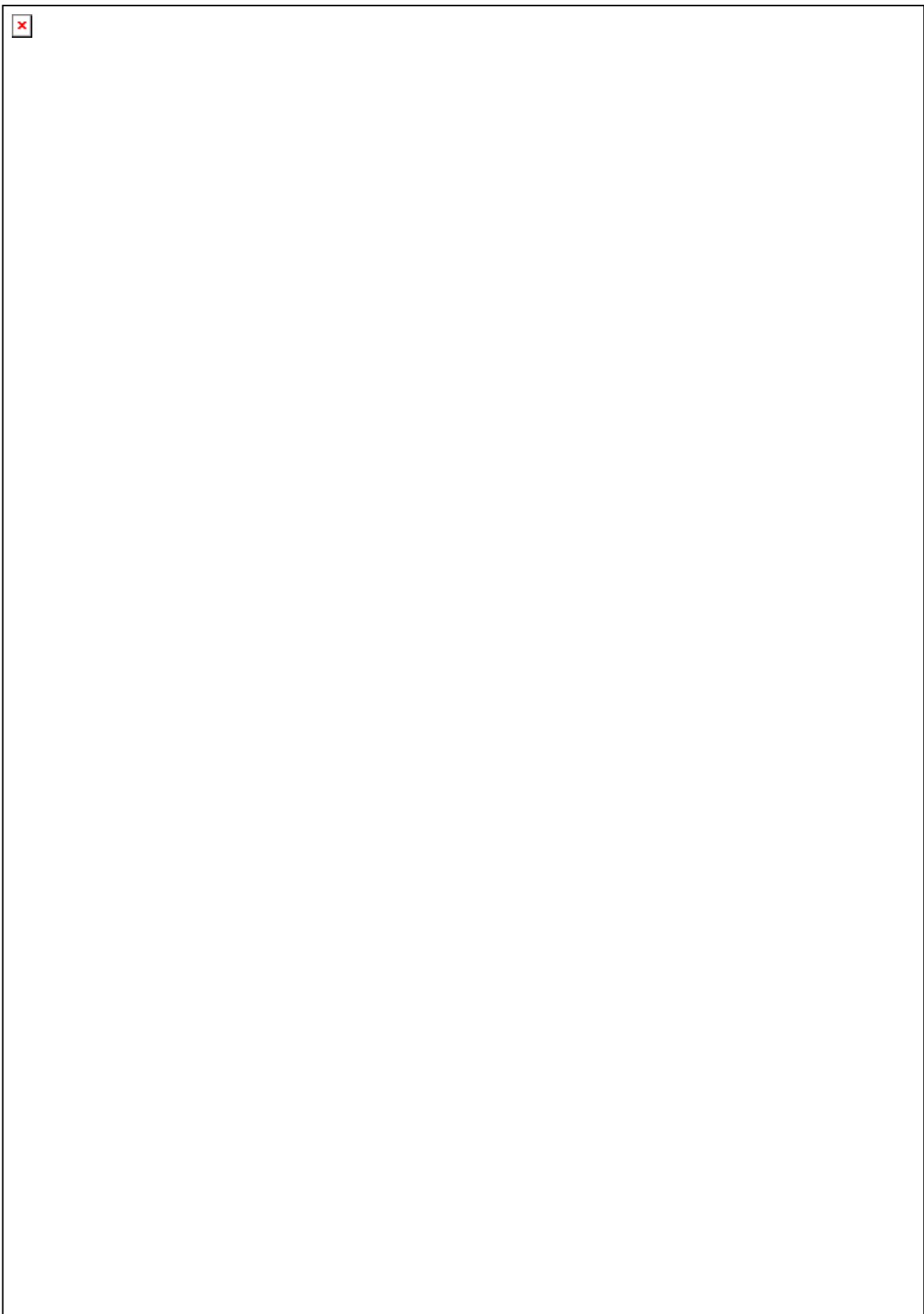


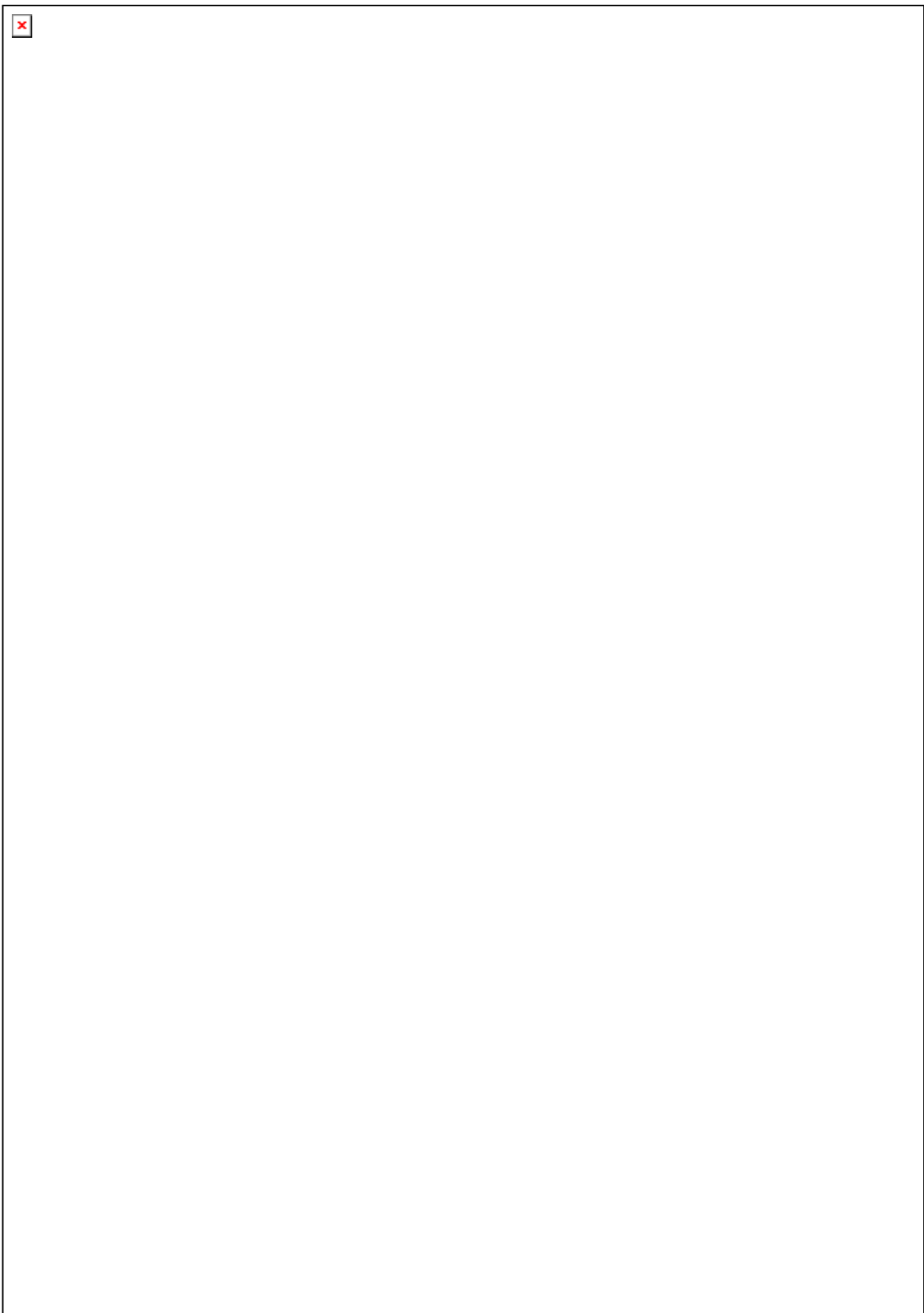
