

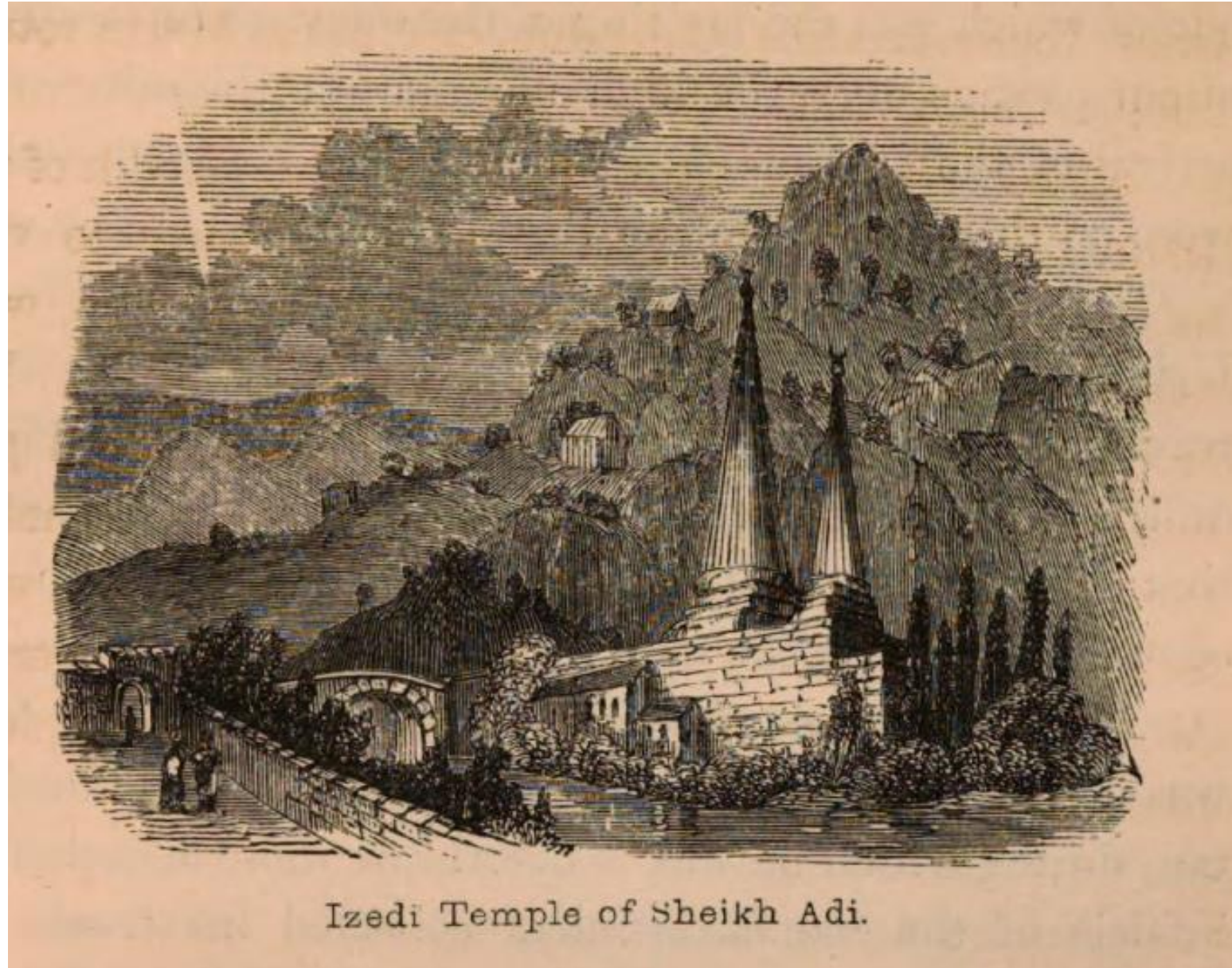
Historical analysis of the architecture of the temple of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

Marc Marin Webb

June 2022

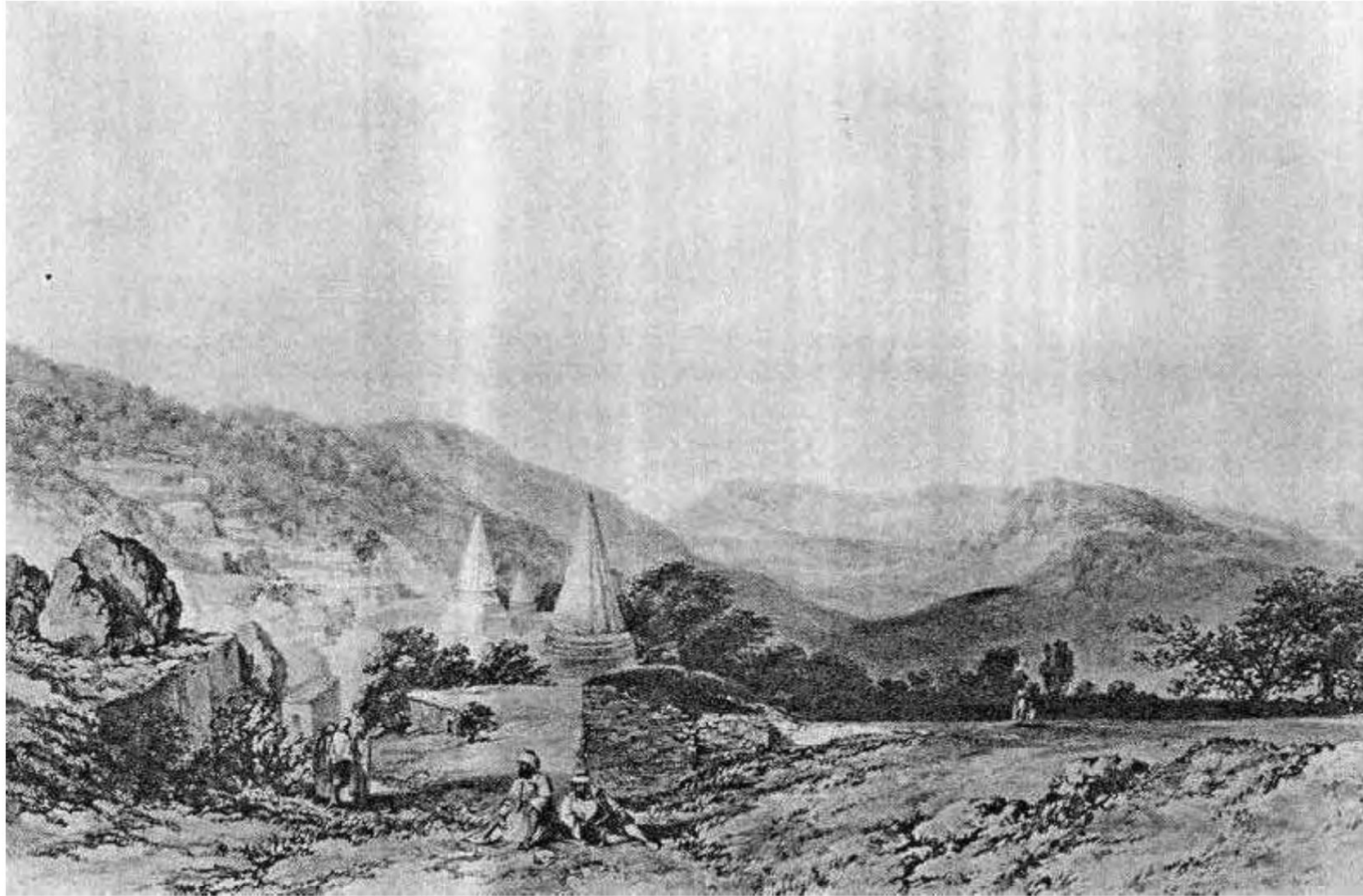
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views

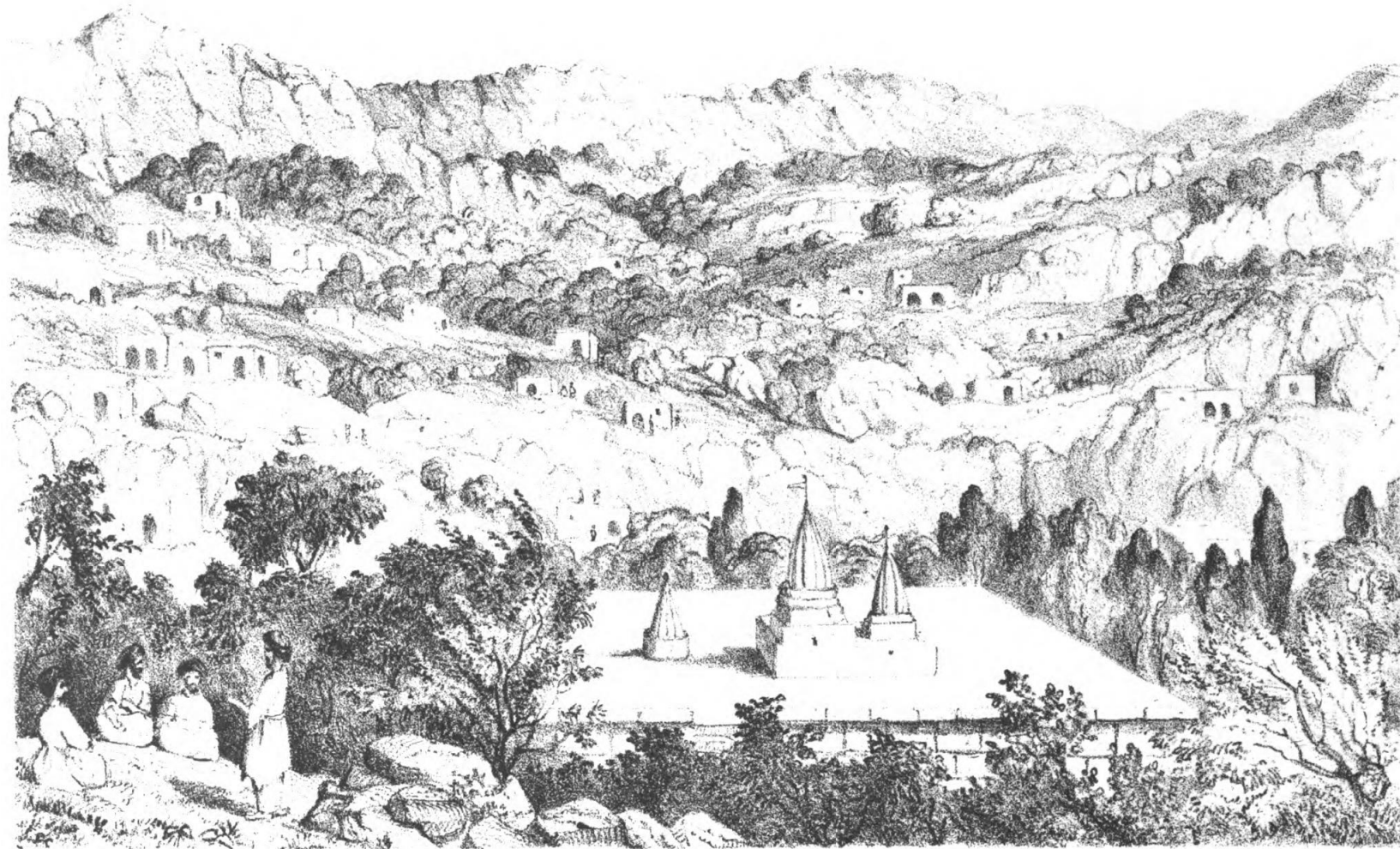


*General view of the Yazidi Sanctuary at Lalish in 1850 (source unknown, provided by VÖSSING)*

Vössing 2011a:10 (1850?)

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



*H. C. Cooper, lith.*

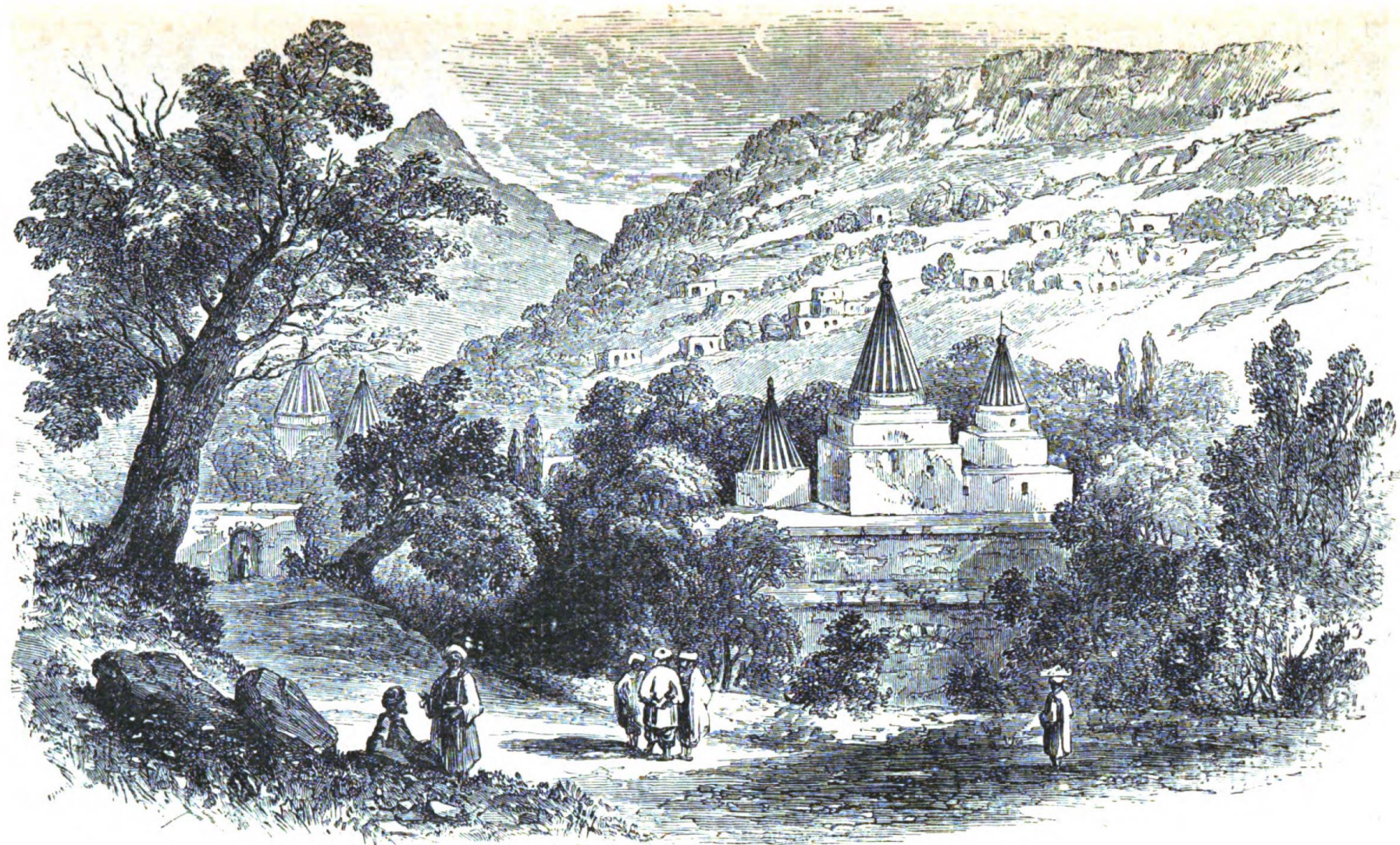
*Printed by G. G. & J. S. W. at the Lithographic Press, No. 15, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.*

SHEIKH ADI, FROM THE SOUTH.

Badger 1852(1844): I, (104f)

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



Valley and Tomb of Sheikh Adi.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?):185

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



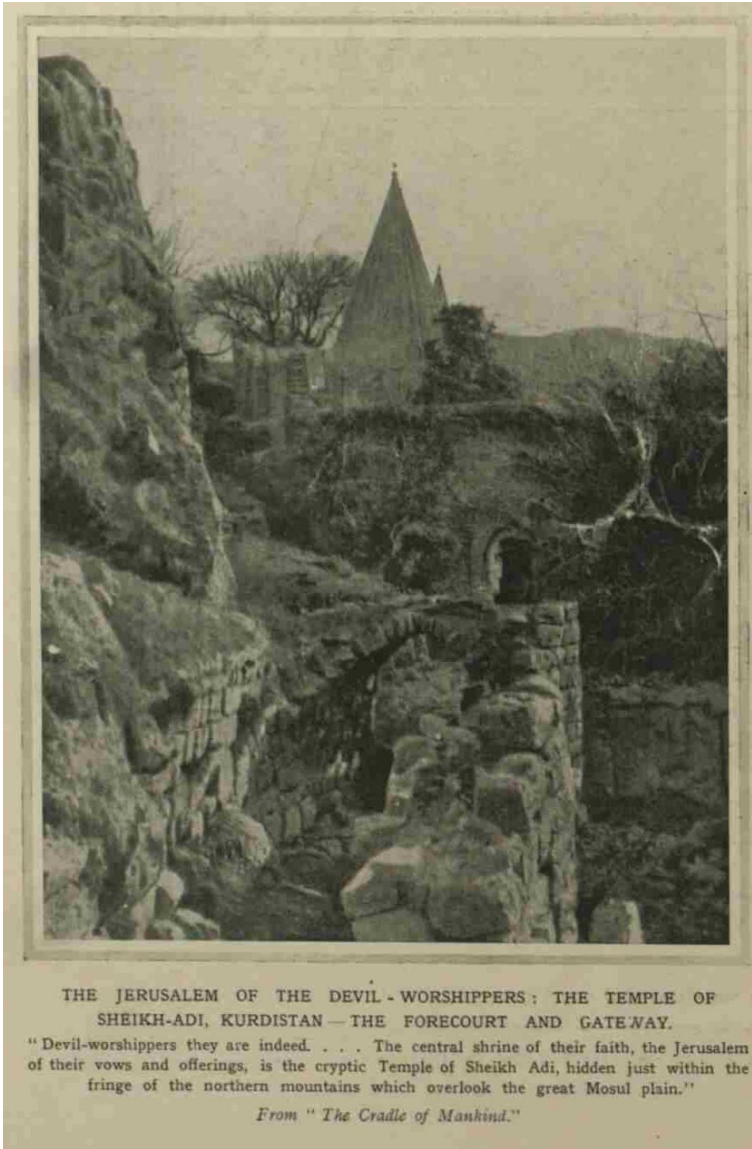
Wigram 1914 (1907?):92

SHEIKH ADI

The upper end of the buildings showing the forecourt and entrance gateway : and (apparently)  
" the Proprietor," seated on the wall above *page 92*

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



The Illustrated London News Jul. 18 1914 - 92

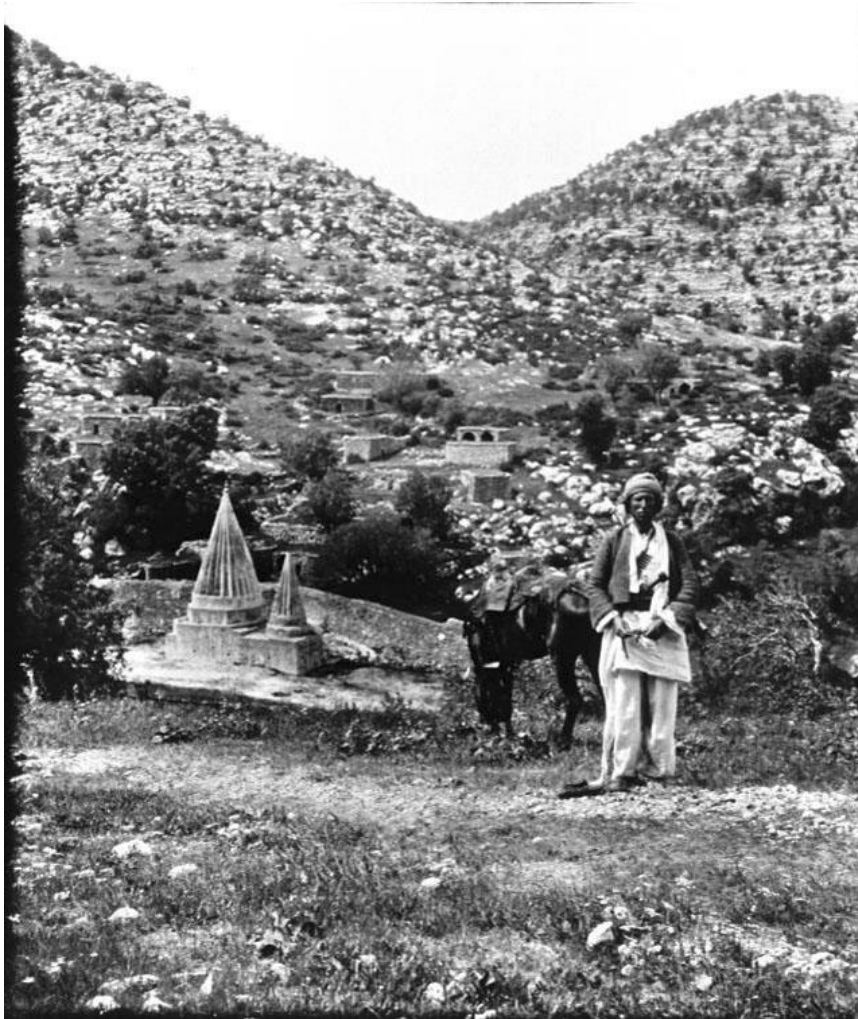


SHEIKH ADI  
The upper end of the buildings showing the forecourt and entrance gateway : and (apparently) " the Proprietor," seated on the wall above *page 92*

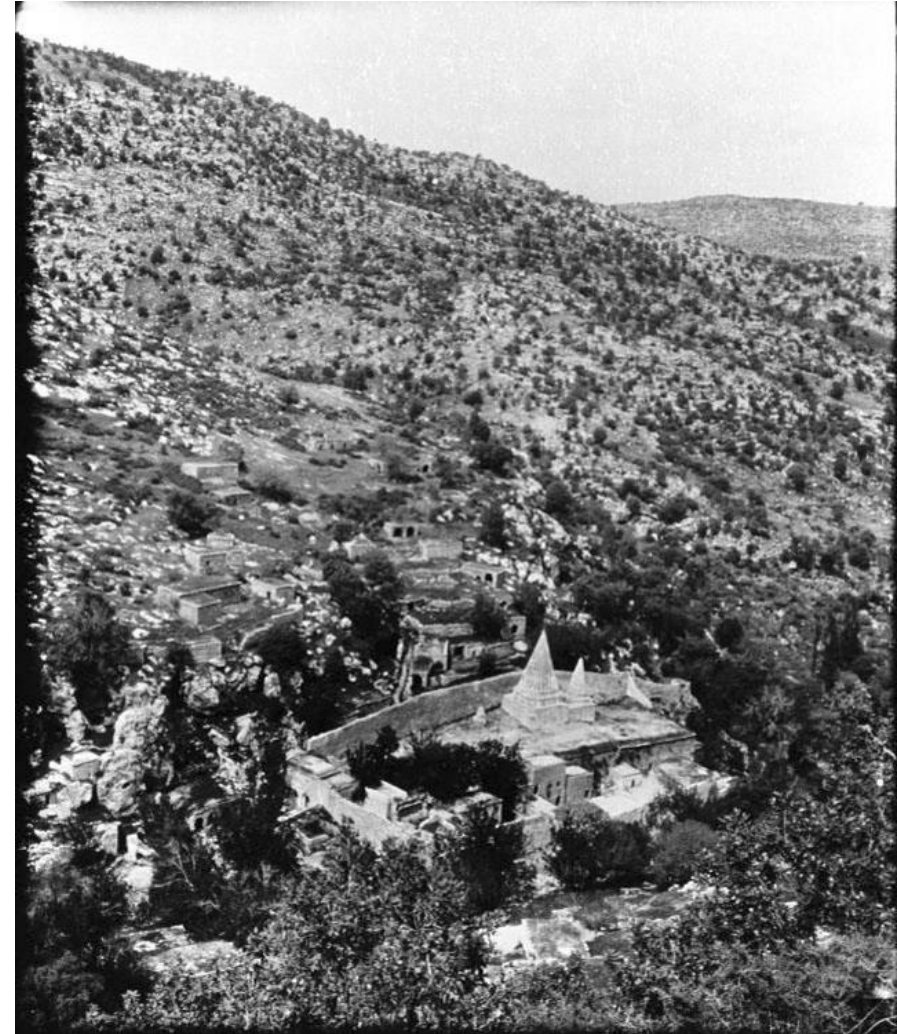
Wigram 1914 (1907?): 92

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



Bell (1909) M\_045  
(from <http://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/> online archive)



