

المرحلة الثالثة

النص 3

الجزء 3

Archaeological Survey of Al-Hira/Iraq:

Fieldwork campaign 2015

Based on a close analysis of the respective reports and their synchronization with satellite images, a preliminary map was produced. During the survey the data were checked on the ground and the map was corrected if necessary. In addition, Archaeological sites identified in the Archaeological Atlas of Iraq (Tulul Kunaidira, Tell al-Khwarnaq) and sites that were known or subject to investigations by Iraqi colleagues in 2007, 2009, and 2011 were added. The resulting map shows the location of 10 archaeological sites or groups of mounds, with the

exception of the excavation conducted by the Oxford University Team in 1931. While it was possible to identify an area that most probably contains the Oxford mounds, due to the disturbed nature of the surface, it was not possible to confirm this on the ground.

Linked to the mapping program was the reassessment and reinterpretation of the available data about small finds according to the present state of knowledge. Based on the combination and comparative analysis of this body of evidence, a first working hypothesis was put forward. Accordingly, the earliest traces of usage and settlement activities are found in the more easternmost places such as Maqbarat Abu Sukhair, Maqbarat Umm Khasham and Tell Satih.