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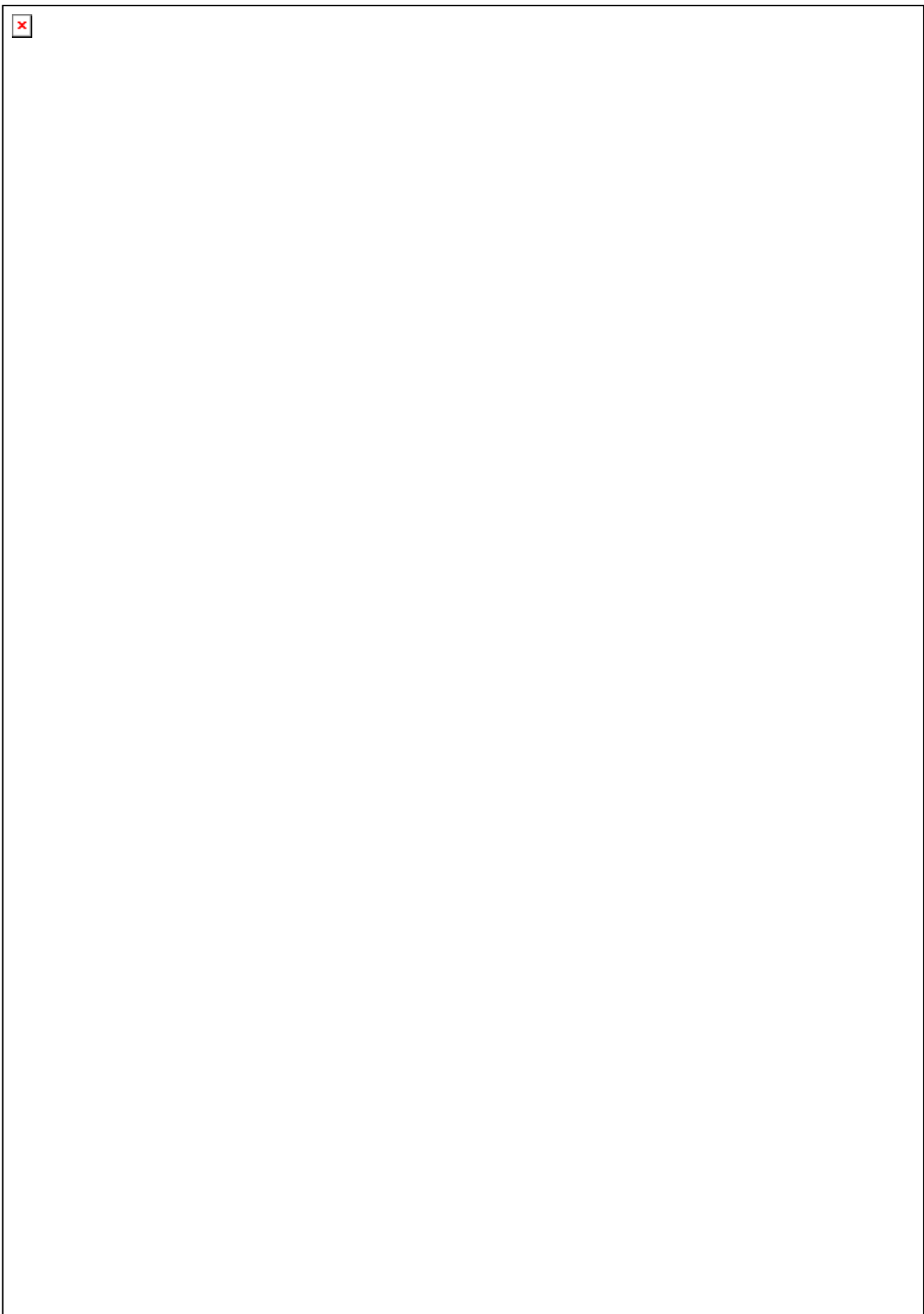
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