Bell (1909) M\_047  
(from <http://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/> online archive)



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views

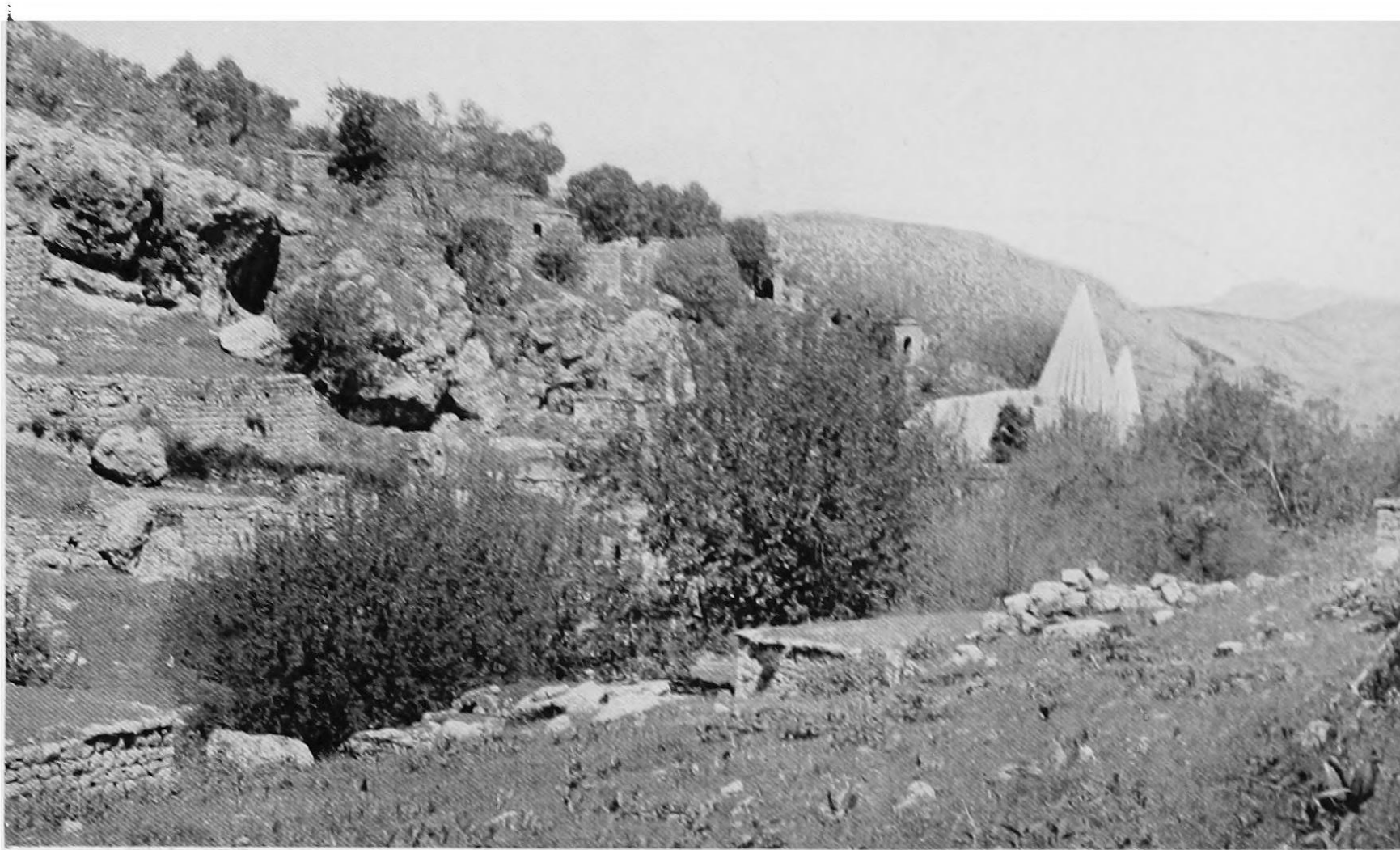


FIG. 179. SHEIKH 'ADI.

Bell 1911(1909):Figure 179

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views

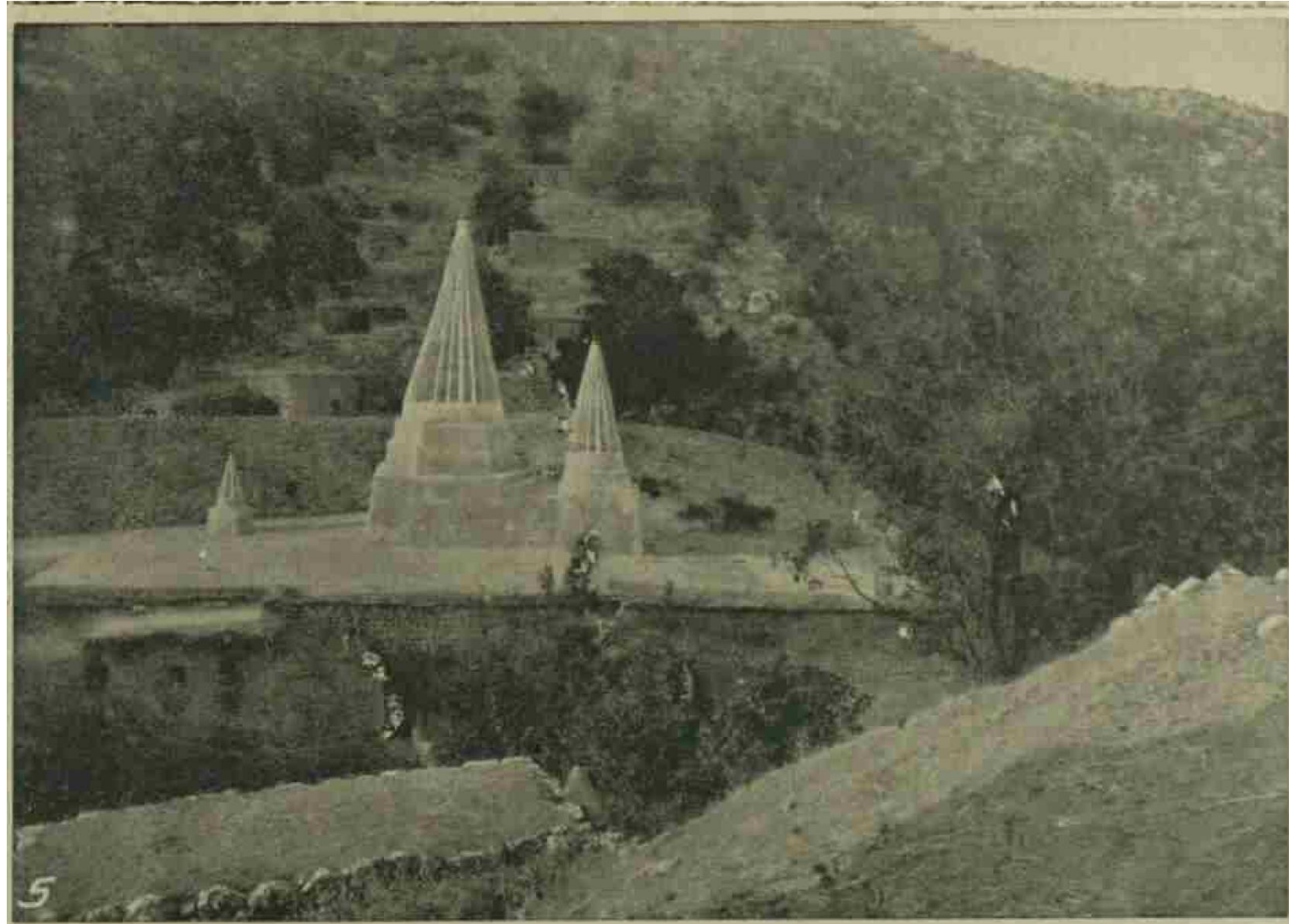


GESAMTANSICHT

Bachmann 1913 (1911):Tafel 14a

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

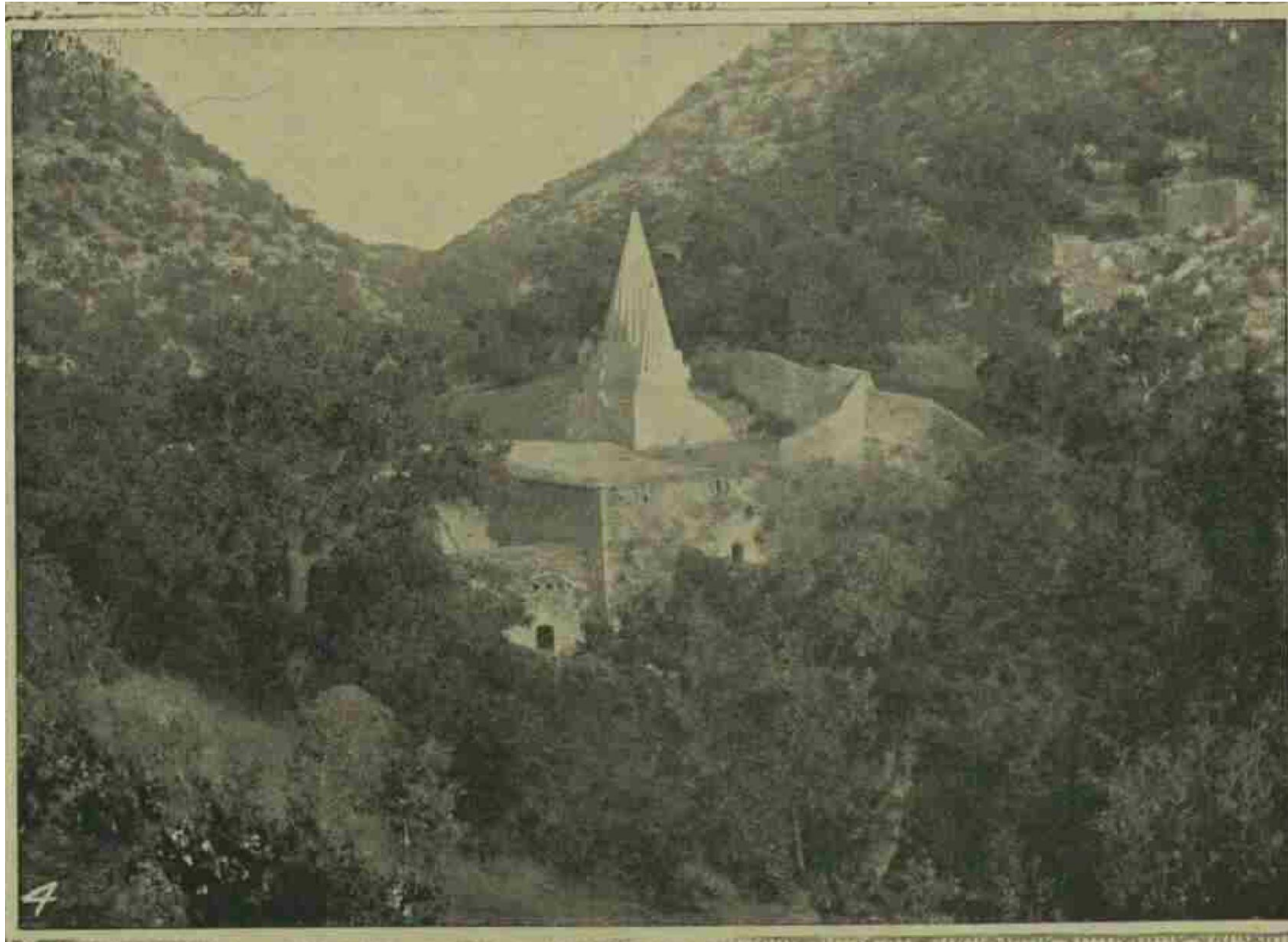
## 1. Location\_General views



The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 151

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

1. Location\_General views



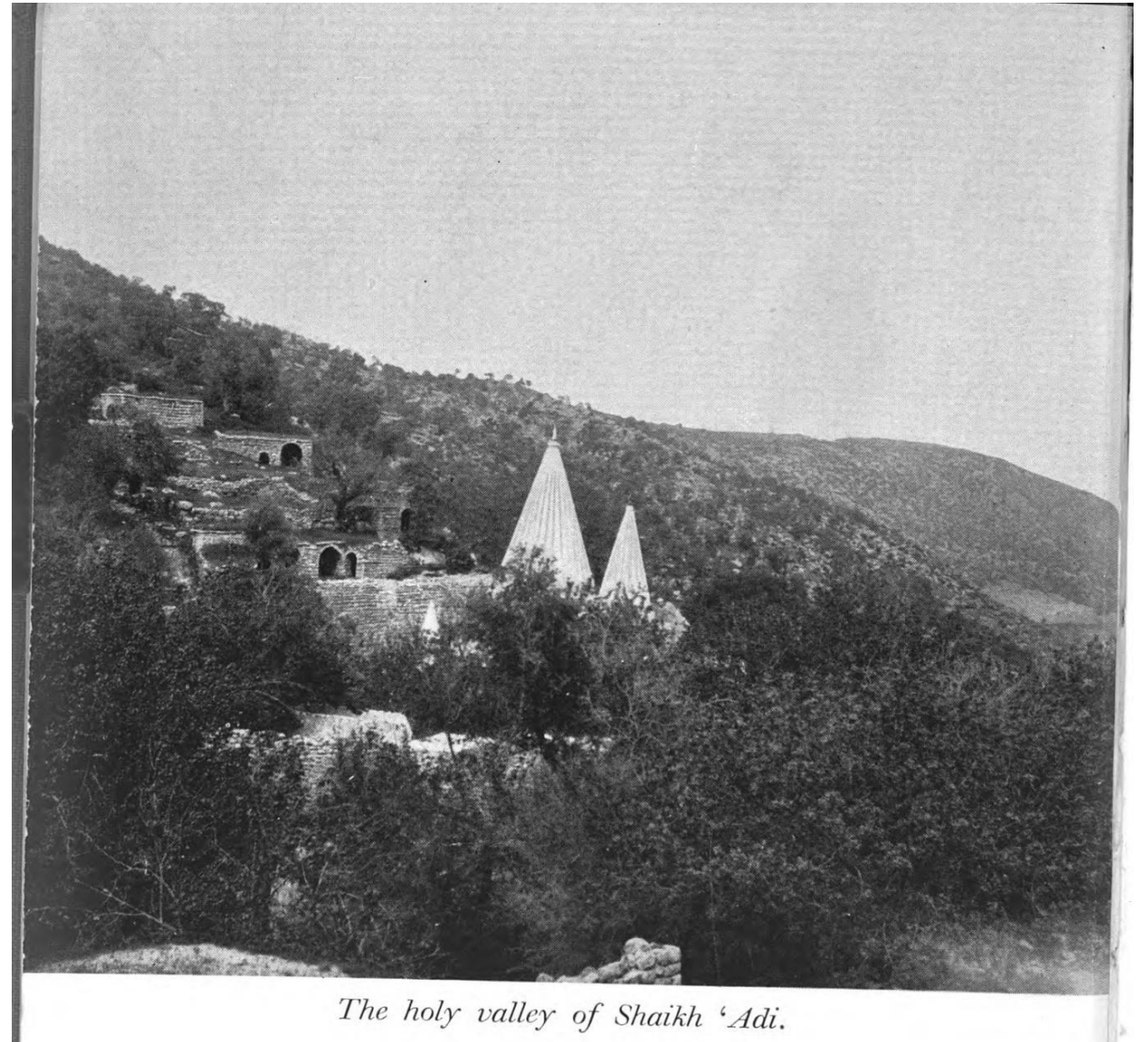
The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 151

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General views



Ubach 1922:162



Drower 1941 (year visited?):Frontispiece

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

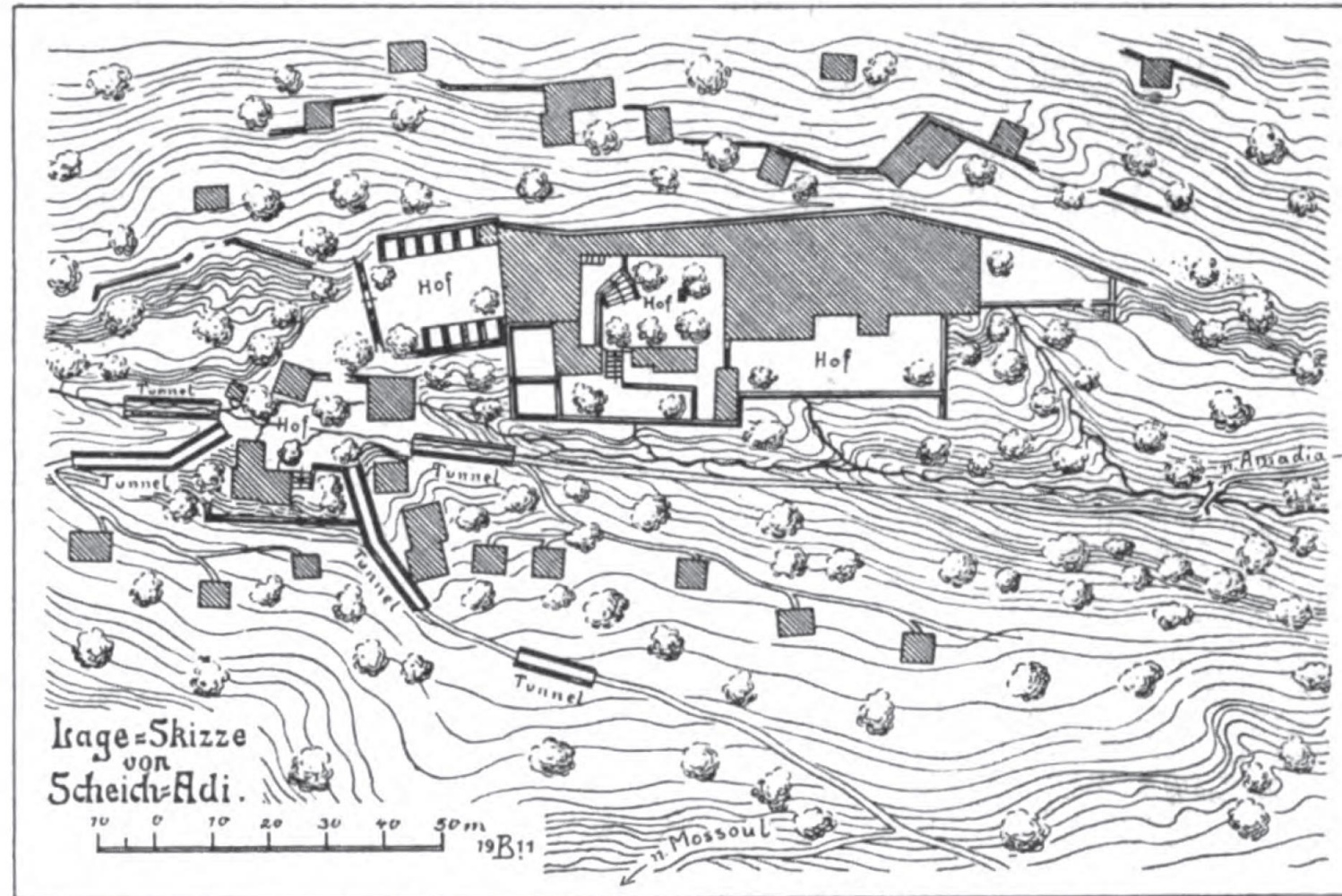
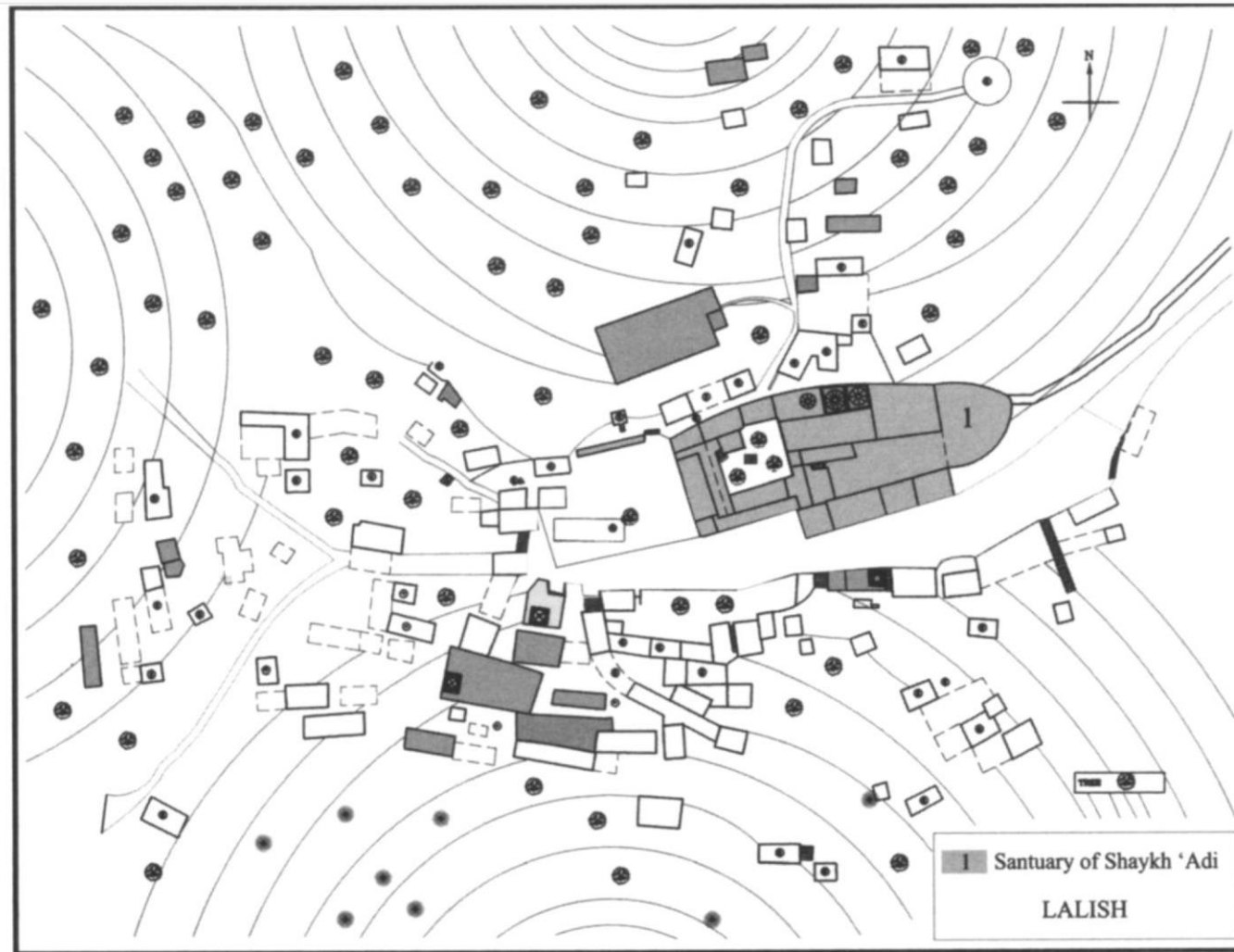


Abb. 7. Scheich 'Adi, Lageskizze.

Bachmann 1913 (1911): Abb7

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

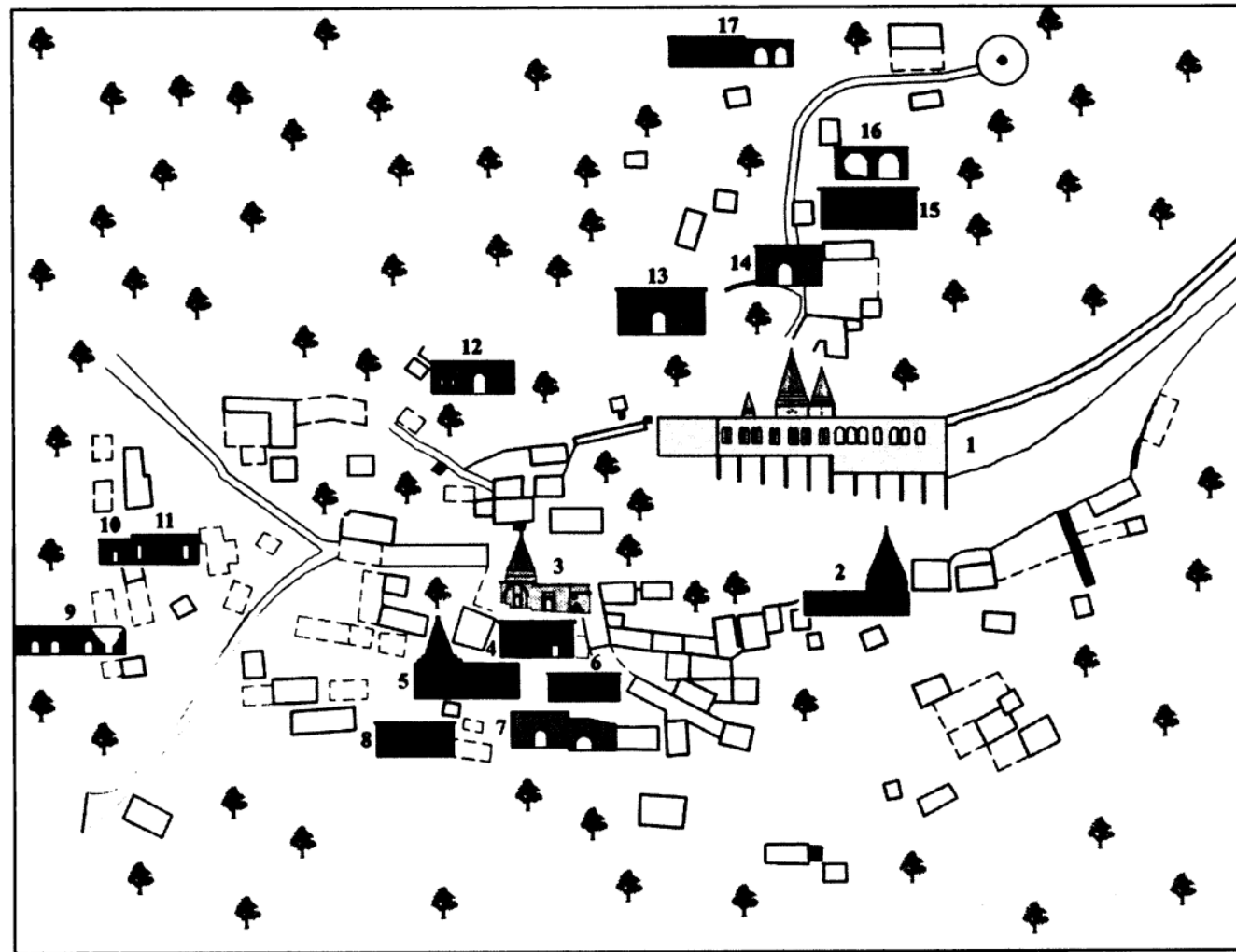


Açıkyıldız 2009:  
Figure 2

Figure 2. Map of Lalish and its monuments

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



1. Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi
2. Mausoleum of Sheik Mushelleh
3. Baptistery of Kaniya Spi
4. Mausoleum of Êzdîna Mîr
5. Mausoleum of Sheik Shams
6. Mausoleum of Khatuna Fakhran
7. Cave of Pîr Hemedî Boz
8. Mausoleum of Sheik Nasr al-Dîn
9. Mausoleum of Pîr Kivane Rut
10. Mausoleum of Pîr Sîn
11. Mausoleum of Qadî Bilban
12. Cave of Memê Shivan
13. Mausoleum of Sheik Abû Bekir
14. Cave of Pîr Mahmud
15. Mausoleum of Pîr Cerwan
16. Mausoleum of Hecî Muhammad
17. Mausoleum of Alû Bekir

Map 9 Yezidi buildings at Lalish, based on the map of Suleiman Havend



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

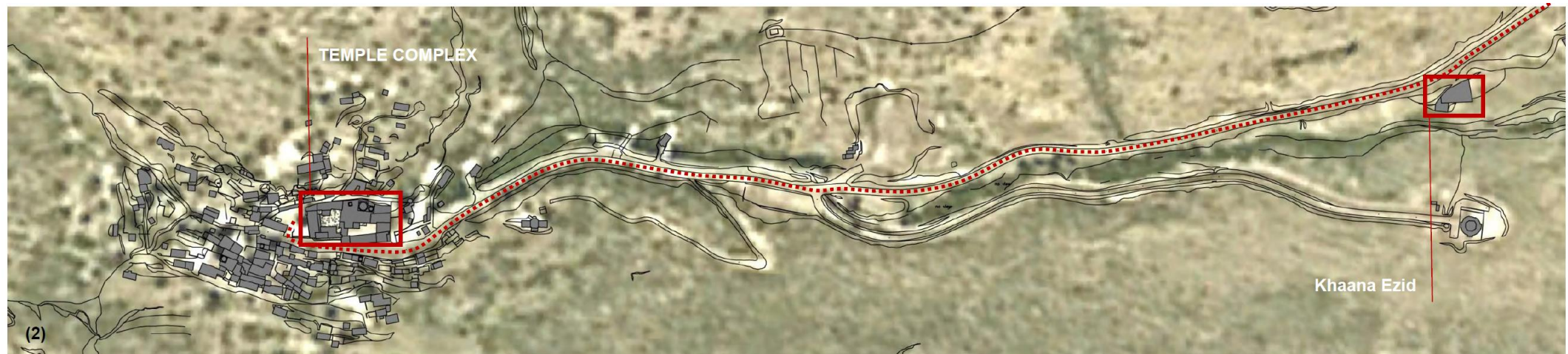
*The Lalish Yazidi temple complex in regional and local context:*

- (1) *location in the autonomous Kurdistan Region*<sup>4</sup>
- (2) *the temple complex and periphery with Khaana Ezid*<sup>5</sup>
- (3) *the temple complex with surrounding buildings*<sup>6</sup>



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



Vössing 2011a:4

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

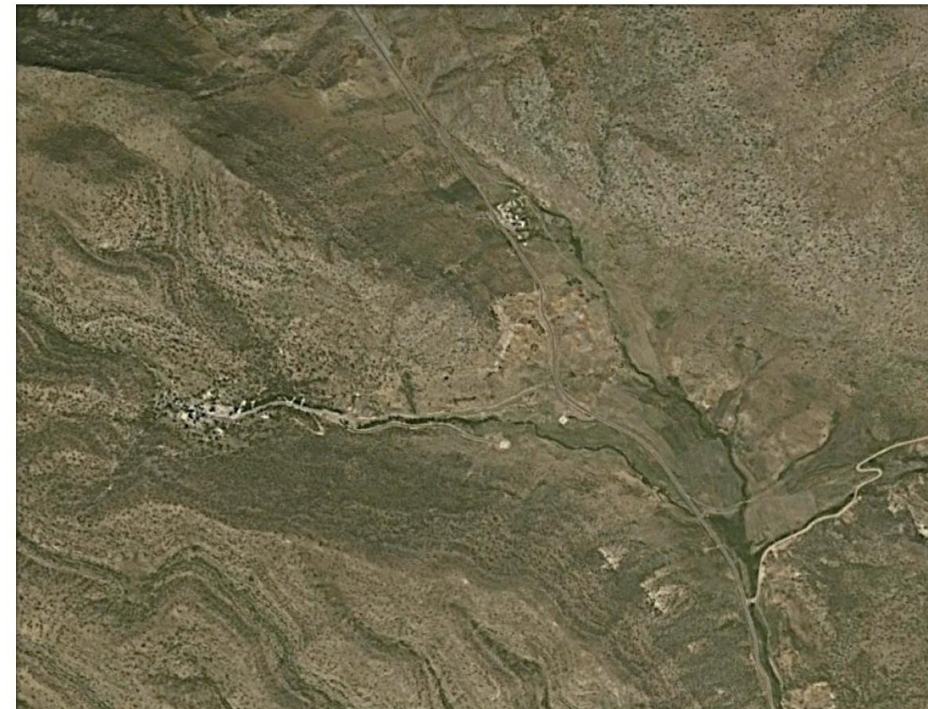
## 1. Location\_General Plans

KURDISTAN - DOHUK



9,5 km

VALLEY OF LALISH



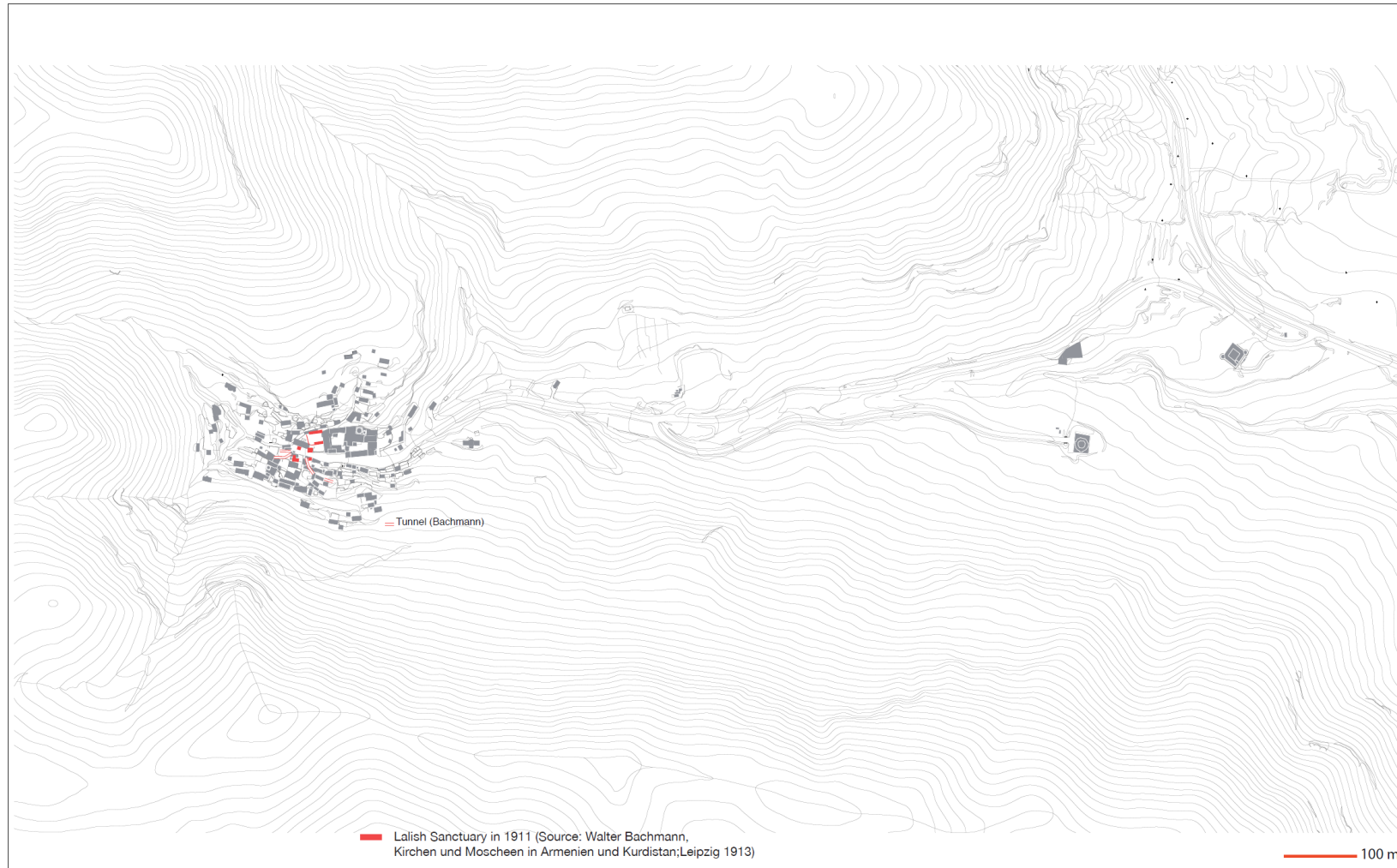
838 m

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

3.3 REVIEW OF EXISTING SITUATION - EXISTING BUILDINGS

2



Vössing 2011b:25

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

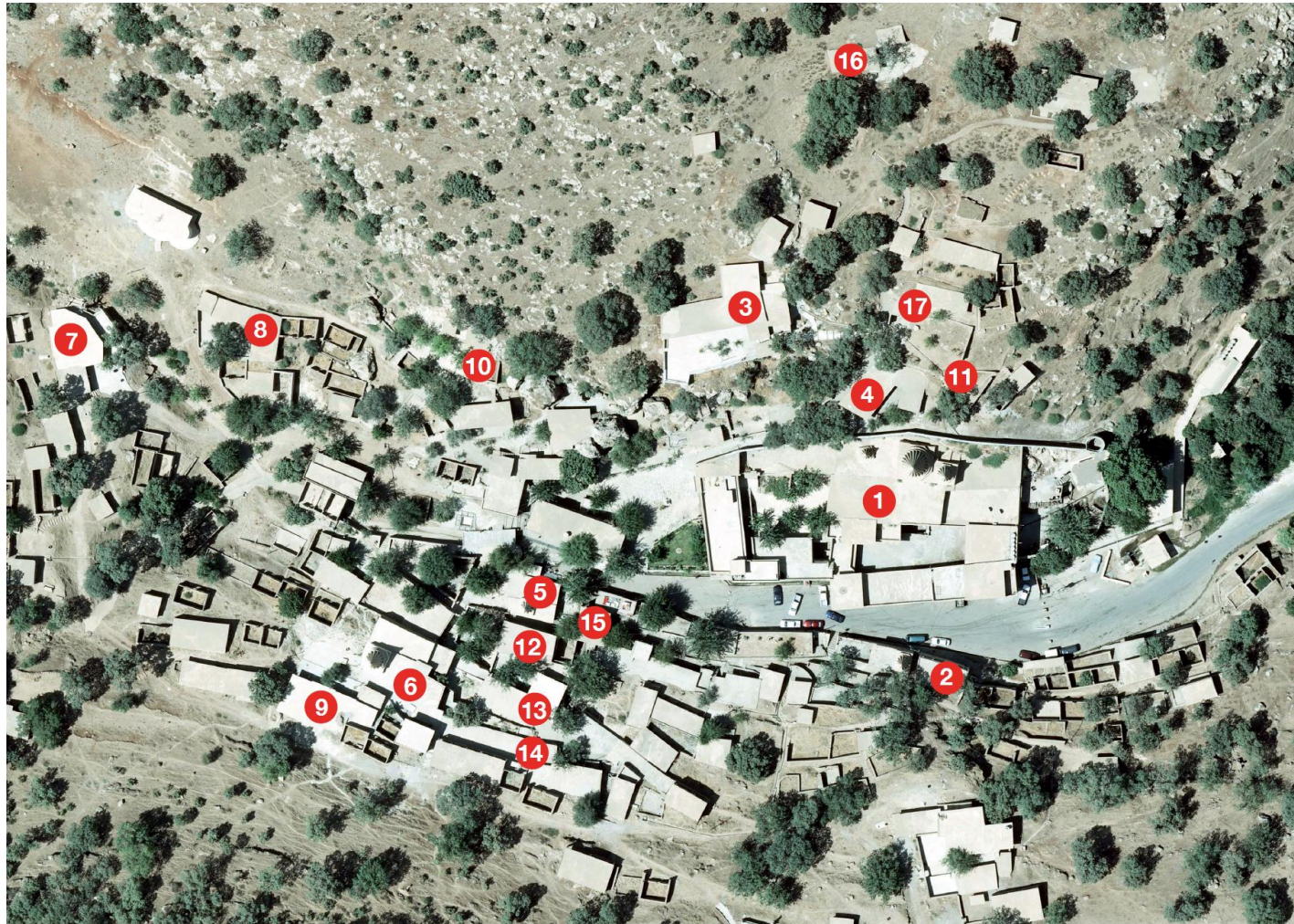


comparison: settlement today with situation 1909 (red colored)

Vössing 2011b:32

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



Sanctuaries and Main Buildings

- 1 Main Temple (Sheik Adi)
- 2 Khafure Rea
- 3 Shekho Baker
- 4 Sherfadin
- 5 Kaniya Sepi
- 6 Sheshems
- 7 Babadin
- 8 Hadjial
- 9 Naserdin
- 10 Setuna Meraza (tree)
- 11 Evai Ezid
- 12 Ezdine Mir
- 13 Shekh Babik
- 14 Shekh Mand
- 15 Shekh Hasen
- 16 Alobaker
- 17 Mahmede Raben

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans

3.5.4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT MEASURES - CLASSIFICATION



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



3.3.4 Proposed development measures - Classification



Vössing 2011b:40-41



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



No.	Name	Category
1	Bira Kefana Ruut	Restoration
2	Qedib Etaban	Restoration
3	Bir Sira Behara	Restoration
4	Xeta Besa	New Development
5	Birafat	?
6	Bira Buwal	Addition Roof
7	Scheich Djunid	New Development
8	Nischana Ba Badin	New Development
9	KaniabKulafa	Restoration
10	Hadjial	New Development
11	Stuna Maraza	?
12	Nischana Abd Ar Rahman	?
13	Nischana Schischmis	Restoration
14	Scheich Hermis	New Development
15	Scheich Ismail Enzeia	New Development
16	Scheich Tuka	Restoration/ Addition Roof
17	Bir Dela	?
18	Scheichala Schemsa	?
19	Amadin	Restoration/ Addition Roof
20	Schiketa Umeremenda	Restoration
21	Nasirdin	New Development
22	Sita Hebib	New Development
23	Nischana Umeremenda	Restoration
24	Nischana Qorecjeri	Restoration
25	Schiketa Seid Nahum	Restoration
26	Xatuana Fezra	New Development
27	Scheich Ruumi	?
28	Nischana Tete Ria Schischmis	Restoration
29	Nischana Buqa Tara Baba	Restoration
30	Scheich Fezir	New Development
31	Scheich Merid	New Development
32	Schiketa Scheich Fezir	New Development

Vössing 2011b:42-43

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_General Plans



No.	Description	Status
33	Schiketta Mixara Mara	Restoration
34	Metbehxa Scheich Merid	Restoration
35	Biri Ala	Restoration
36	Biri Hesnaka	Restoration
37	Mehmed Fieshan	New Development
38	Nischana Dikadjak	Restoration
39	Dewasch Djensin	Restoration
40	Dewasch Kurkin	Restoration
41	Nischani Henu Merhena	Restoration
42	Hesen Mernan	Restoration
43	Metbehxa Hesen Mernan	Restoration
44	Scheich Mehmed	Restoration
45	Kantara Sheik Mehmed	Restoration
46	Nischana Heka Firs	Restoration
47	Nischana Hekima Lughan	Restoration
48	Nischana Ezali wa Djimal	Restoration
49	Nischana Hedjadj wa Heladj	Restoration
50	Nischana Scheich Zera	Restoration
51	Mezara Scheich Babik	Restoration
52	Schiketta Bierata	Restoration
53	Mazari Kutana Faxra	Restoration
54	Mezara Scheich Schems	New Development
55	Metbexa Schischmis	New Development
56	Kalkuz	Restoration
57	Aqda Kalkuz	Restoration
58	Xezina Scheich Schems	Restoration
59	Nischana Hesen Deqiq	Restoration
60	Izdinmir	New Development
61	Kani Sabu	New Development
62	Kania Kurka	New Development
63	Hewda	Restoration
64	Kania Kudika	Restoration

No.	Description	Status
65	Qubin Nubedara	Restoration
66	Kudja Zurua	Abolishment
67	Kulana Xira	Addition Roof
68	Balul	Restoration
69	Sebasara Sukame Merifata	Restoration
70	Quba Bir Mend	Addition Roof
71	Aqda Scheichu Bekir	Addition Roof
72	Aqda Feqir Hesen	New Development
73	Metbexa Scheichu Bekir	Addition Roof
74	Mezara Bira Djenua	Addition Roof
75	Bir Hedja Mehmed	Restoration
76	Bira Qelnder	Addition Roof
77	Bir Buub	Addition Roof
78	Bir Mehmuud	New Development
79	Bir Babuun	Addition Roof
80	Alu Bekira	Addition Roof
81	Kuru Bekira	New Development
82	Biri Isbibia	New Development
83	Scherfedin	New Development
84	Limersata	New Development
85	Mehmeda Reben	Restoration
86	Merwe wa Mehwer	Addition Roof
87	Scheich Abd al Qadir	Restoration
88	Bir Taus Bir Mausa	Addition Roof
89	Scheich Ibrahim Xetma	Addition Roof
90	Ara Buschik	Restoration
91	Scheich Muus	Restoration
92	Scheich Hesan	Restoration
93	Metbexa Scheich Hesen	Restoration
94	Bira Kemal	Restoration
95	Scheich Maschiah	Restoration
96	Sidjedn	Restoration

No.	Description	Status
97	Kulana Sila Is	Restoration
98	Qentara Kulana Zebnala	Restoration
99		Restoration/ New Development
100		New Development
101		New Development
102		Restoration
103		Restoration
104		Restoration
105		Restoration
106		Restoration
107		Restoration
108		Abolishment/ New Development
109		Restoration
110		Restoration
111		Abolishment
112		Addition Roof
113		Addition Roof
114		Restoration