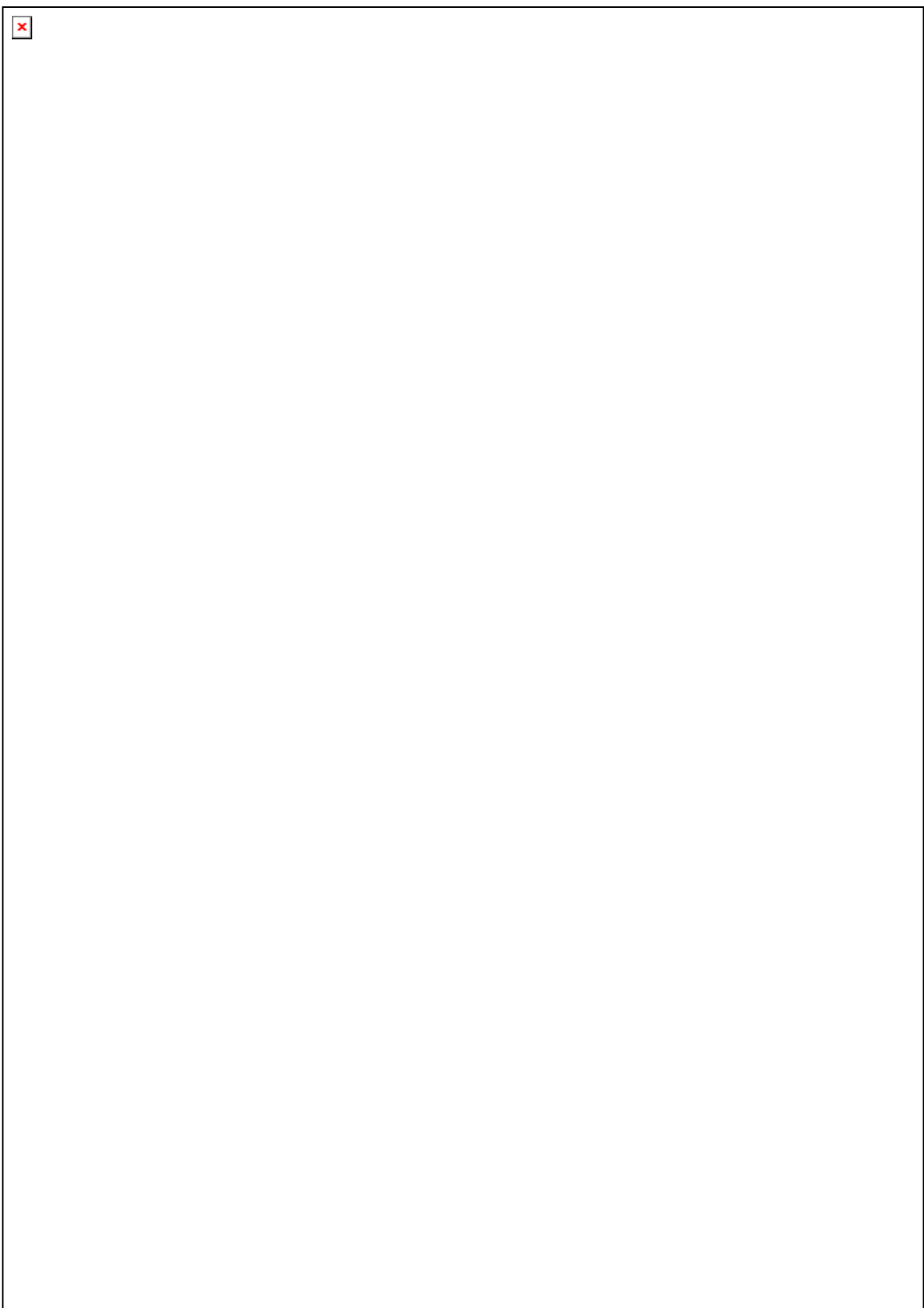