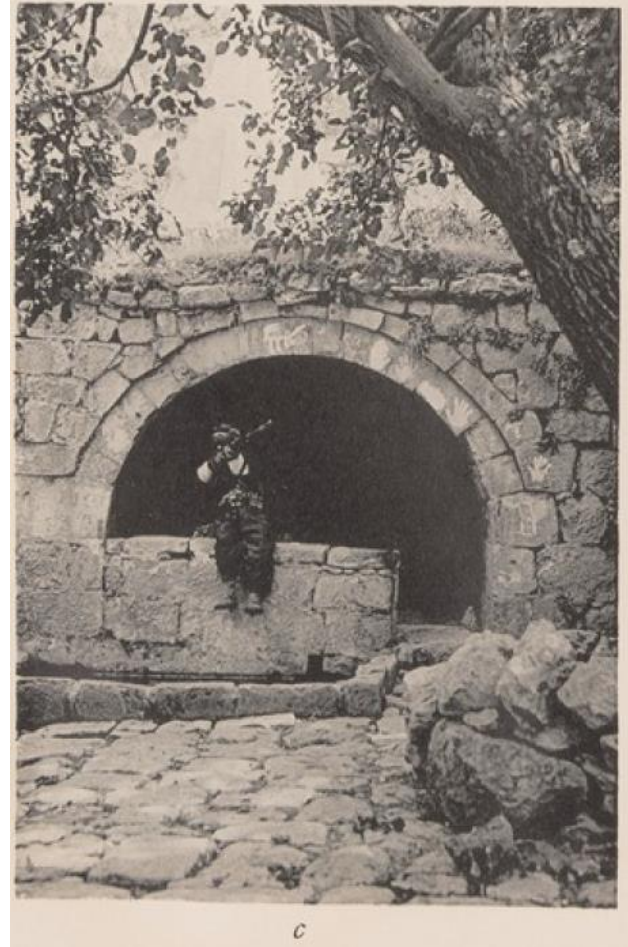
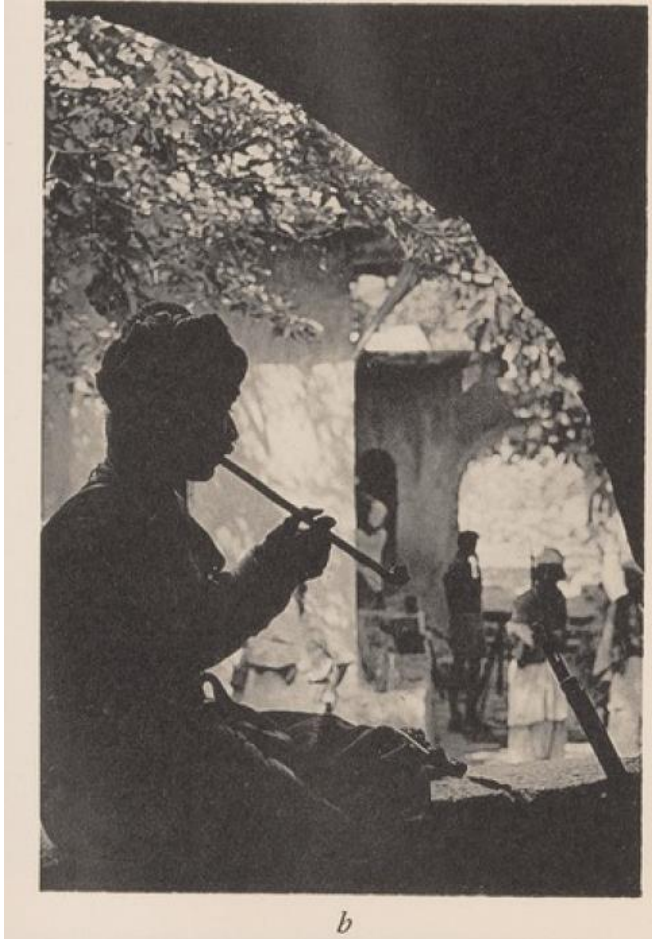


Symbolism/ Ornament/ Sign in Stone

Vössing 2011b:45-46

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



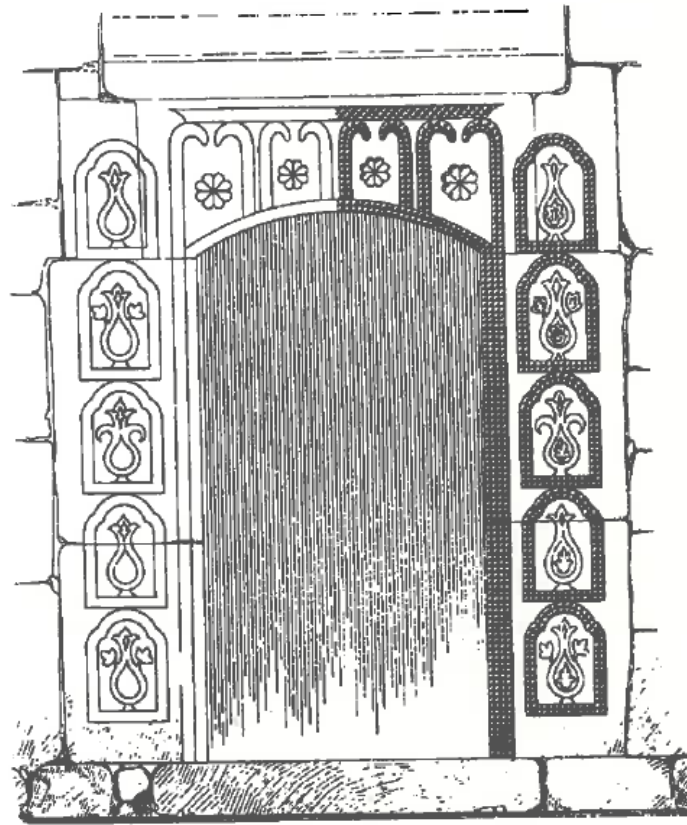
The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 151

*a*, Yezidi tomb from hill cloister above Sheikh Adi. *b*, Yezidi youth on well-head at Sheikh Adi. *c*, Building over spring at Sheikh Adi (note graffiti). *d*, Outer courtyard at Sheikh Adi.

Berezin 1951(1843):Figure 52    Photos of 1843?

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



### SCHEICH ADI

- 1 Eingangstür, Rekonstruktion
- 2 Kuppeldächer
- 3 Schnitt A—B
- 4 Tür eines Brunnenhauses
- 5 Grundriß

0 20 100 cm

4



64 Decorated door of the baptistery of Kaniya Spi, Lalish

Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 15

Façade of the Baptistery of Kanya Spi?  
(Açıkyıldız 2010:179)

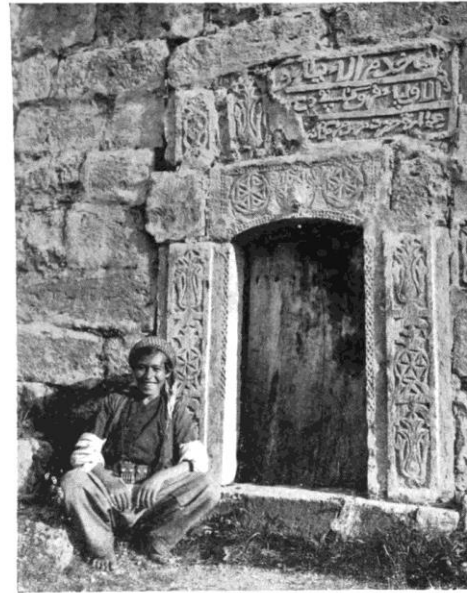
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



THE ROOF OF SHEIKH SHEMS-ED-DIN AT SHEIKH ADI.  
Round this spire the sacrificial bull is driven.  
(See page 203.)

Drower 1923(1922):208



Door to the girls' baptismal chamber.  
[Hajji sits by the door.]

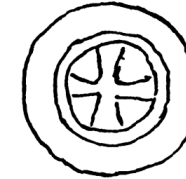


The baptism cisterns. Original from UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA [159]

Drower 1941 (year?):159



On the wall going up to Shaikh Shems. (Rope-like border.)



Over the large arch above the first flight of steps to Shaikh Shems.



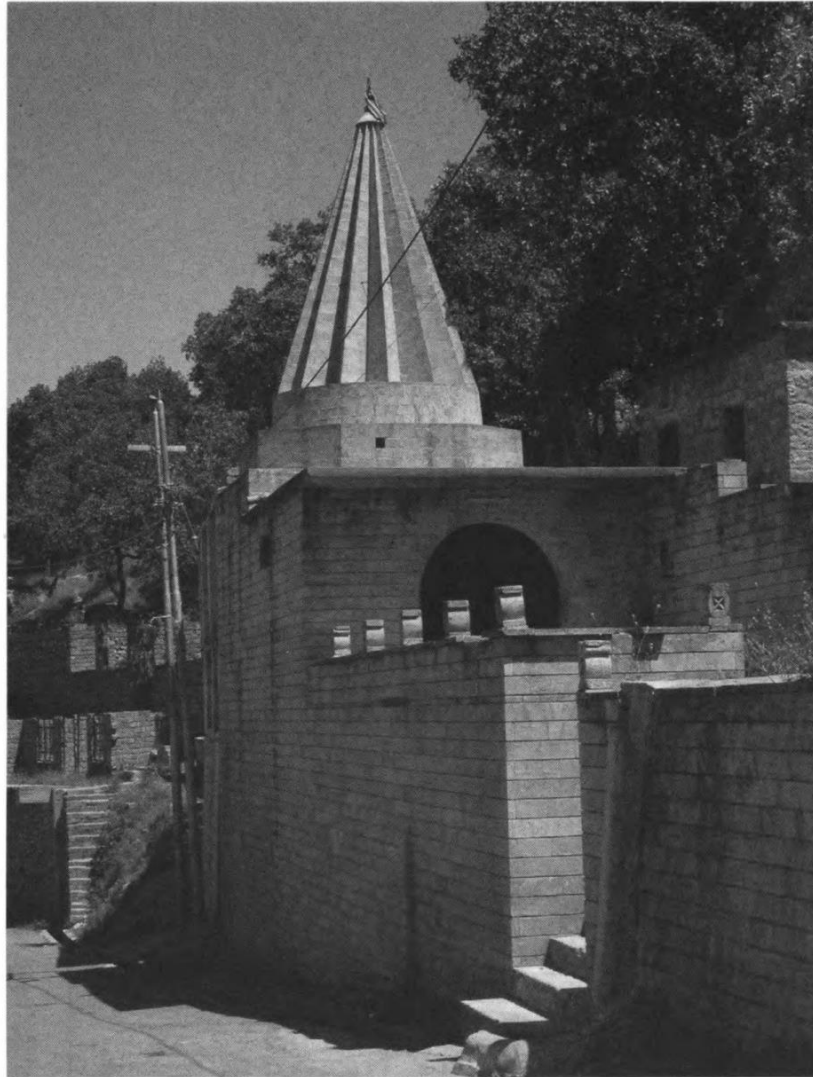
On side of arch, Shaikh Shems.

Decorative ornament at Shaikh 'Adi.

Drower 1941 (year?): :162

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



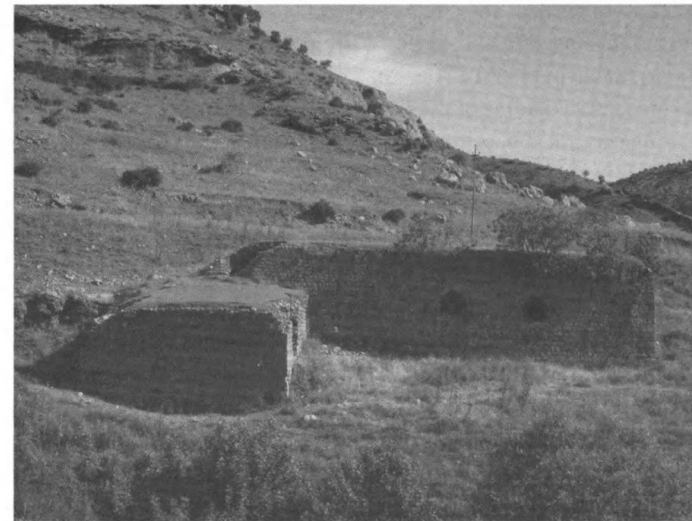
37 General view of the mausoleum of Sheikh Mushelleh, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:119



36 Bridge of Silat, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:118



35 Caravansérai of Khana Êzi, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:117

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary

Açıkyıldız 2010:179



64 Decorated door of the baptistery of Kaniya Spi, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:181, Figure 25

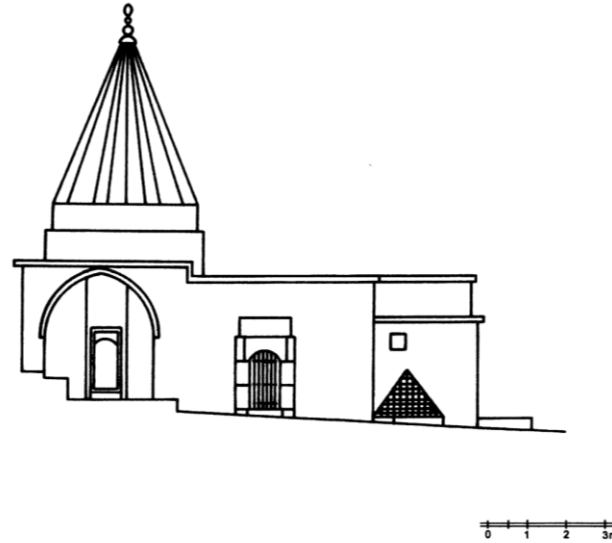


Fig. 25 Façade of the Baptistery of Kaniya Spi, Lalish



63 Northern façade of the baptistery of Kaniya Spi, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:180, Figure 24

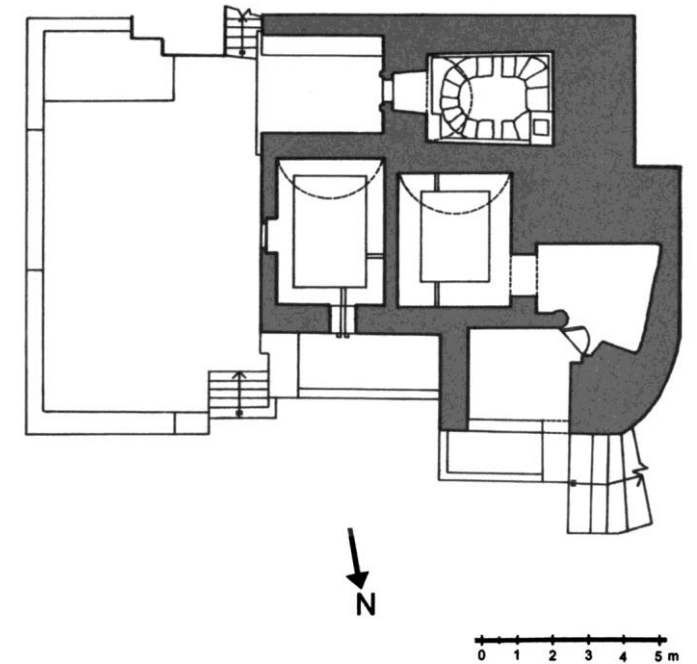


Fig. 24 Plan of the baptistery of Kaniya Spi, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:178

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary

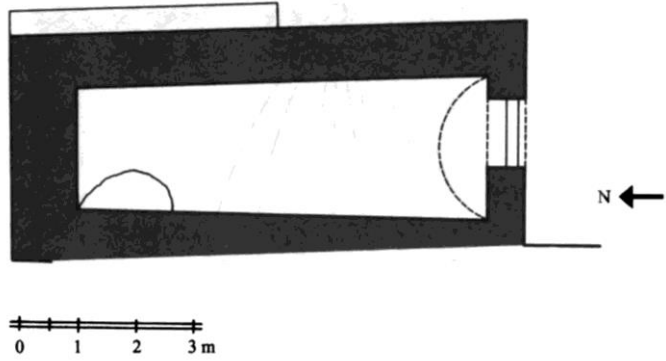


Fig. 7 Plan of the mausoleum of Pir Cerwan, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:150, Figure 7

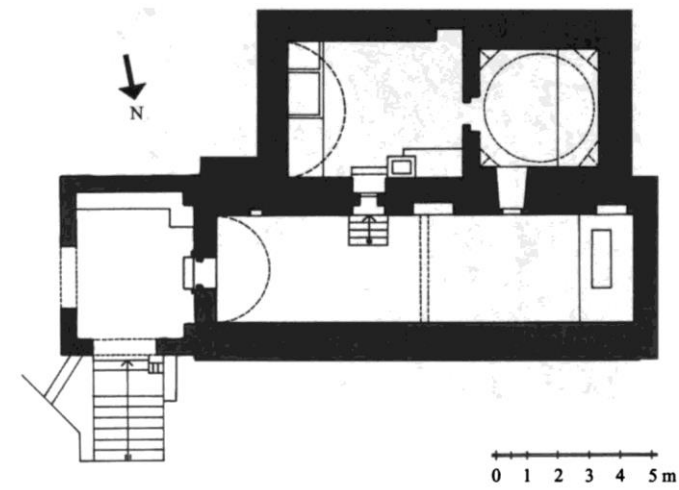
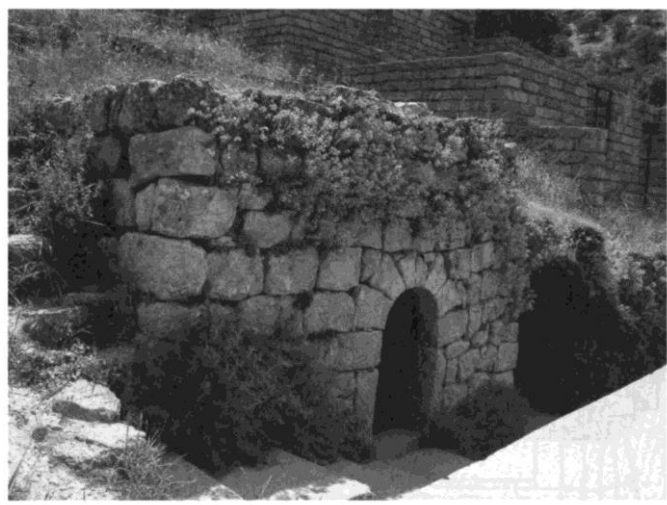


Fig. 17 Plan of the mausoleum of Sheikh Shams, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:165, Figure 17



65 Façade of entrance of the cave of Pir Hemedi Boz, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:182



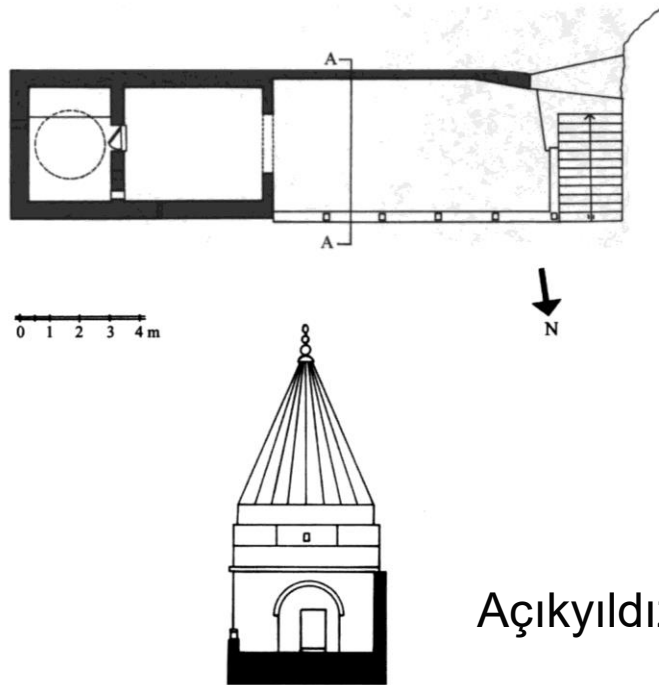
56 Conic dome of the mausoleum of Sheikh Shams, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:166



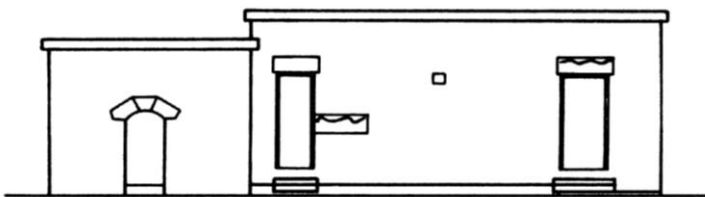
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



Açıkyıldız 2010:157, Figure 11

Fig. 11 Plan and section of the mausoleum of Sheikh Mushelleh, Lalish



Açıkyıldız 2010:160, Figure 12

Fig. 12 Façades of the mausoleum of Pir Sin and Qadi Bilban, Lalish



53 General view of the mausoleum of Alü Bekir, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:156

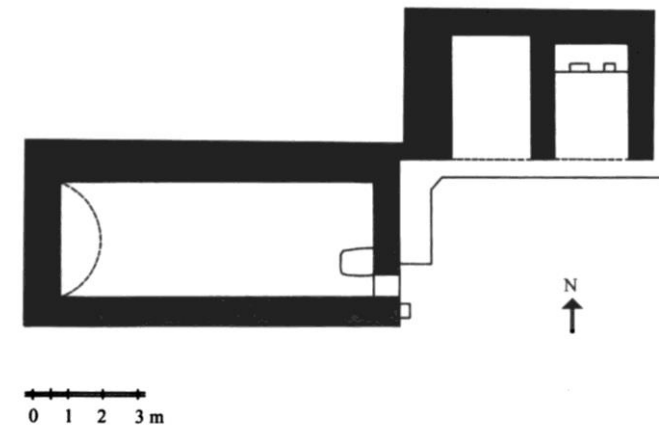
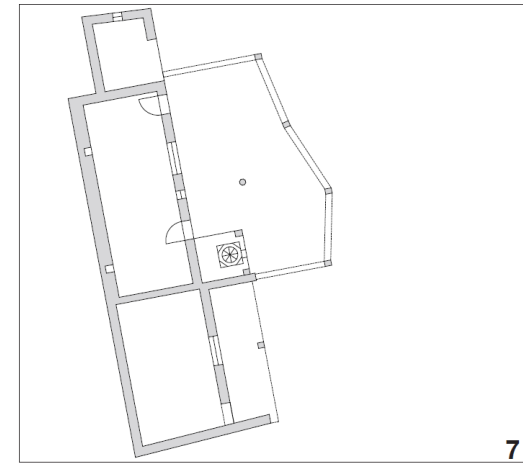
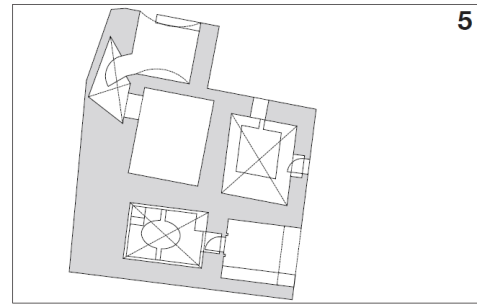
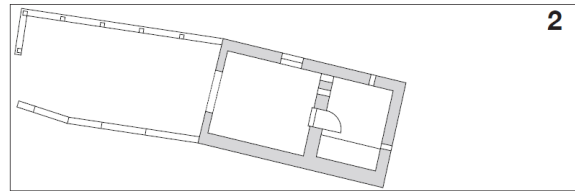


Fig. 9 Plan of the mausoleum of Alü Bekir, Lalish

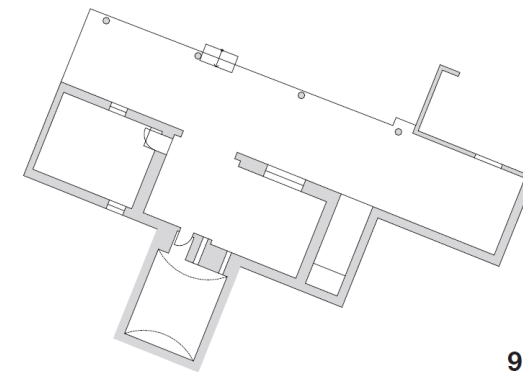
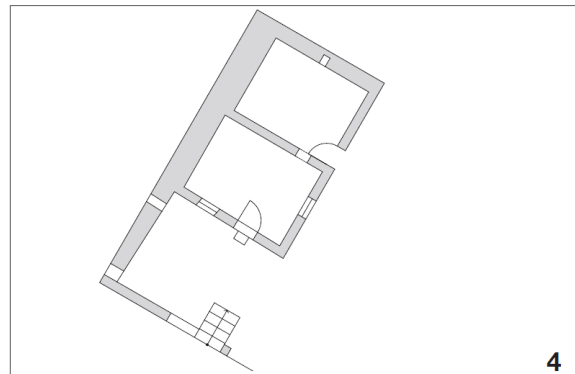
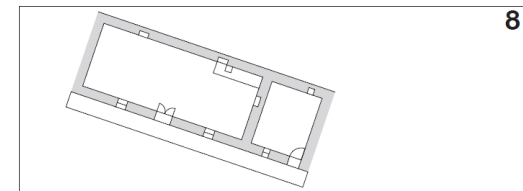
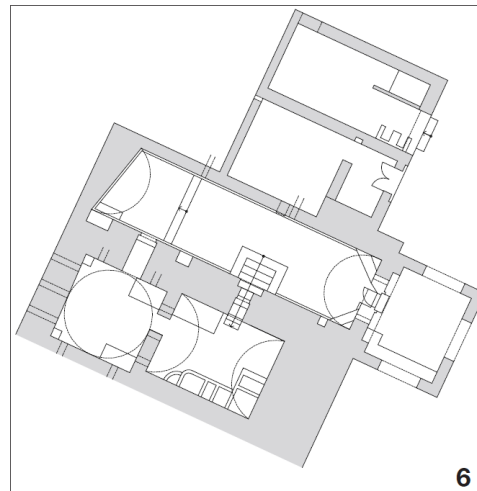
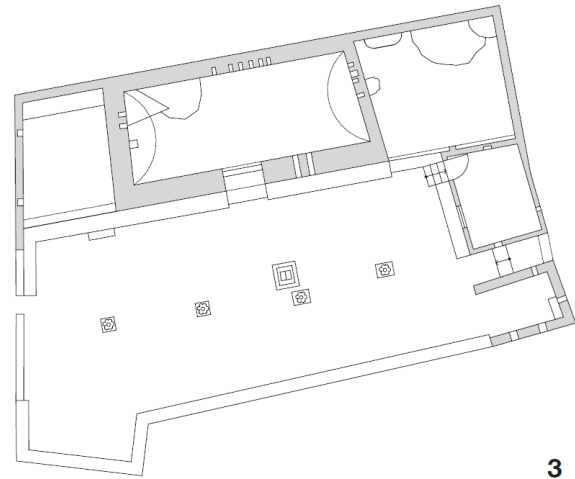
Açıkyıldız 2010:154, Figure 9

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



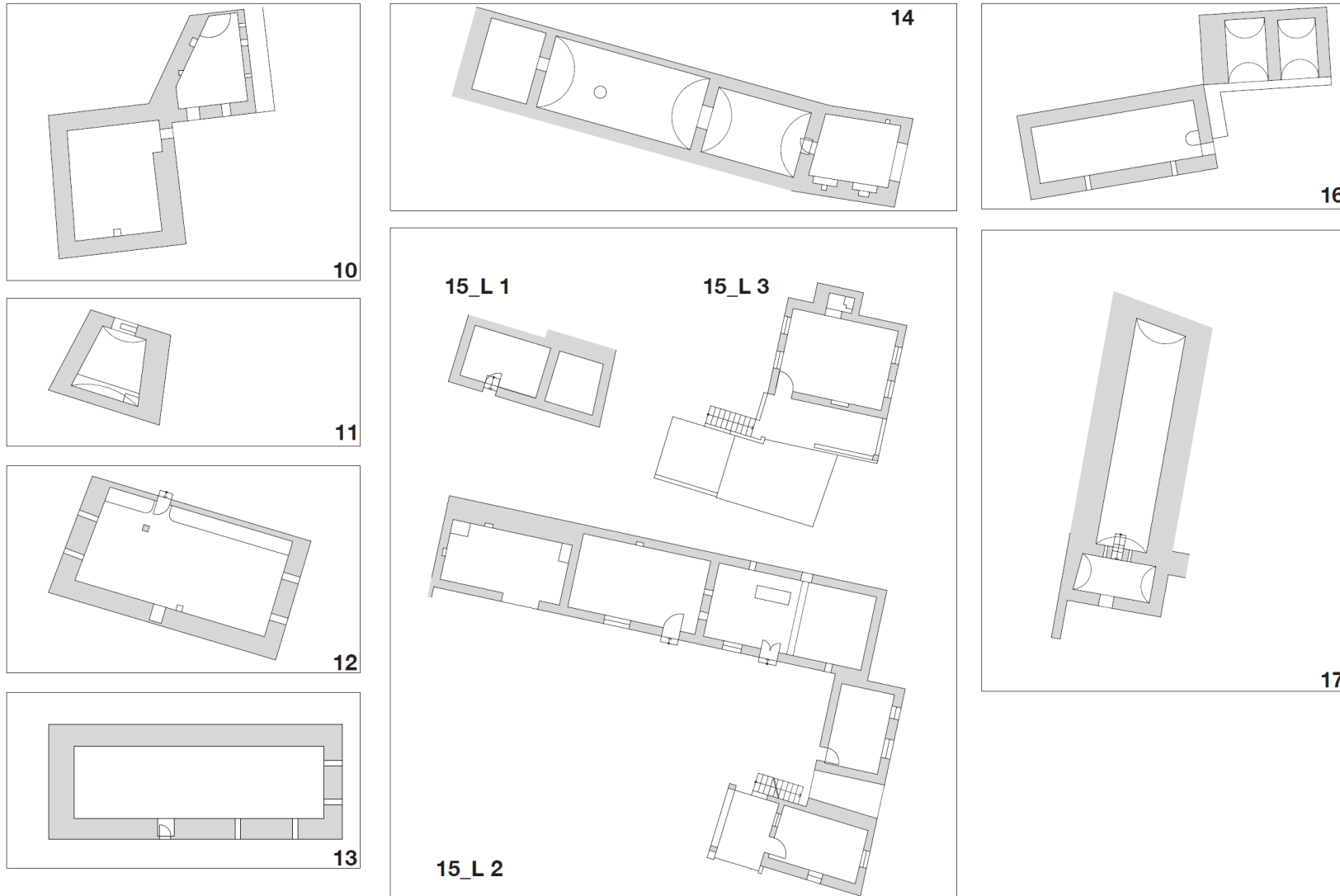
35



Vössing 2011b:35

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



Khaana Ezid

Vössing 2011b:9

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



General view of Khaana Ezid, 2011 – On the access to the valley leading to Lalish there is the Khaana Ezid. It is a strategically important place. The ensemble features a well-fortified character, the genuine structure shows just a few accesses to the interior.



Khaana Ezid interior, 2011 – The interior is dominated by parallel vaults. The masonry shows in small reference surfaces a homogeneous plasterwork on walls and ceilings.

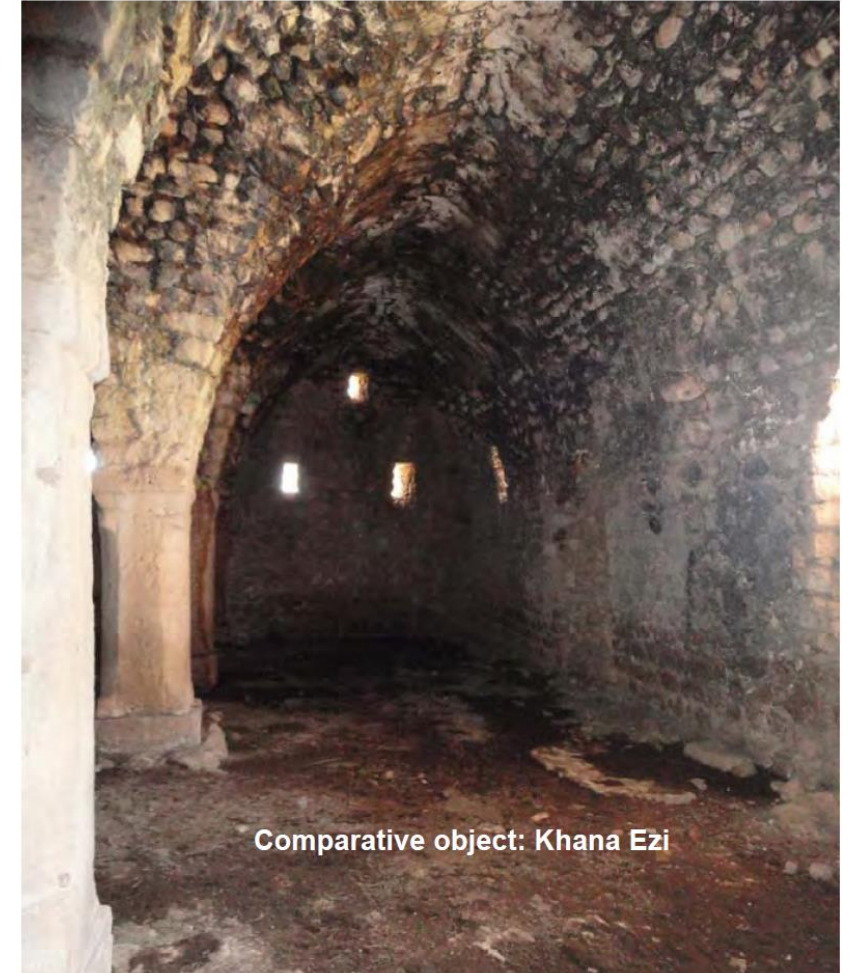


Khaana Ezid interior, 2011 – In the northern part of the building there is a two-span hall, similar to the chambers of the Yazidi temple complex. The vaults rest on lime stone centre piers.

Vössing 2011a:15

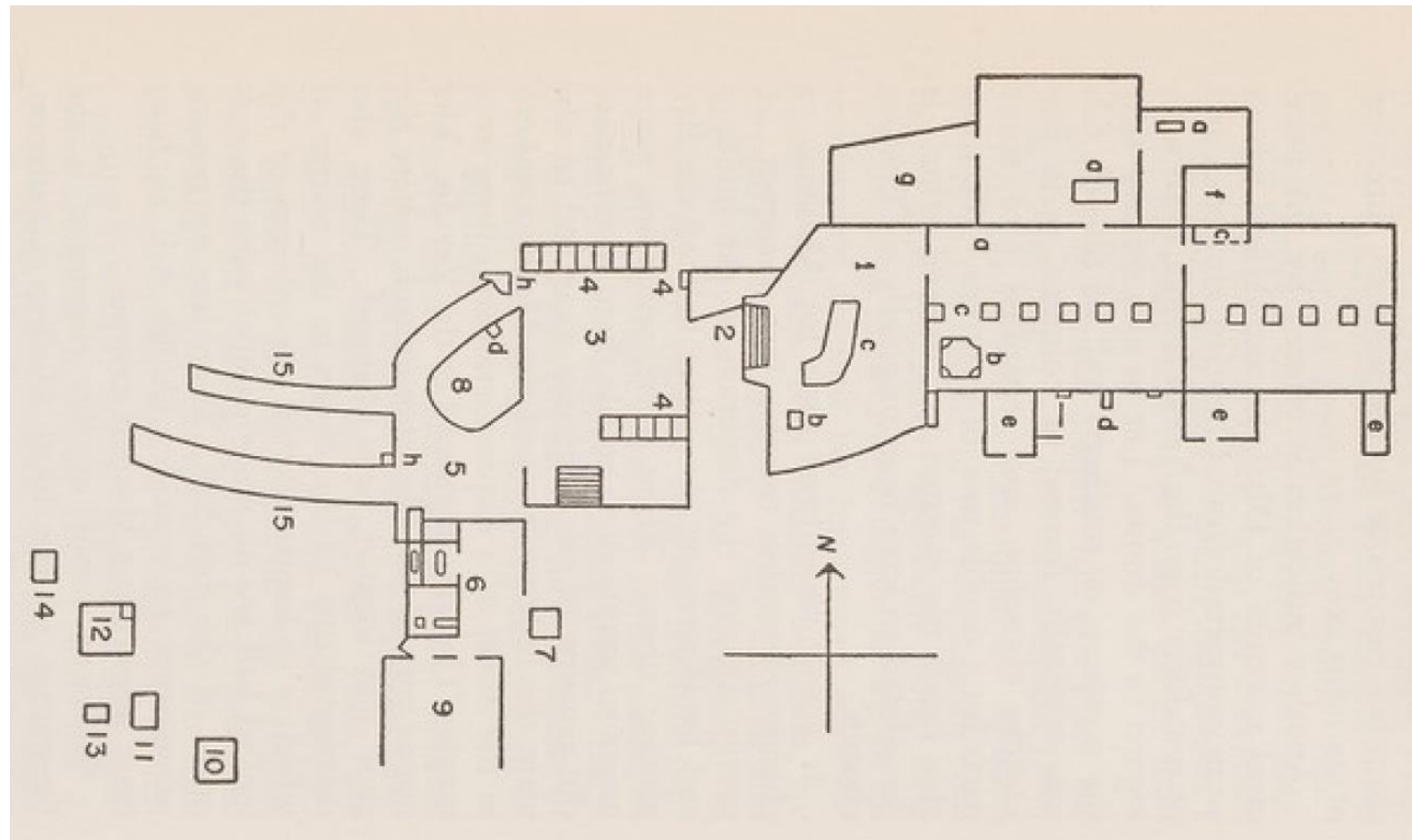
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 1. Location\_ Buildings around the Sanctuary



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



Berezin 1951(1843):Figure 5

- 1) Second entrance of the temple.
- 2) Passage from the first court to the second court.
- 3) The first court of the temple.
- 4) Open rooms.
- 5) Common yard.
- 6) The buildings with five basins and a small dome.
- 7) Small building with a sepulcher.
- 8) Building with a locked door.
- 9) Building with sepulcher and a locked door.
- 10) Building with a sepulcher and niches on the sides of the door.
- 11) Building with a cave, the entrance to which is through a window.
- 12) Building with a large dome.
- 13) Building with a locked door.
- 14) Building with a white door and fireplace.
- 15) Subterranean passage and
  - a) sepulcher;
  - b) basin;
  - c) platform;
  - d) fire niche;
  - e) dwelling;
  - f) cave;
  - g) passage;
  - b) fire column.

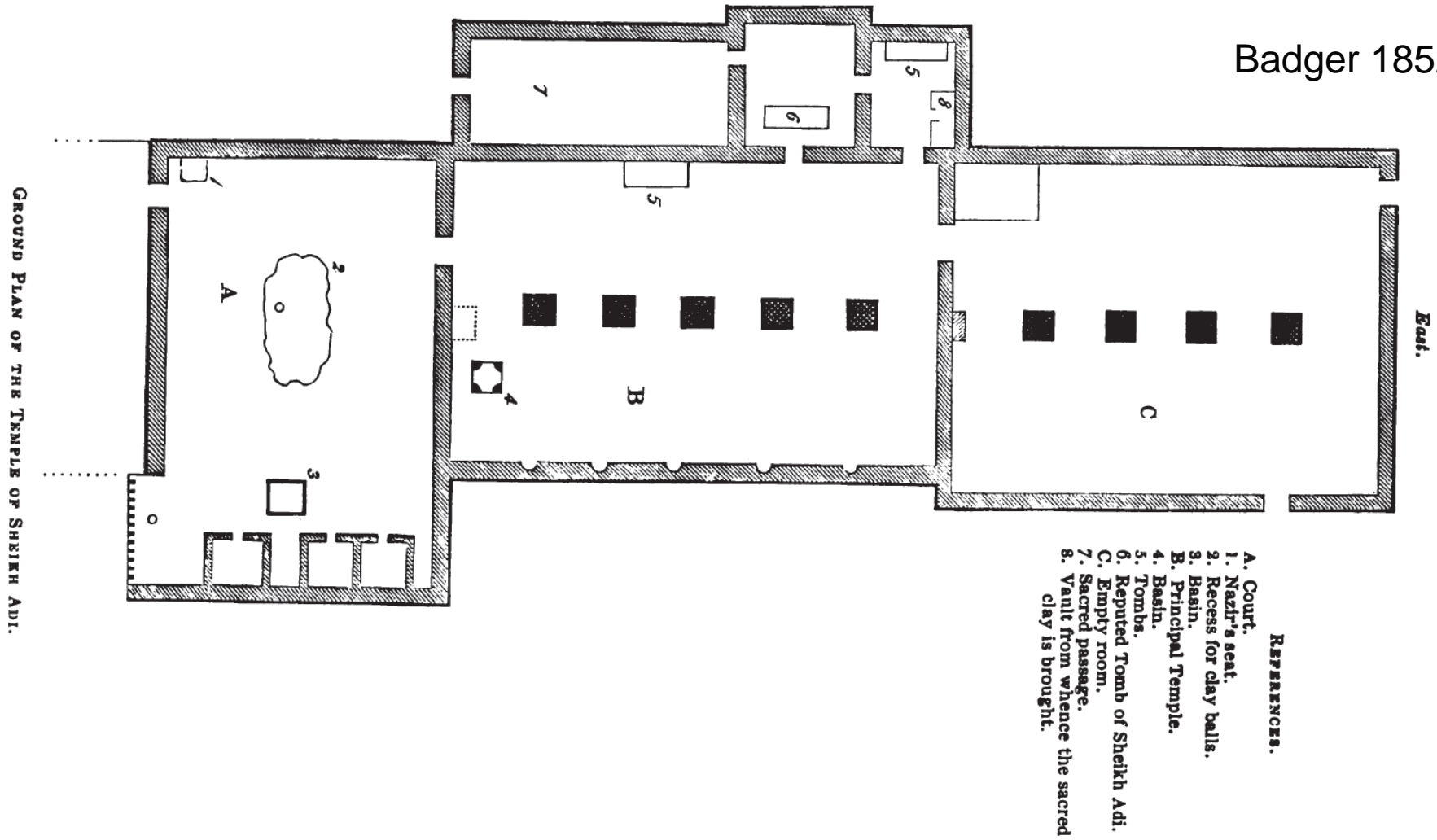
FIG. 5. Plan of Sheikh Adi temple area. (After Berezin, 1854.)



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

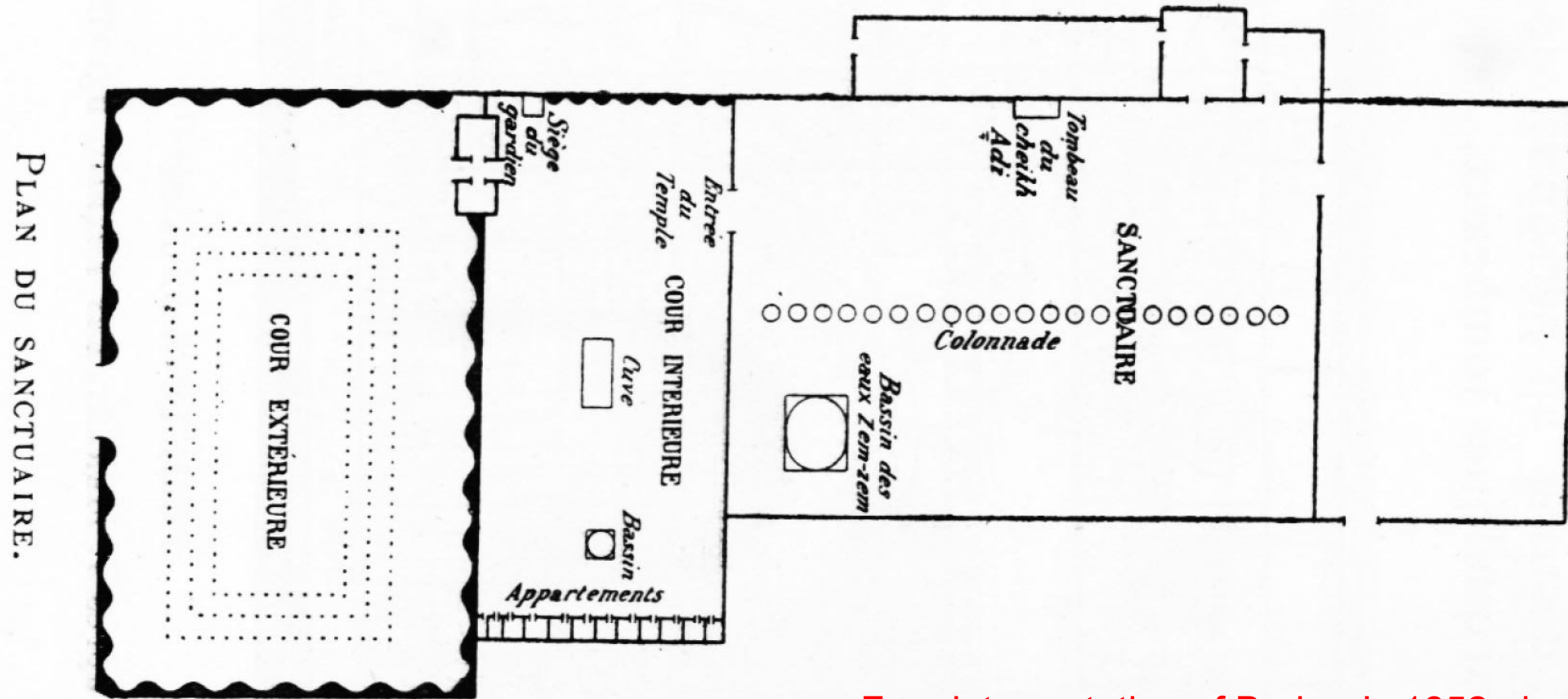
Badger 1852 (1844): I, (108f)



Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

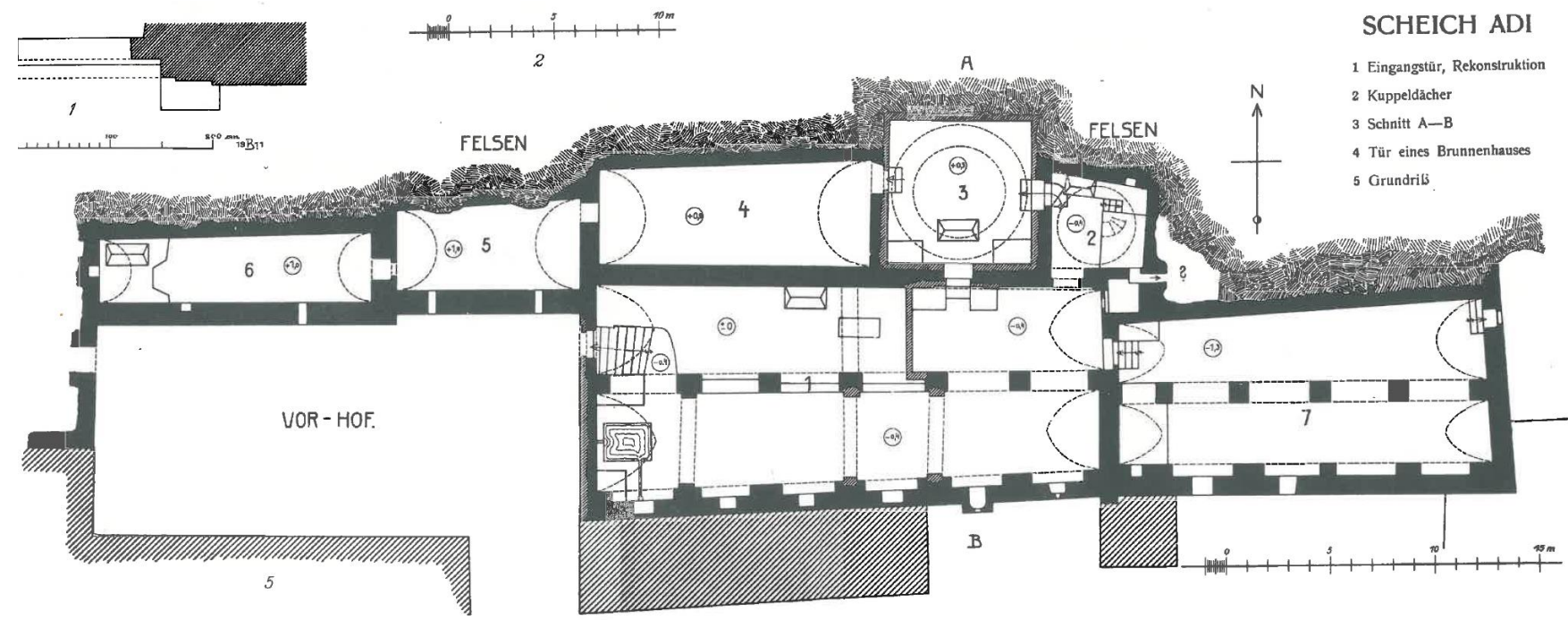
Guérionot 1908:611



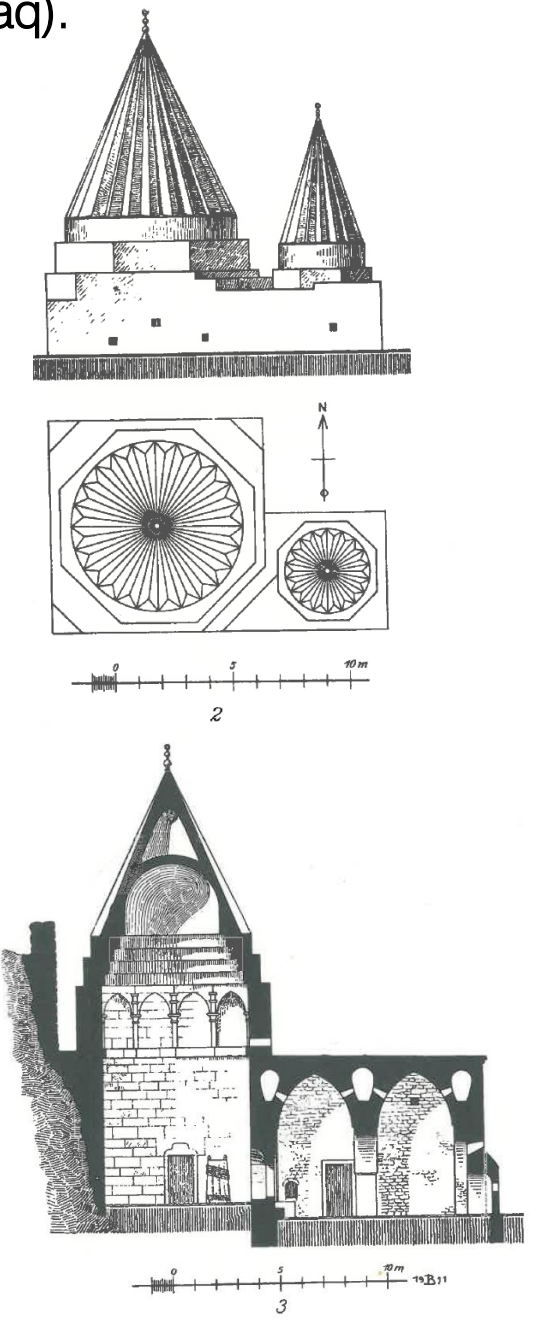
Free interpretation of Badger's 1852 plan?