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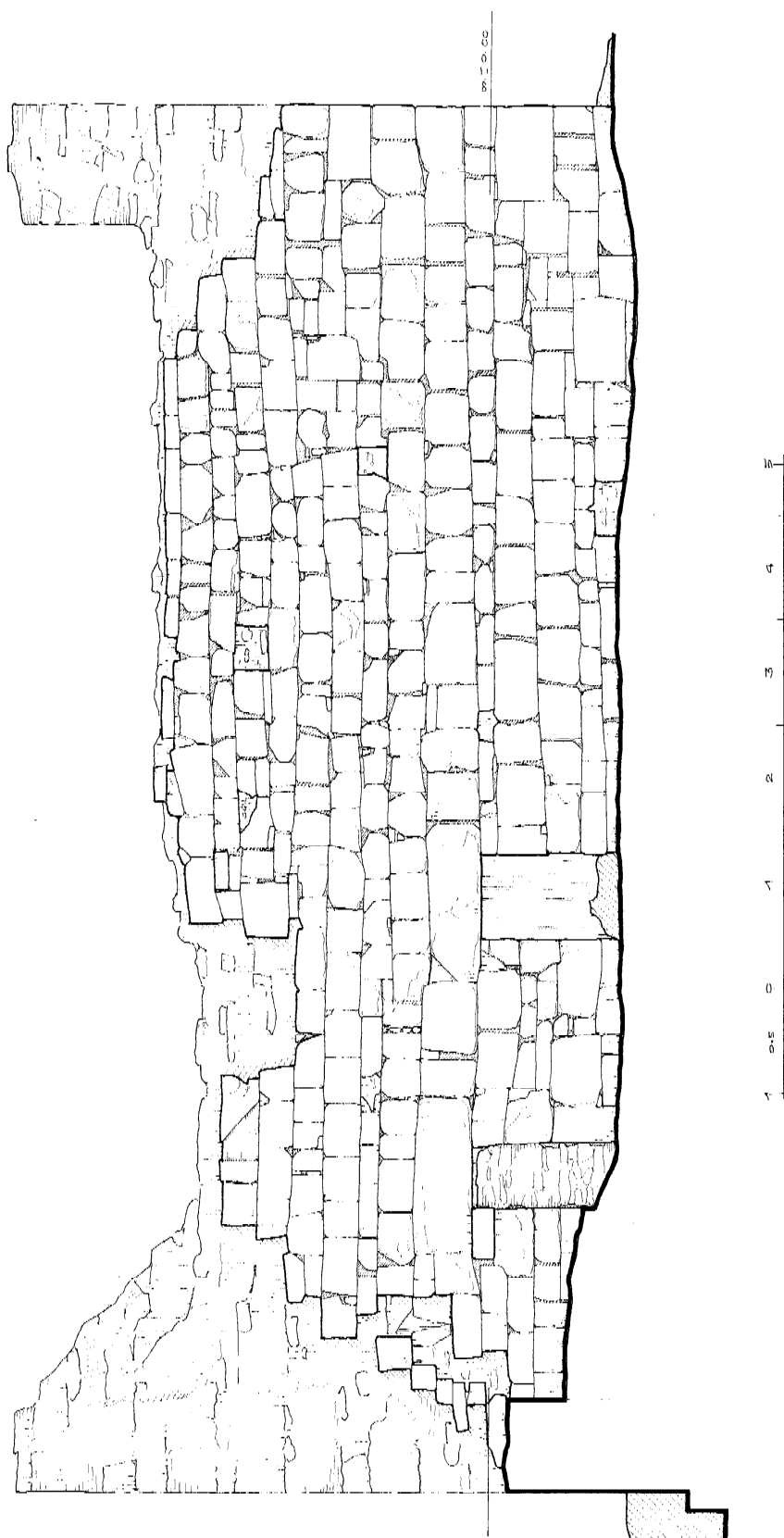


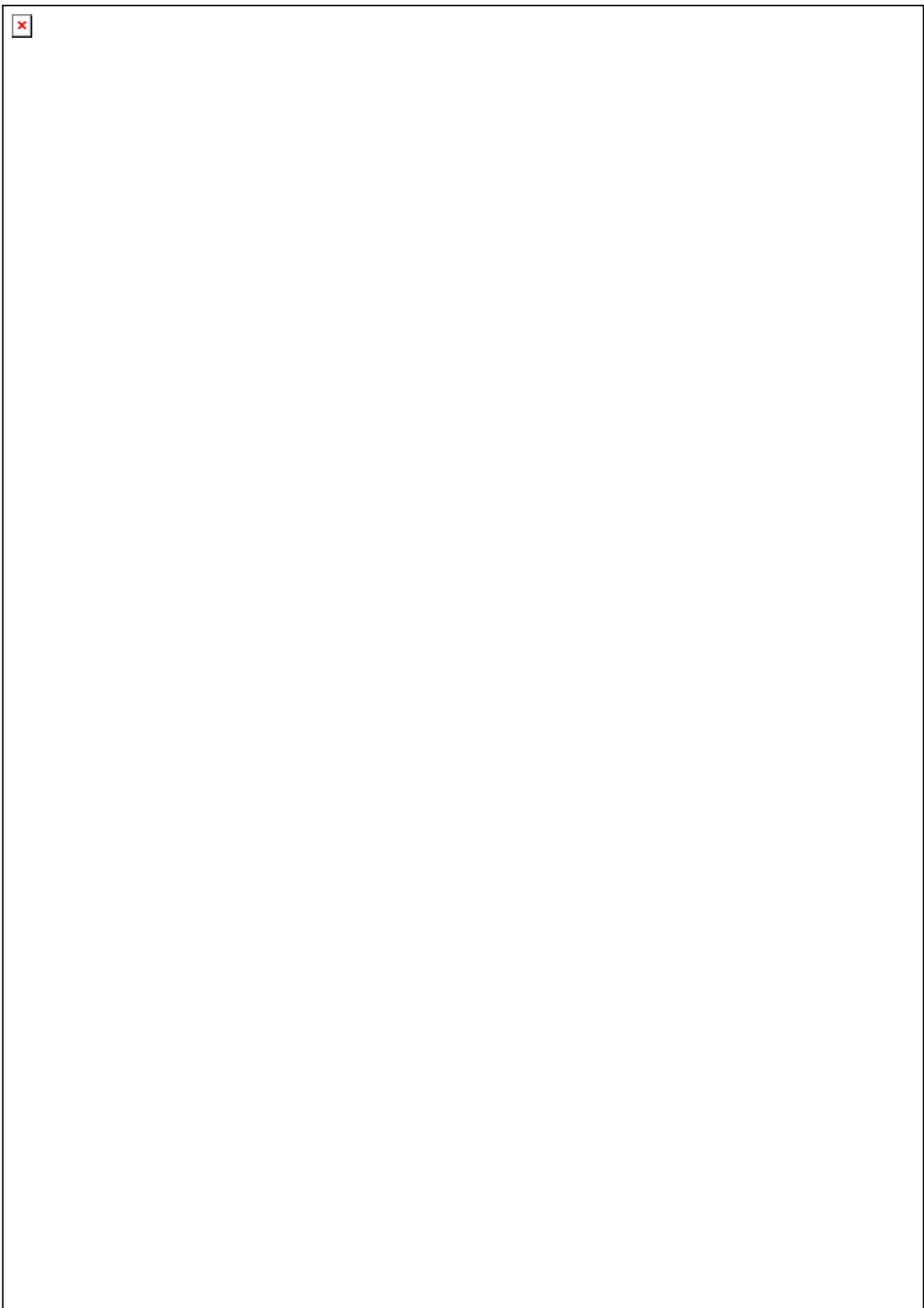


ფურცელი 21. 1920

ტყევის მონაცემები
პ. ბიჭიშვილი

მონაცემები 8-125









St. Georges chapel, east façade after partial clearing



St. Georges chapel, fragment from east façade



St. Georges chapel, east facade



St. Georges chapel, west facade



St. Georges chapel, west facade



St. Georges chapel, interior view from the east



Interior south wall



North church apse



St. Miriams church, view to the north



Priests residence, Central structure

“Irka” St. George Church

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**“Irka” St. George Church
(I half of XIII c)**



Location:

Historic Province – Samtskhe
District – Akhaltsikhe , Vale area

KP – 245

Distance to the Pipeline – 360m

Brief Description:

A beautiful, vaulted church located on a high hill. The facing stones have fallen out. The church was built with the horizontal rows of pebble quadras. The profiled, ornamented cornice stone and fragment of the cross-directed to the east have been preserved on the façades. The interior walls are ornamented. An open shaped altar, flanked with wide, deep, high arched niches, has survived. The north niche has a safe inside.

Recommended Protection Measures:

- Marking the extension boundaries with signs (at definite parts).
- The construction process should proceed under the supervision of specialists and vibration monitoring.