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



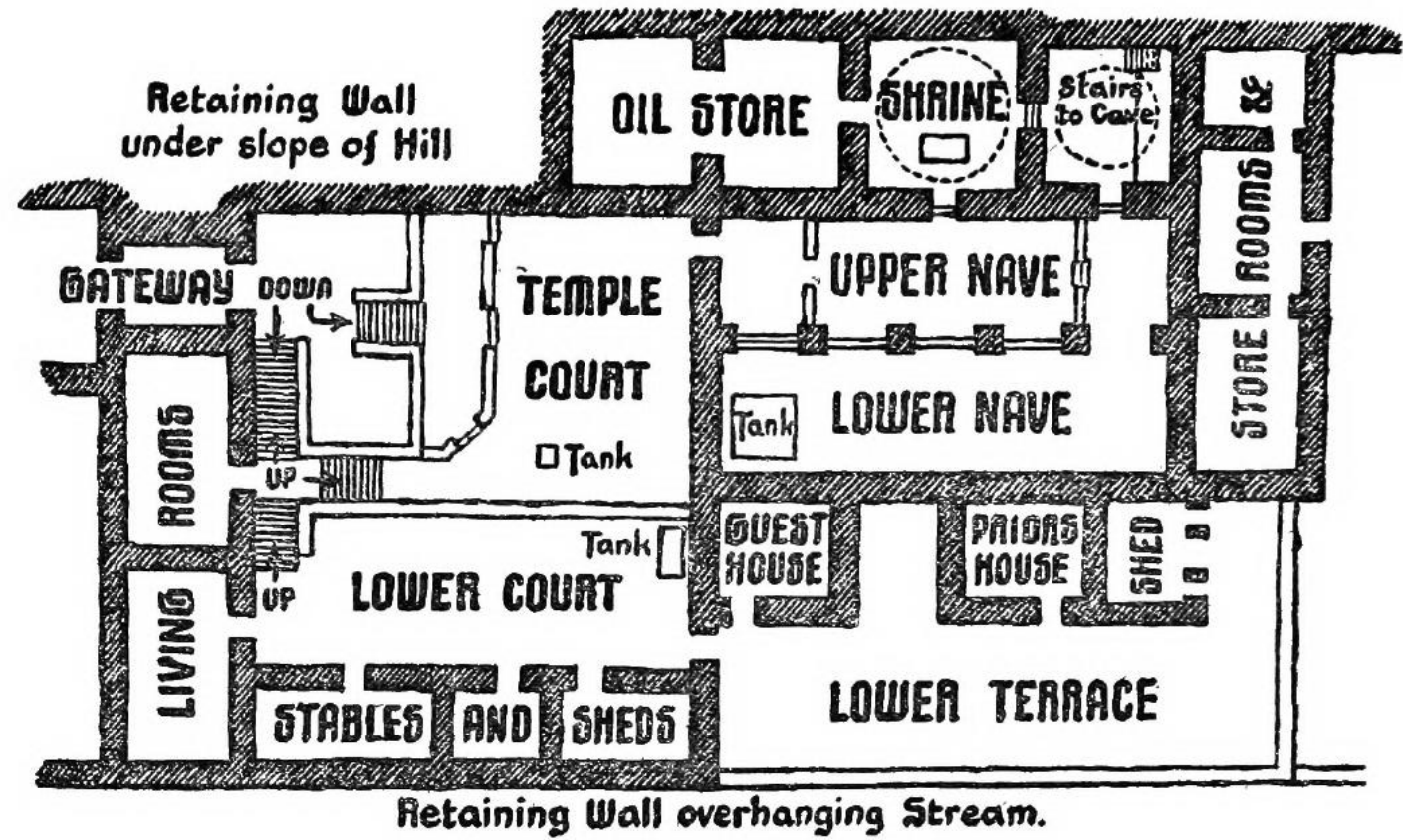
- SCHEICH ADI**
- 1 Eingangstür, Rekonstruktion
  - 2 Kuppeldächer
  - 3 Schnitt A—B
  - 4 Tür eines Brunnenhauses
  - 5 Grundriß



Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 15

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



Wigram 1914 (1907?):95

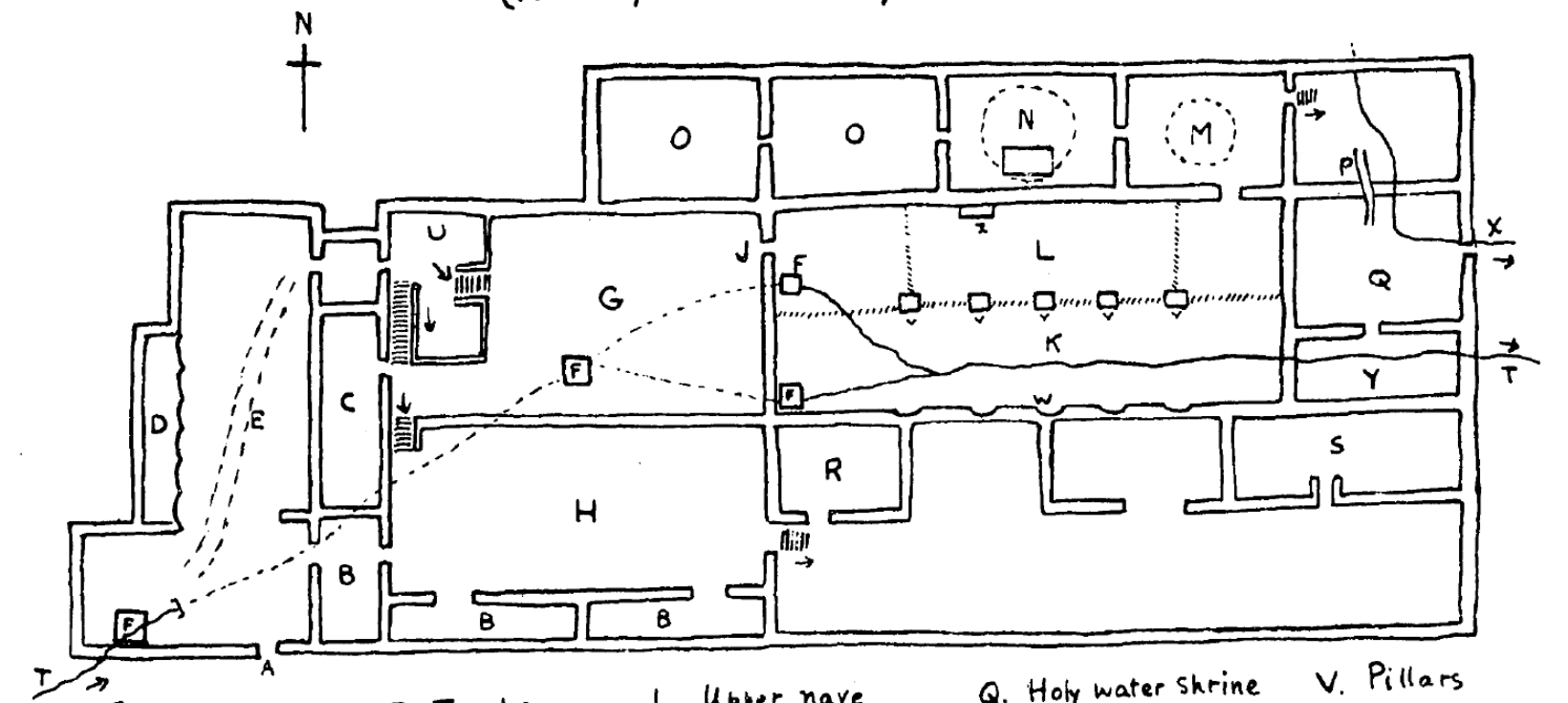
**THE YEZIDI TEMPLE AT SHEIKH ADI**

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

THE TEMPLE AT SHEIKH 'ADI.  
(Partially reconstructed.)

Empson 1928:(124f)

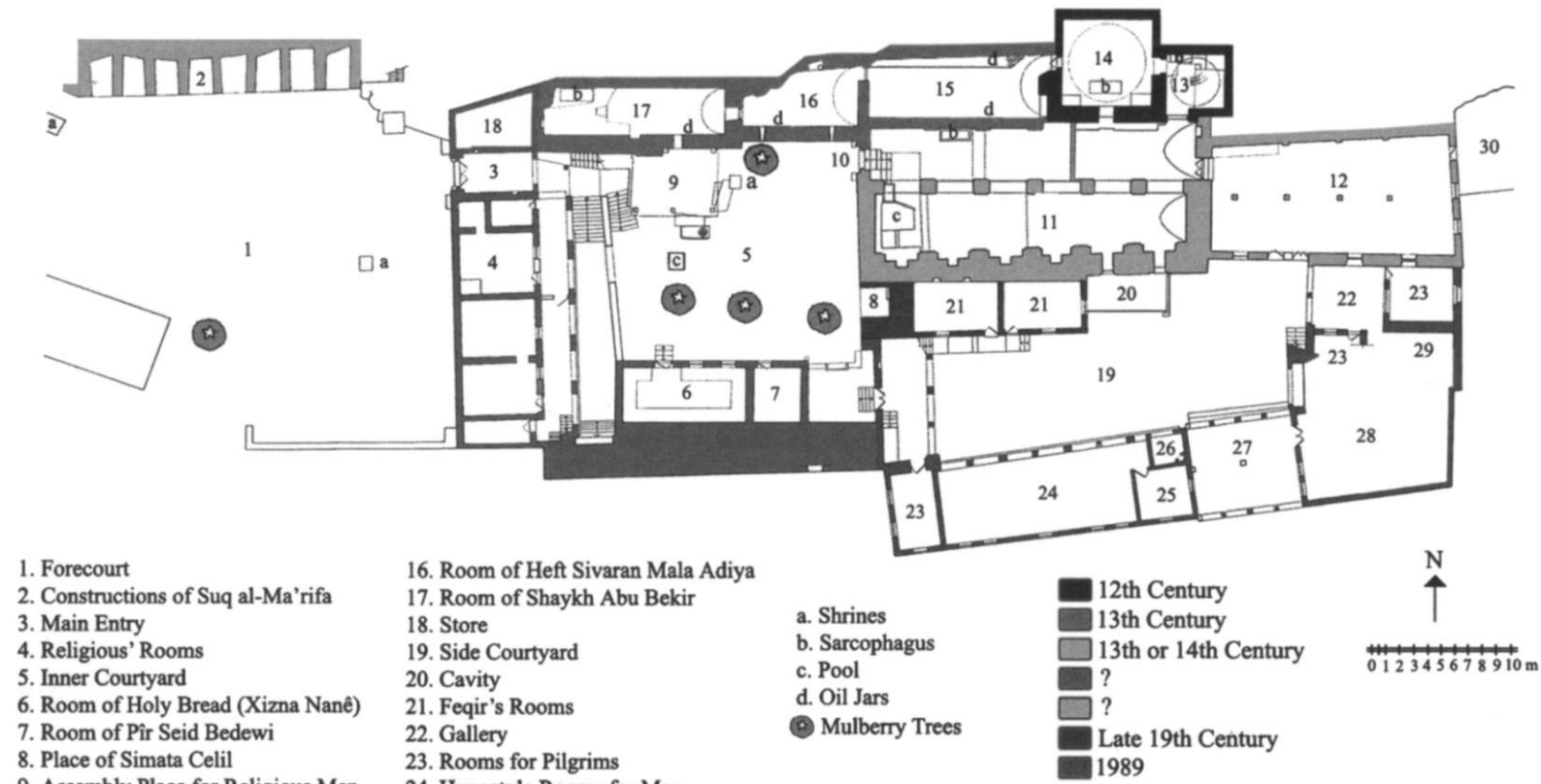


- |                       |                |                       |                      |                    |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| A. Pilgrim's entrance | F. Tanks       | L. Upper nave         | Q. Holy water shrine | V. Pillars         |
| B. Stables            | G. Inner Court | M. Shrine             | R. Guest room        | W. Lighted niche   |
| C. Servants kitchen   | H. Outer Court | N. Tomb of Sheikh Adi | S. Wood store        | X. Sacred stream   |
| D. Bazaar             | J. Temple door | O. Oil store          | T. Stream            | Y. Clay ball store |
| E. Covered way        | K. Lower nave  | P. Tunnel             | U. Covered terrace.  | Z. Rude altar      |

NOTE. The underground portion of the stream is shown by a dotted line. A part of the S.W. outer wall is merely a rubble heap.

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

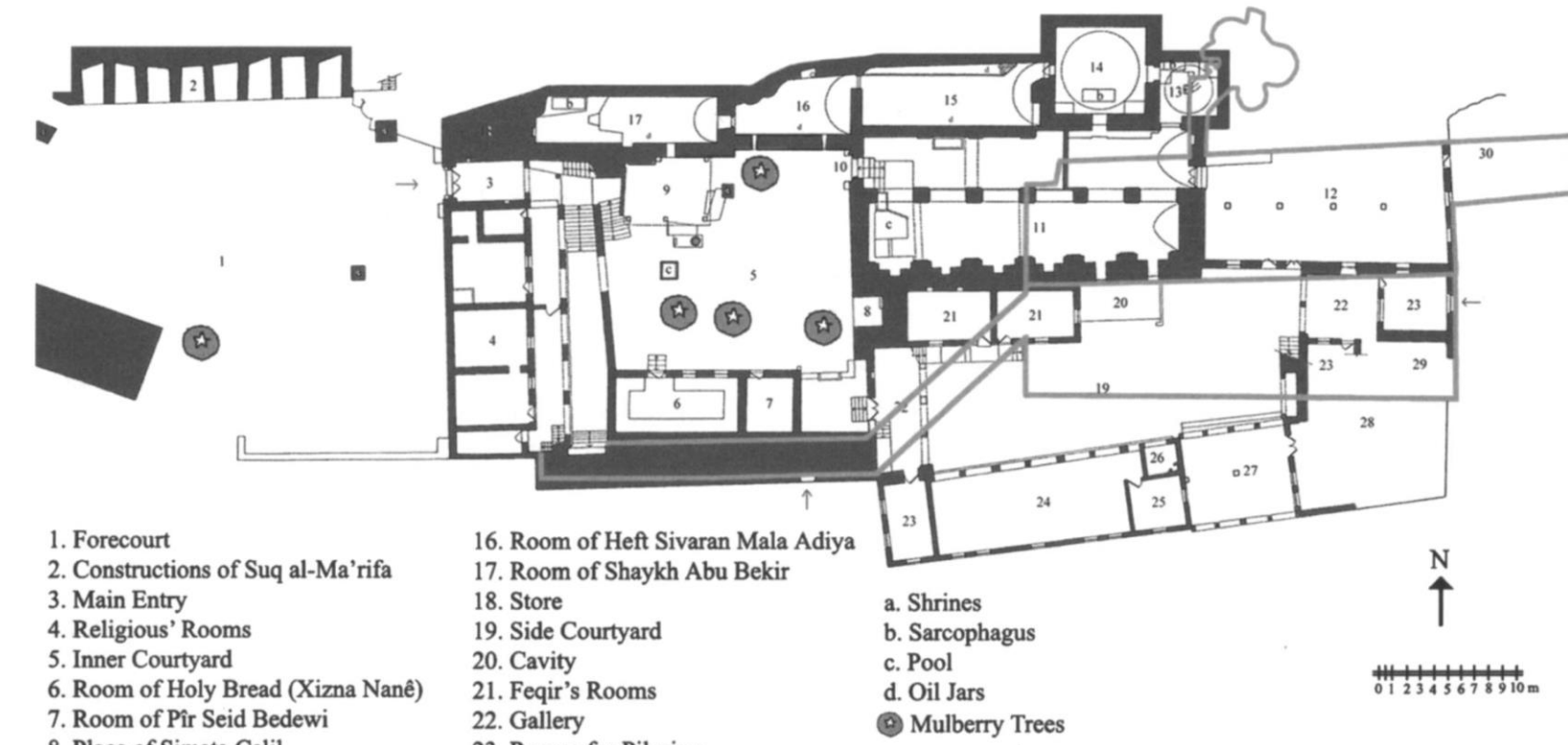


Açıkyıldız 2009:Figure 4

Figure 4. Ground floor plan of the sanctuary of Shaykh 'Adi

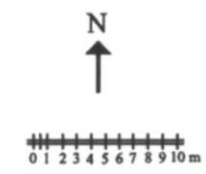
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



- 1. Forecourt
- 2. Constructions of Suq al-Ma'rifa
- 3. Main Entry
- 4. Religious' Rooms
- 5. Inner Courtyard
- 6. Room of Holy Bread (Xizna Nanê)
- 7. Room of Pîr Seid Bedewi
- 8. Place of Simata Celil
- 9. Assembly Place for Religious Men
- 10. Portal of Derîyê Kapî
- 11. Assembly Hall
- 12. Hall of Sharaf al-Din
- 13. Mausoleum of Shaykh Hasan
- 14. Mausoleum of Shaykh 'Adi
- 15. Room of Hasin Dina
- 16. Room of Heft Sivaran Mala Adiya
- 17. Room of Shaykh Abu Bekir
- 18. Store
- 19. Side Courtyard
- 20. Cavity
- 21. Feqir's Rooms
- 22. Gallery
- 23. Rooms for Pilgrims
- 24. Hypostyle Rooms for Men
- 25. Shaykh's Room
- 26. Chaykhane
- 27. Hypostyle Room for Women
- 28. Kitchen
- 29. Conv
- 30. Terrace

- a. Shrines
- b. Sarcophagus
- c. Pool
- d. Oil Jars
- ☉ Mulberry Trees



Açıkyıldız 2009:Figure 6

Figure 5. Ground floor and basement of the sanctuary of Shaykh 'Adi

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

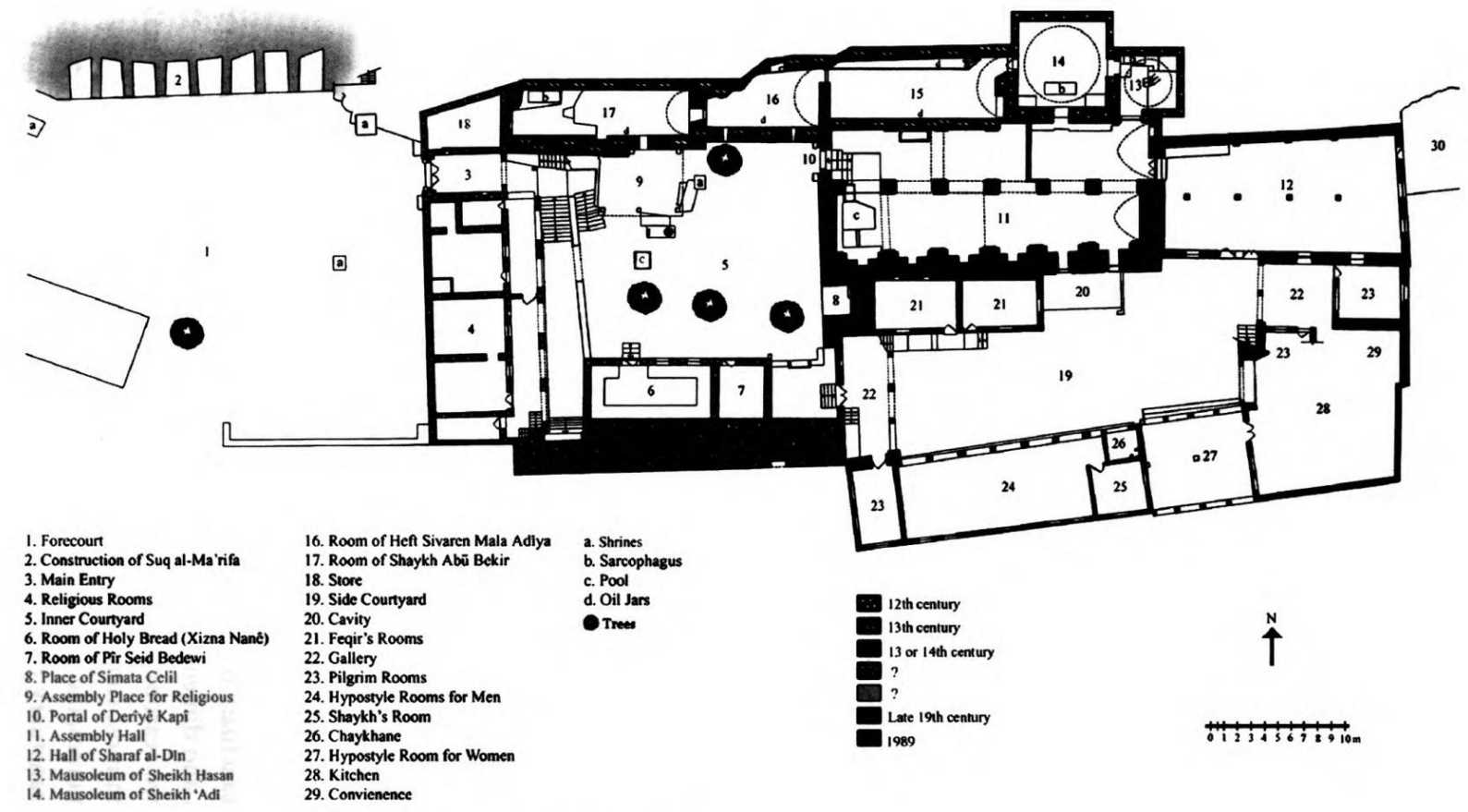


Fig. 2 Sanctuary of Sheikh 'Adi, plan of the ground floor, Lalish



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

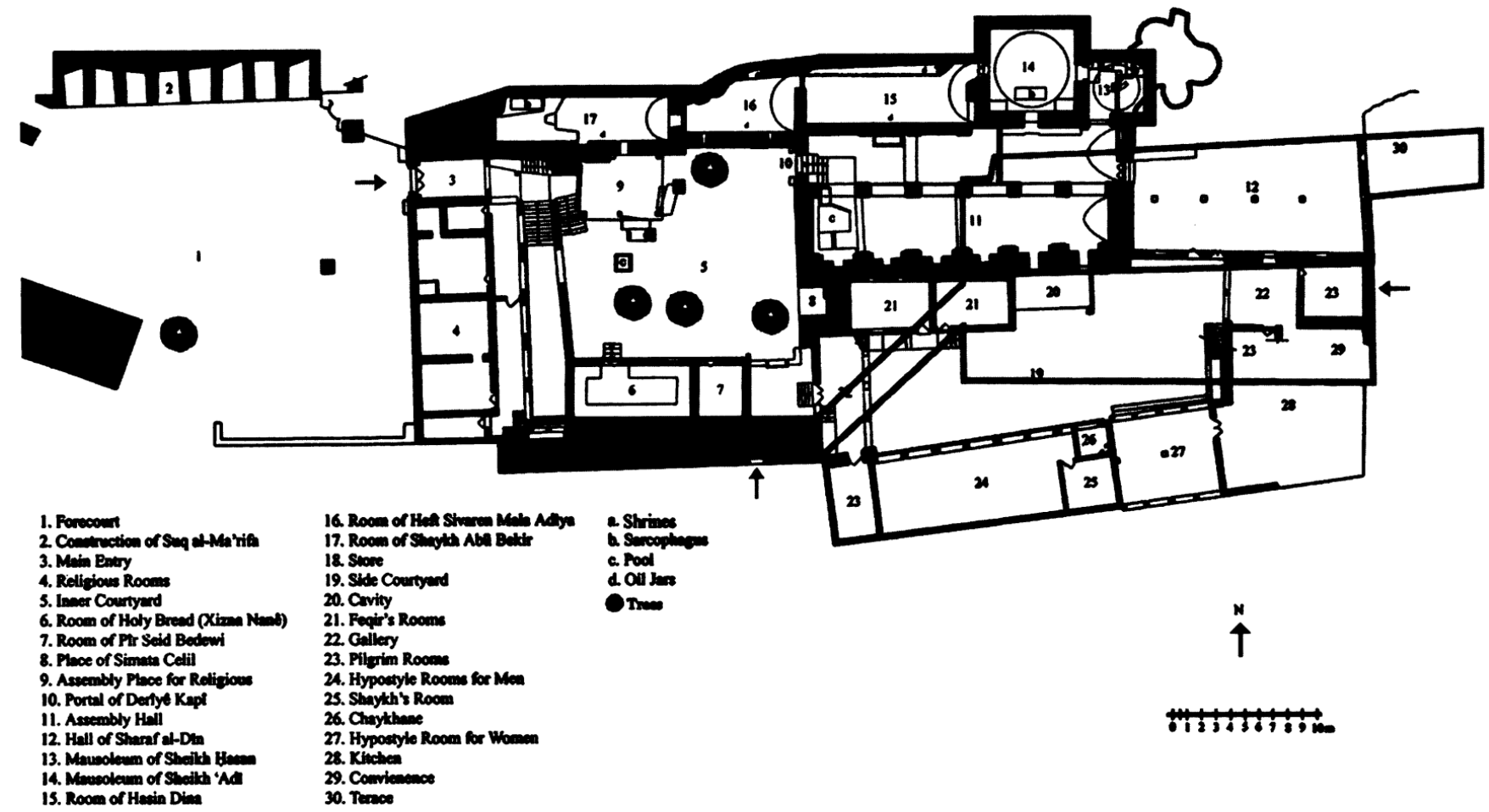


Fig. 3 Sanctuary of Sheikh 'Adi, plan of the ground floor and basement, Lalish

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

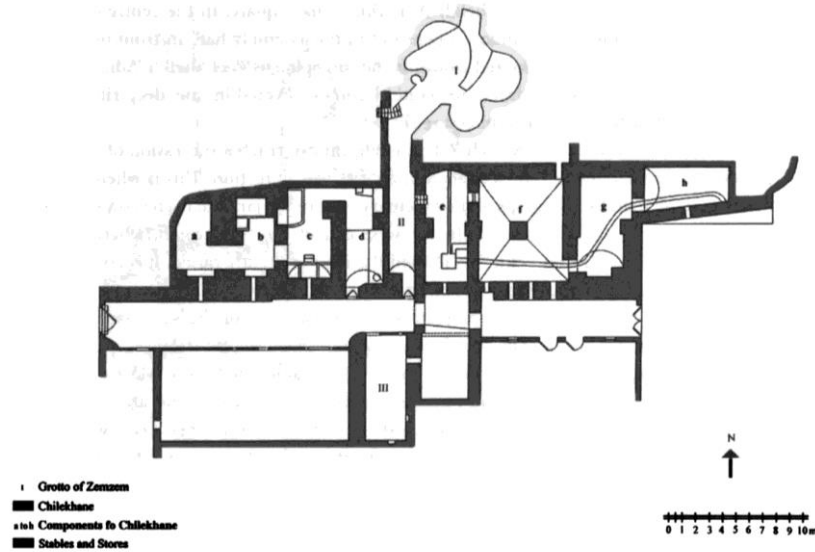
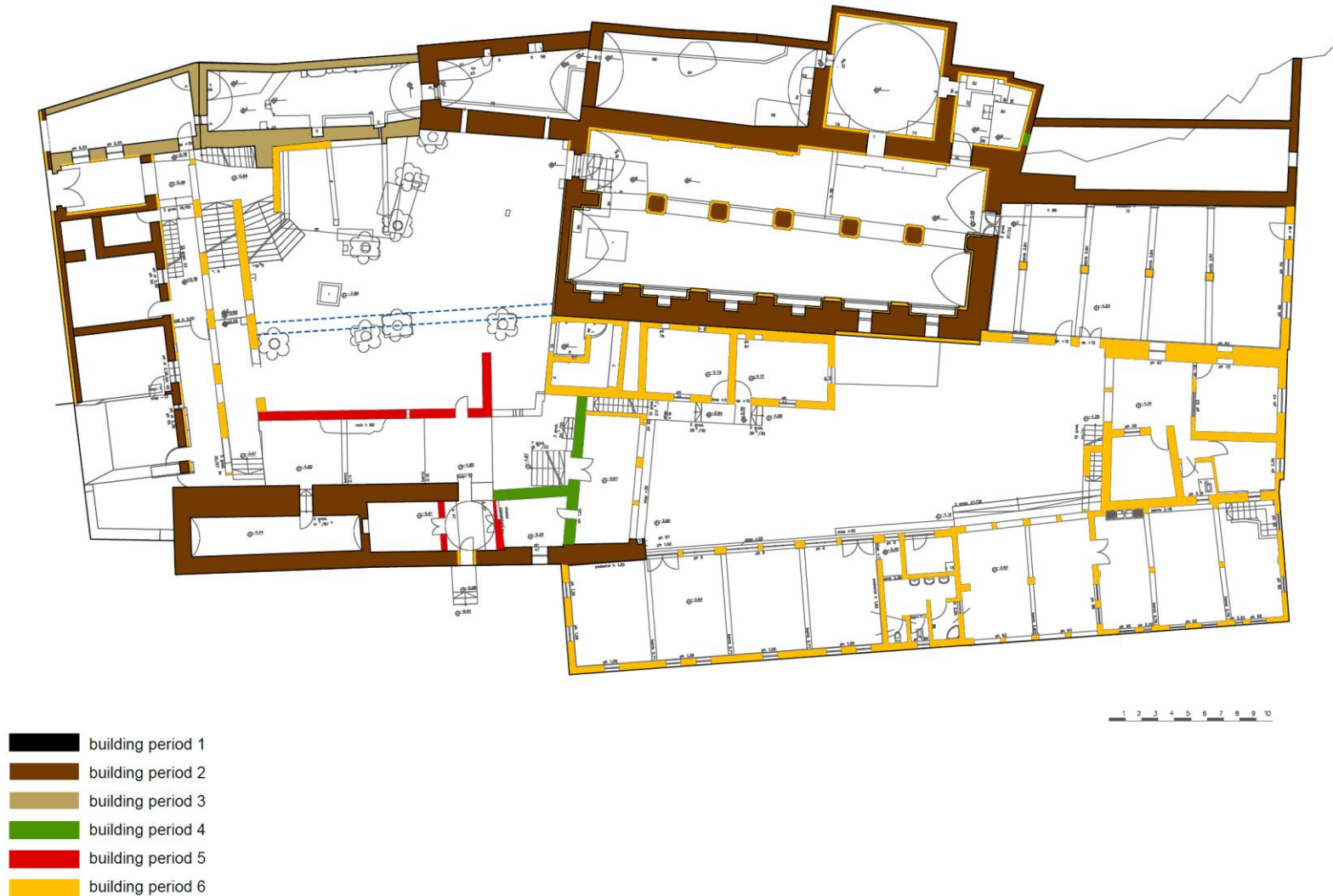


Fig. 4 Sanctuary of Sheikh 'Adi, plan of the basement, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:140, Figure 4

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

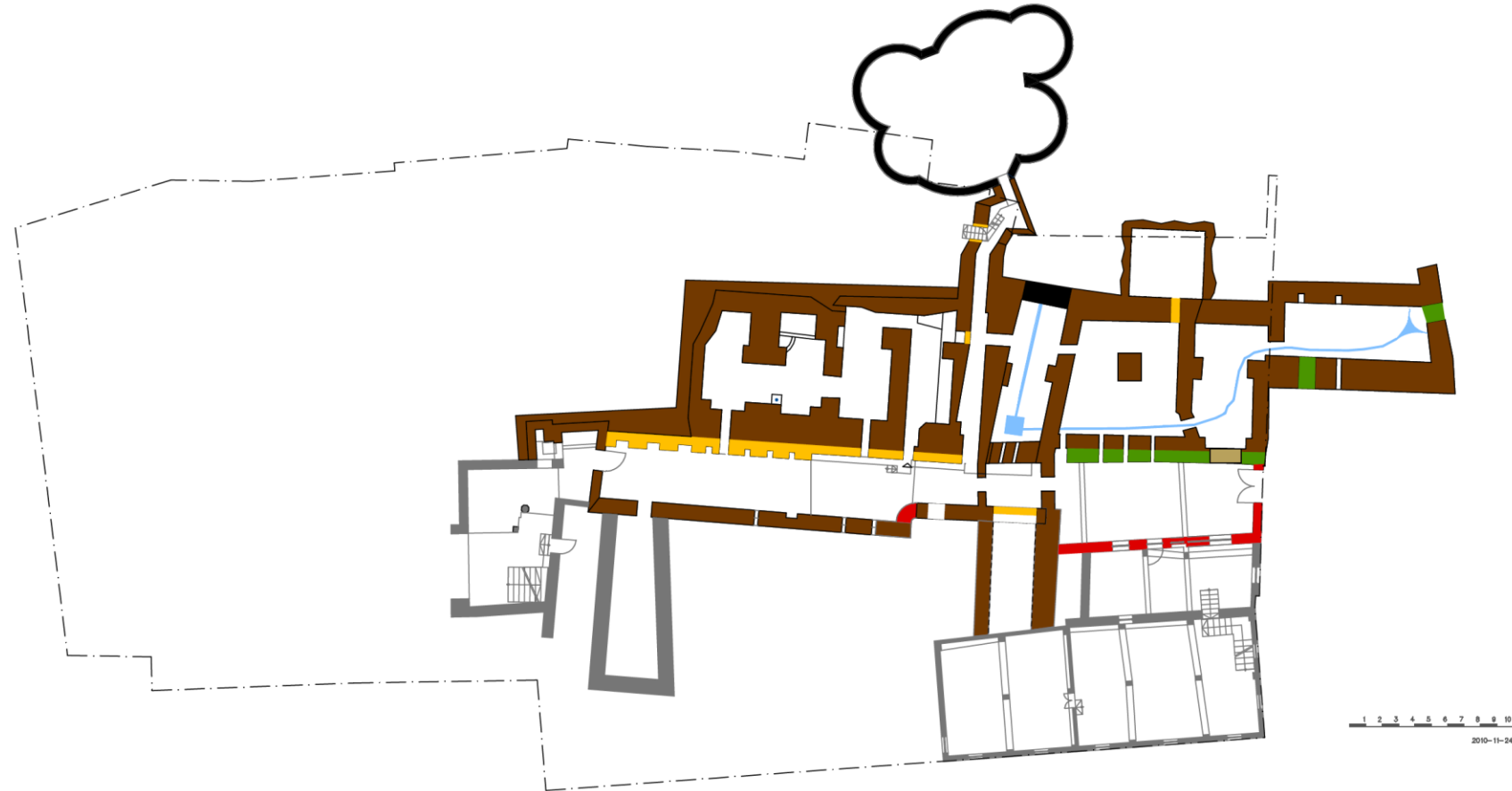
## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



Vössing 2011a:38

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans



- building period 1
- building period 2
- building period 3
- building period 4
- building period 5
- building period 6

Vössing 2011a:39








# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

### 4.2 Surfaces

The surfaces of the facades have been examined. Singular findings and building structures have been localized and documented.

#### 4.2.1 Assessment of surfaces

-  Building joints, old building edge
-  Edge, bossing
-  Smoothed stone
-  Stone decorated with ornaments
-  Ornament
-  Old grouting
-  Gypsum mortar



Tomb of Sheikh Adi – southern facade – scale 1:100

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

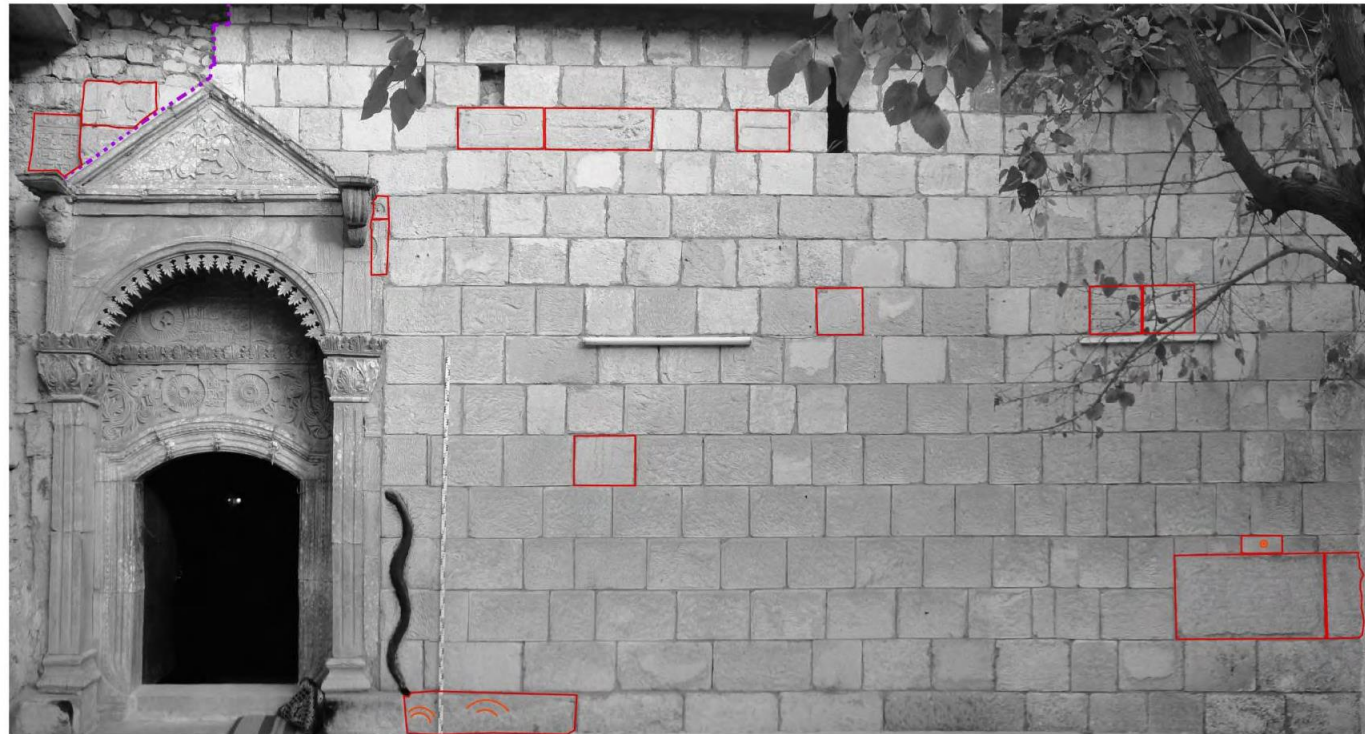
## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans










Forecourt – western facade – scale 1:100

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans










-  Building joints, old building edge
-  Edge, bossing
-  Smoothed stone
-  Stone decorated with ornaments
-  Ornament
-  Old grouting
-  Gypsum mortar

Room 4.209 – western facade – scale 1:100

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

-  Building joints, old building edge
-  Edge, bossing
-  Smoothed stone
-  Stone decorated with ornaments
-  Ornament
-  Old grouting
-  Gypsum mortar



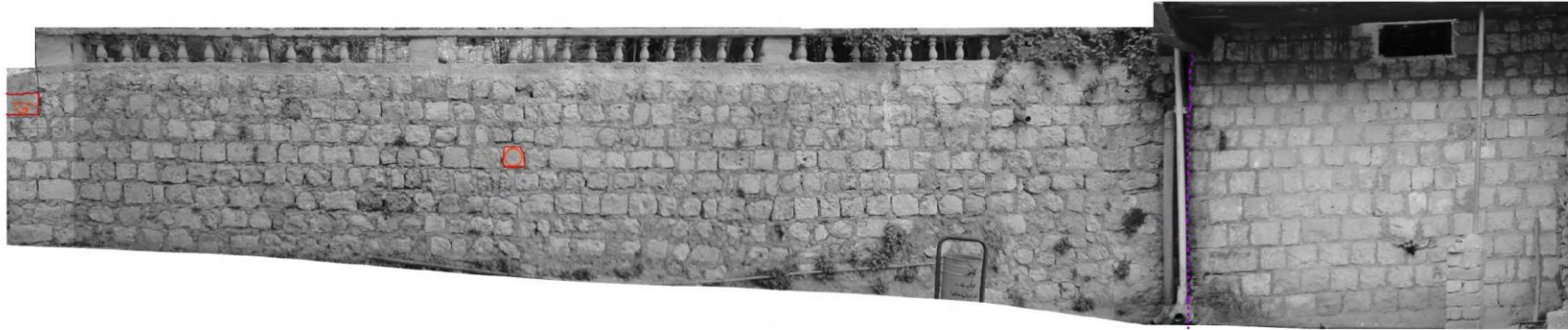
Room 4.209 – northern facade – scale 1:100



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).








## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Groundplans

Outer wall – southern façade – scale 1:100



Outer wall – southern façade – without scale

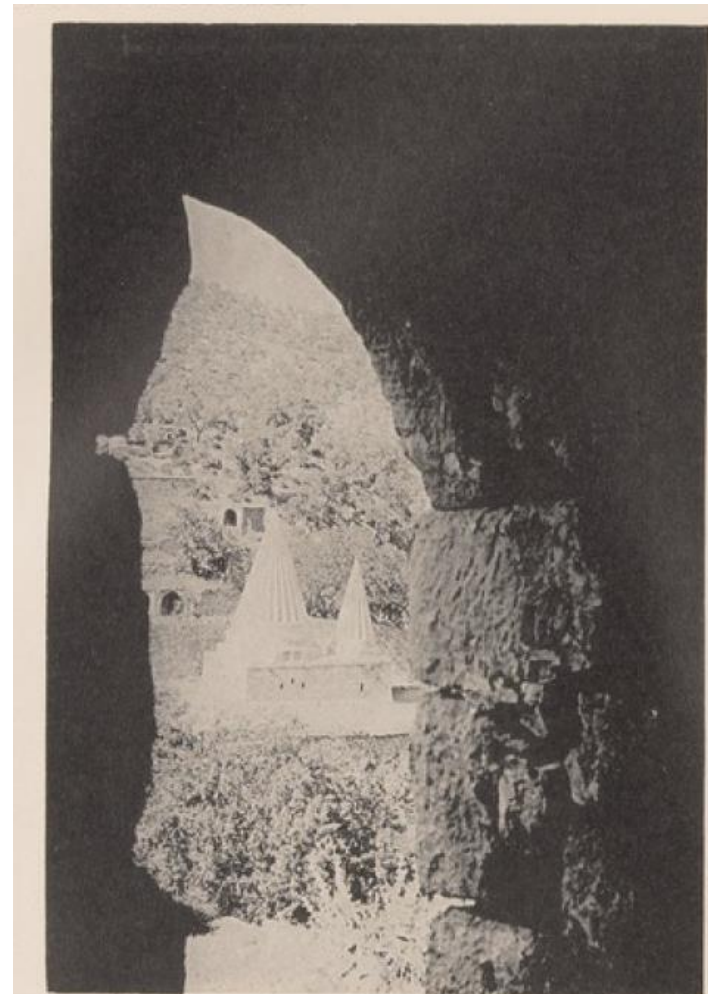


-  Building joints, old building edge
-  Edge, bossing
-  Smoothed stone
-  Stone decorated with ornaments
-  Ornament
-  Old grouting
-  Gypsum mortar

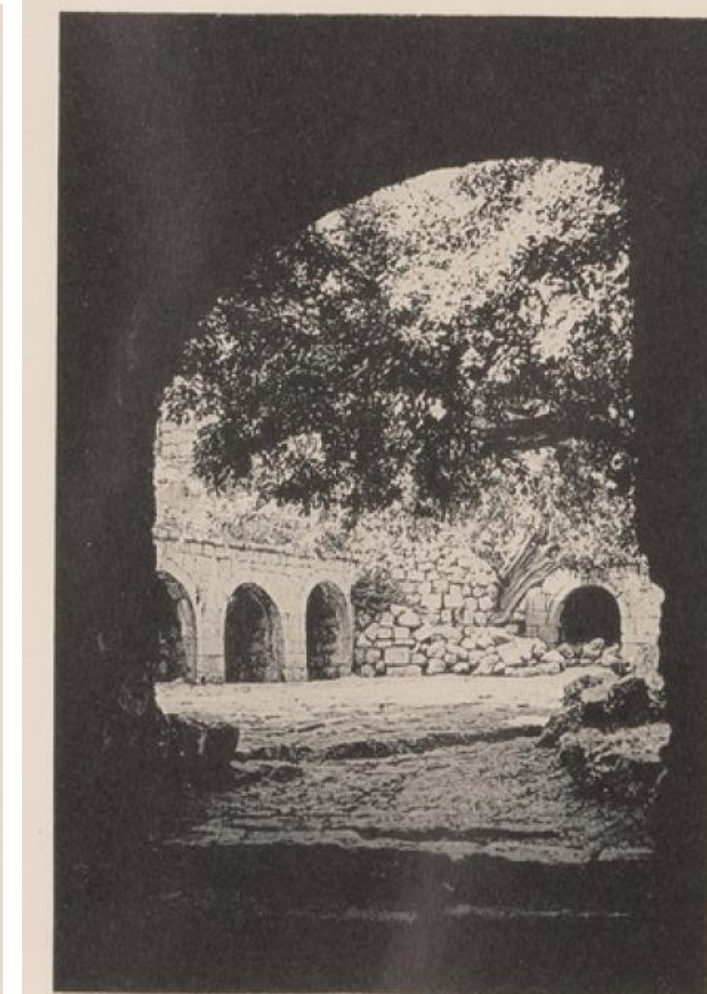
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards

Berezin 1951(1843):Figure 52  
Photographs from 1843?



*a*



*d*

*a*, Yezidi tomb from hill cloister above Sheikh Adi. *b*, Yezidi youth on well-head at Sheikh Adi. *c*, Building over spring at Sheikh Adi (note graffiti). *d*, Outer courtyard at Sheikh Adi.

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards

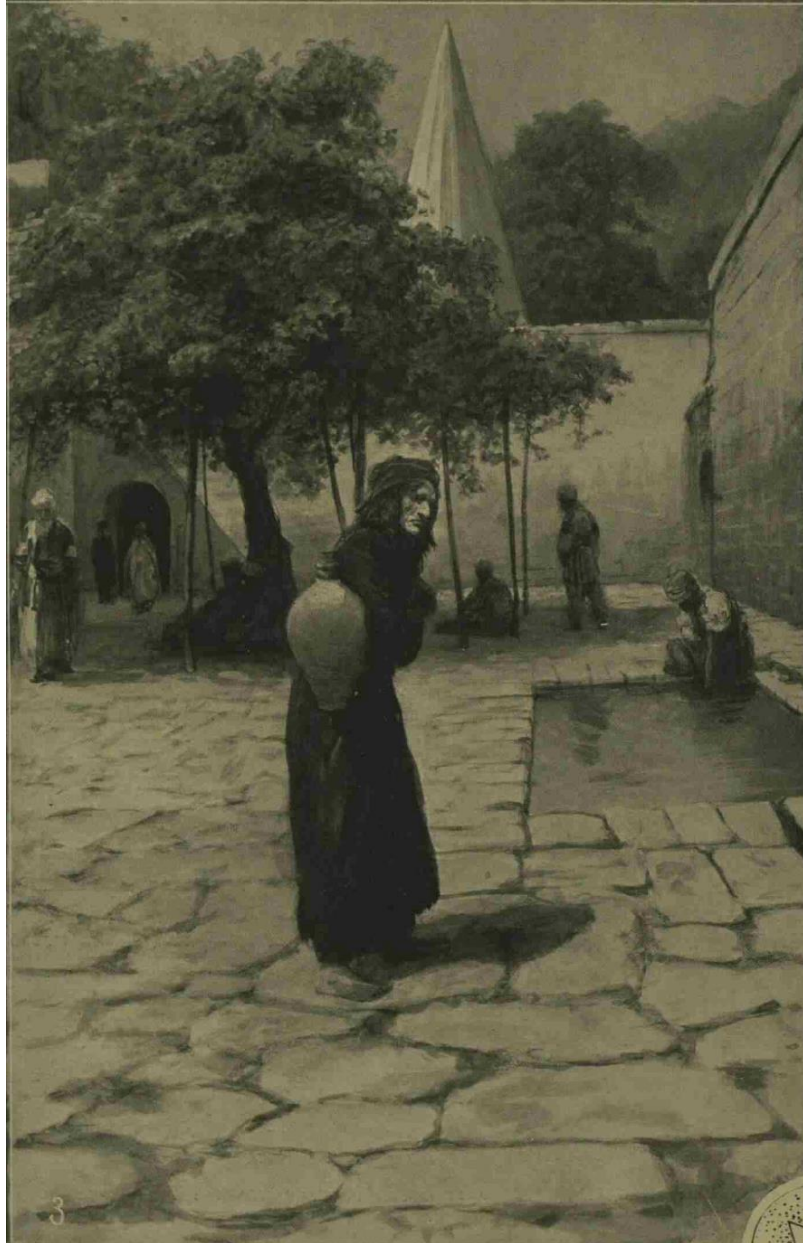


Yezidi Dance at Sheikh Adi.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 212

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards



Accuracy dubious

The Illustrated  
London News  
Feb. 18 1911 - 232

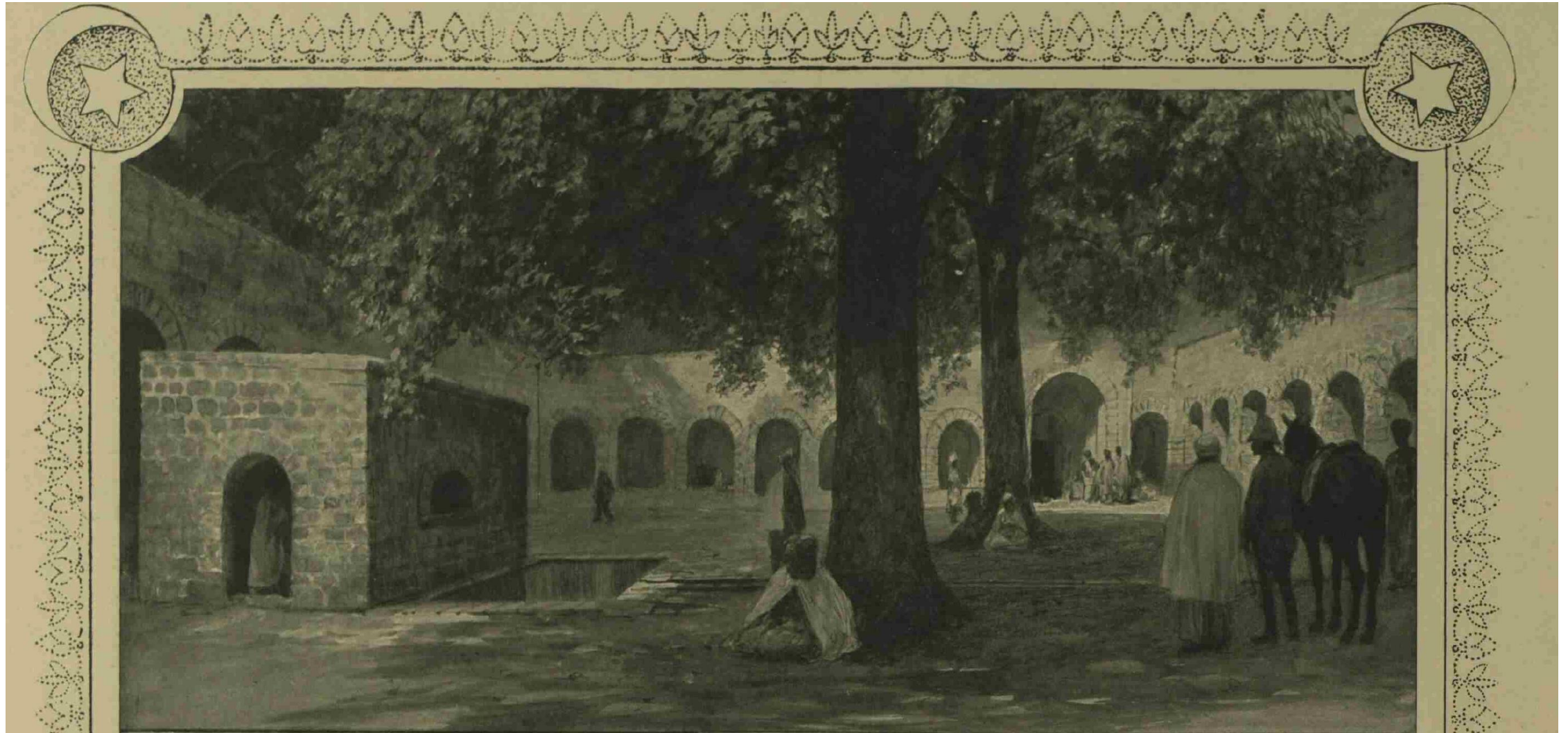


Bell (1909) M\_049  
(from <http://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/>  
online archive)

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards

The Illustrated London News  
Feb. 18 1911 - 232



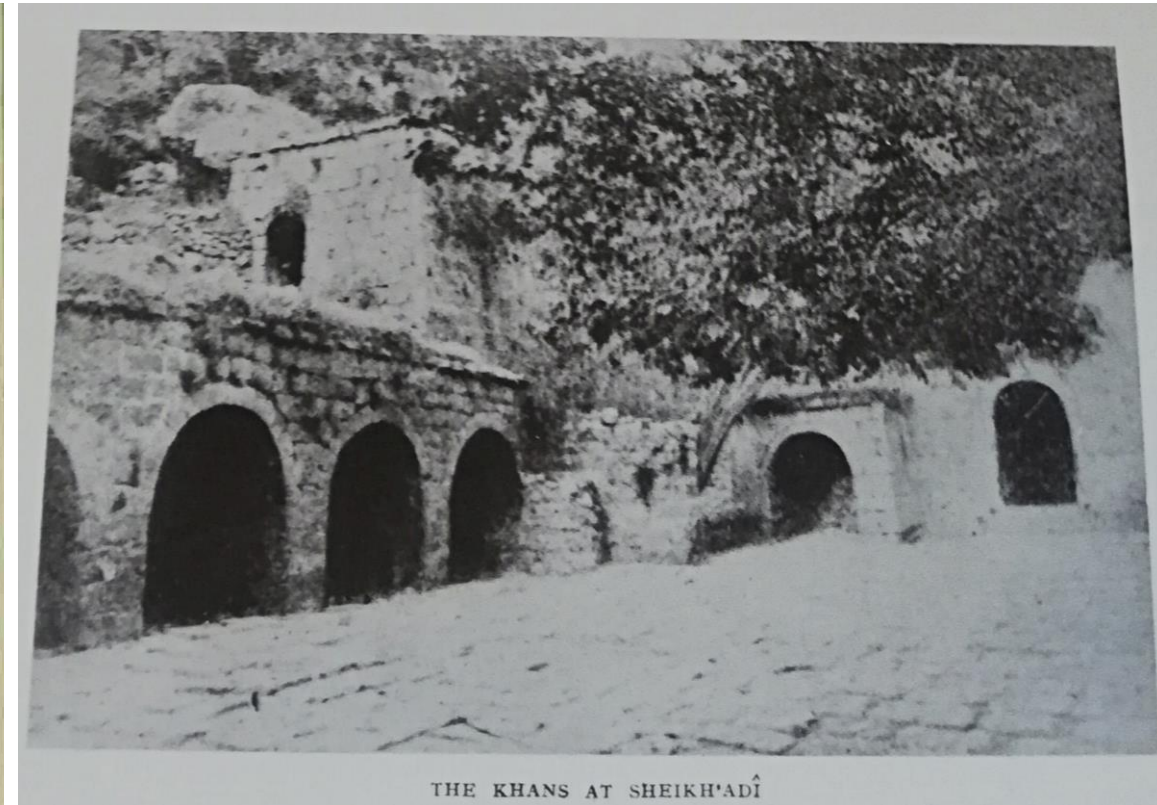
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards



Empson 1928:(132f) ??

The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 151

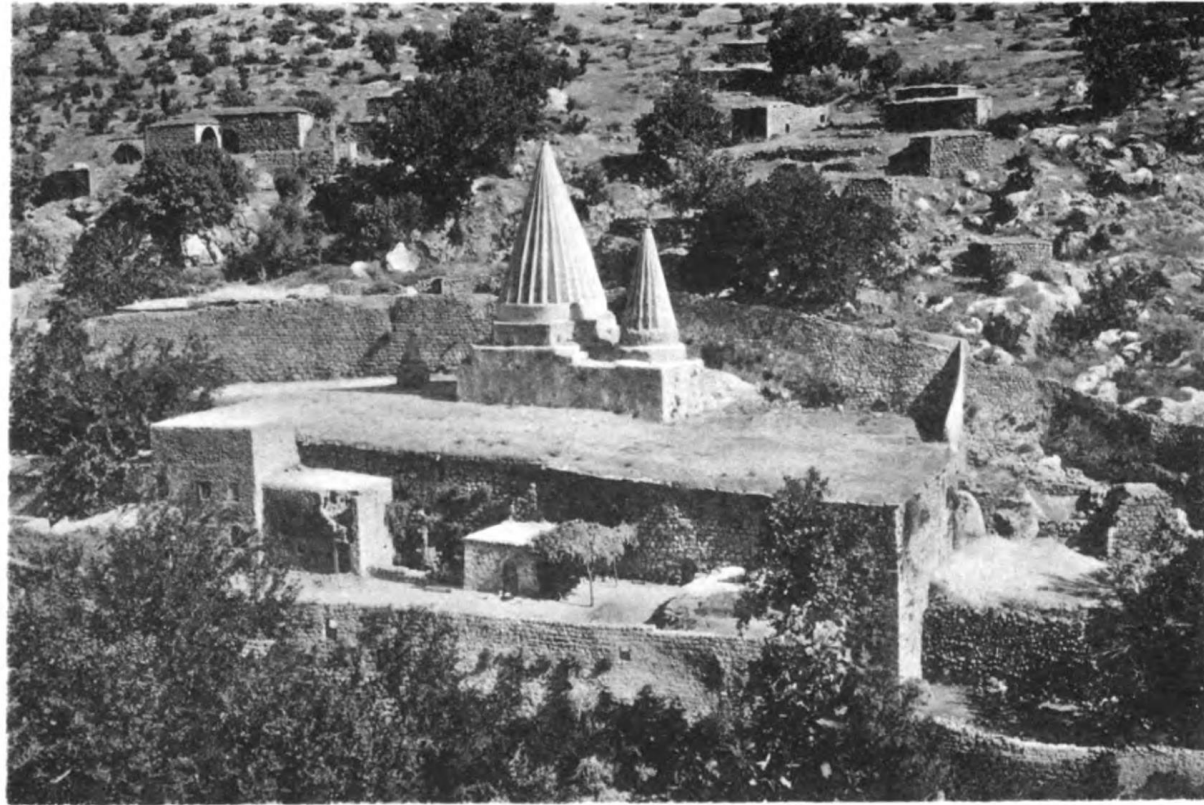


THE KHANS AT SHEIKH'ADI

Empson 1928:(132f)

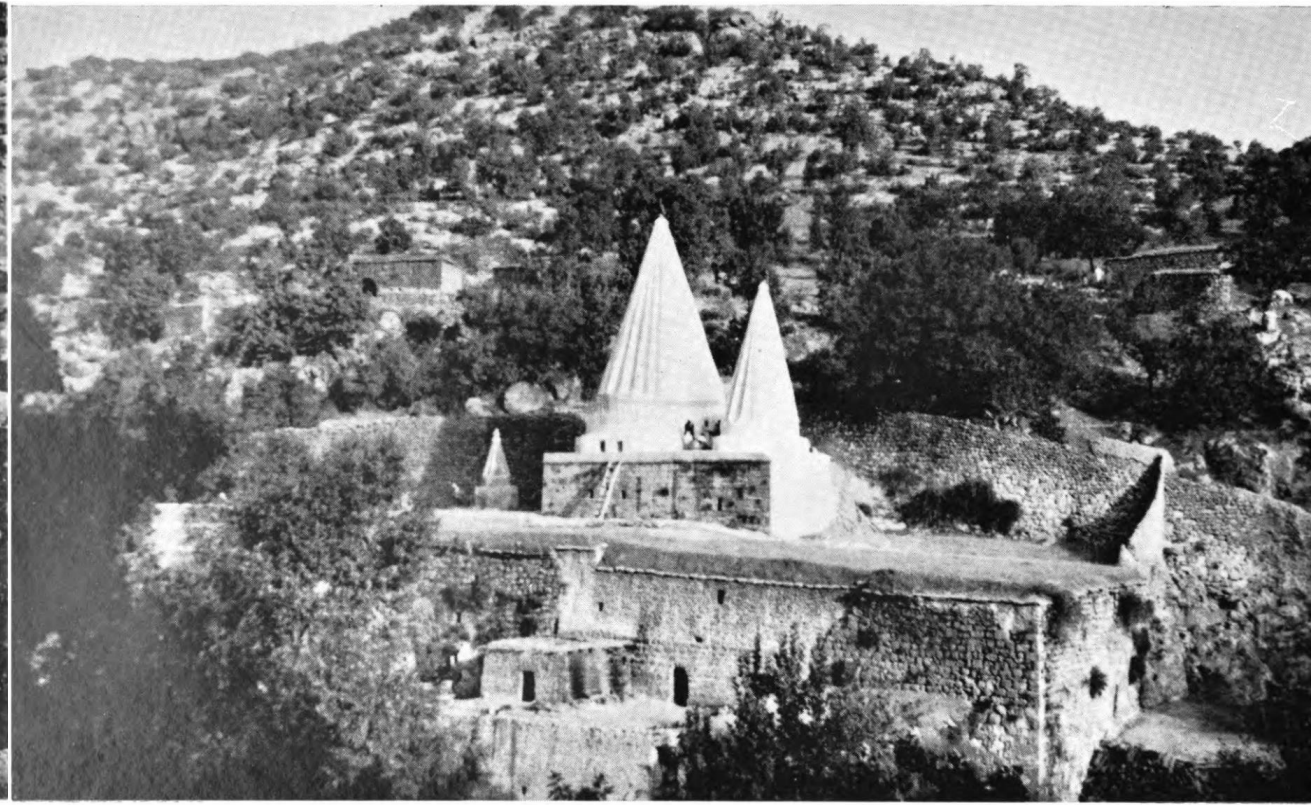
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards



HEILIGTUM

Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 14b



The Shrine of Shaykh Ādī (from the south).

Edmonds 1967(1944):Frontispiece

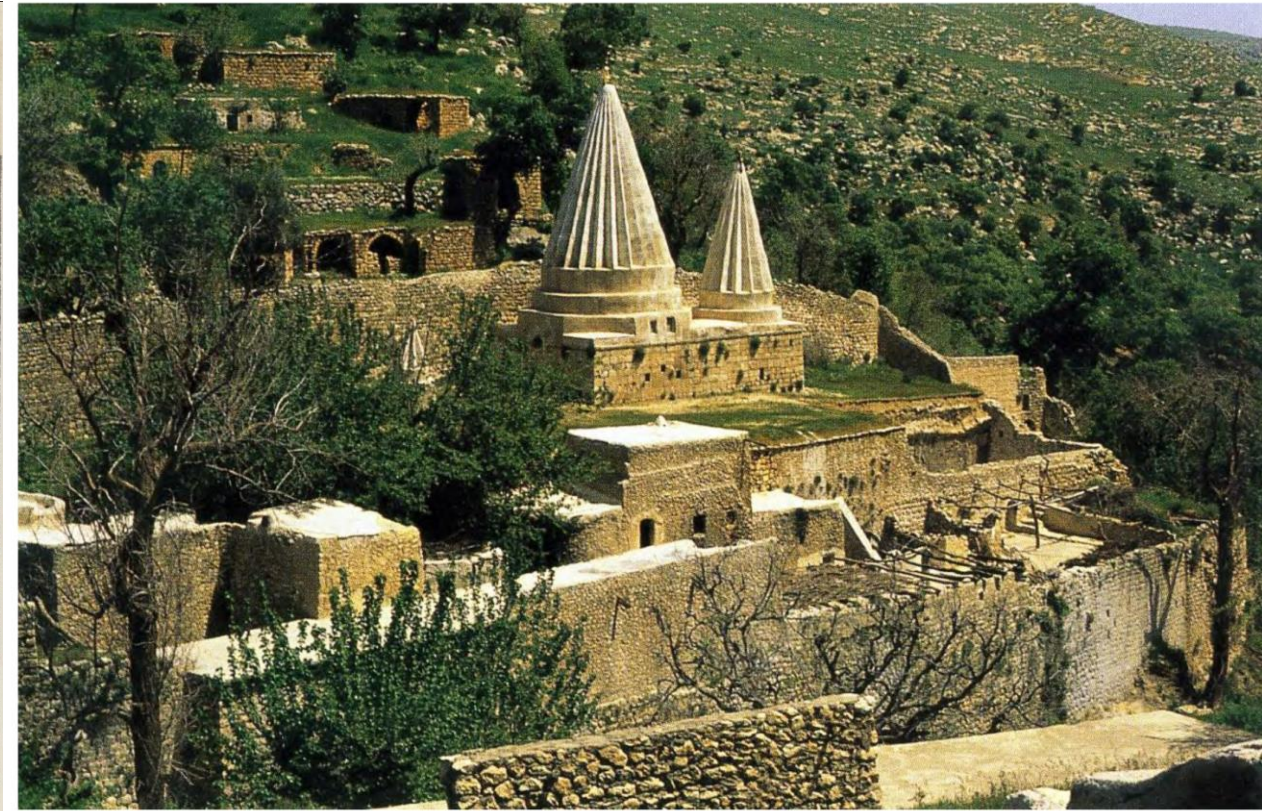
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 2. Immediate surroundings to the Sanctuary\_Outer courtyards



Bradley 1928

([https://www.flickr.com/photos/jones\\_in\\_chester/albums/72157641061121185](https://www.flickr.com/photos/jones_in_chester/albums/72157641061121185))



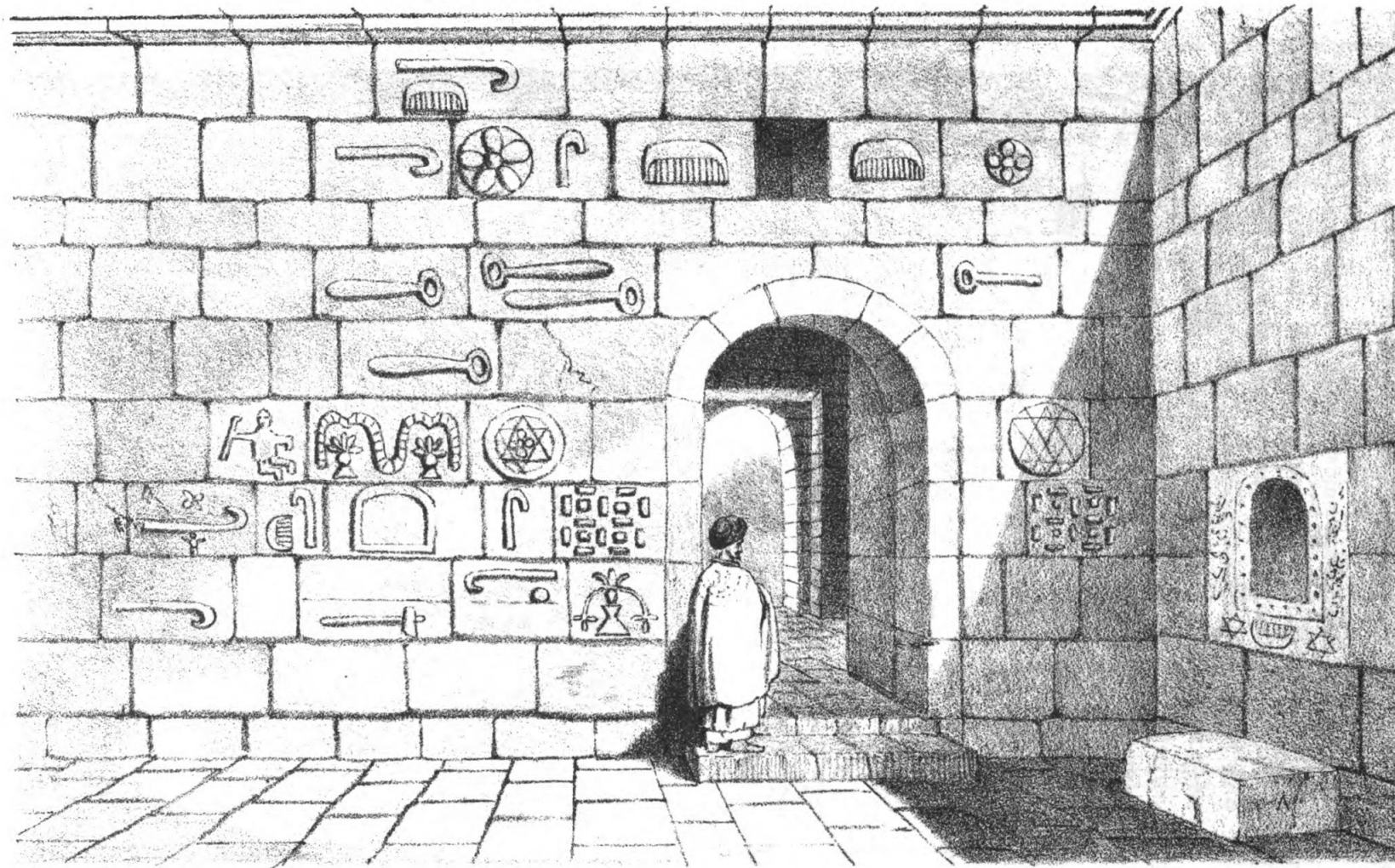
General view of the temple complex, photographed by Karen Holve-Grasse in 1973 <sup>13</sup>

Vössing 2011a:9  
(Karen Holve-Grasse 1973)



3. Courtyard in front of the 'Main Hall'

Badger 1852(1844): I, (106f)



*F.C. Cooper, del.*

FRONT OF ENCLOSURE FACING THE TEMPLE OF SHEIKH ADI.

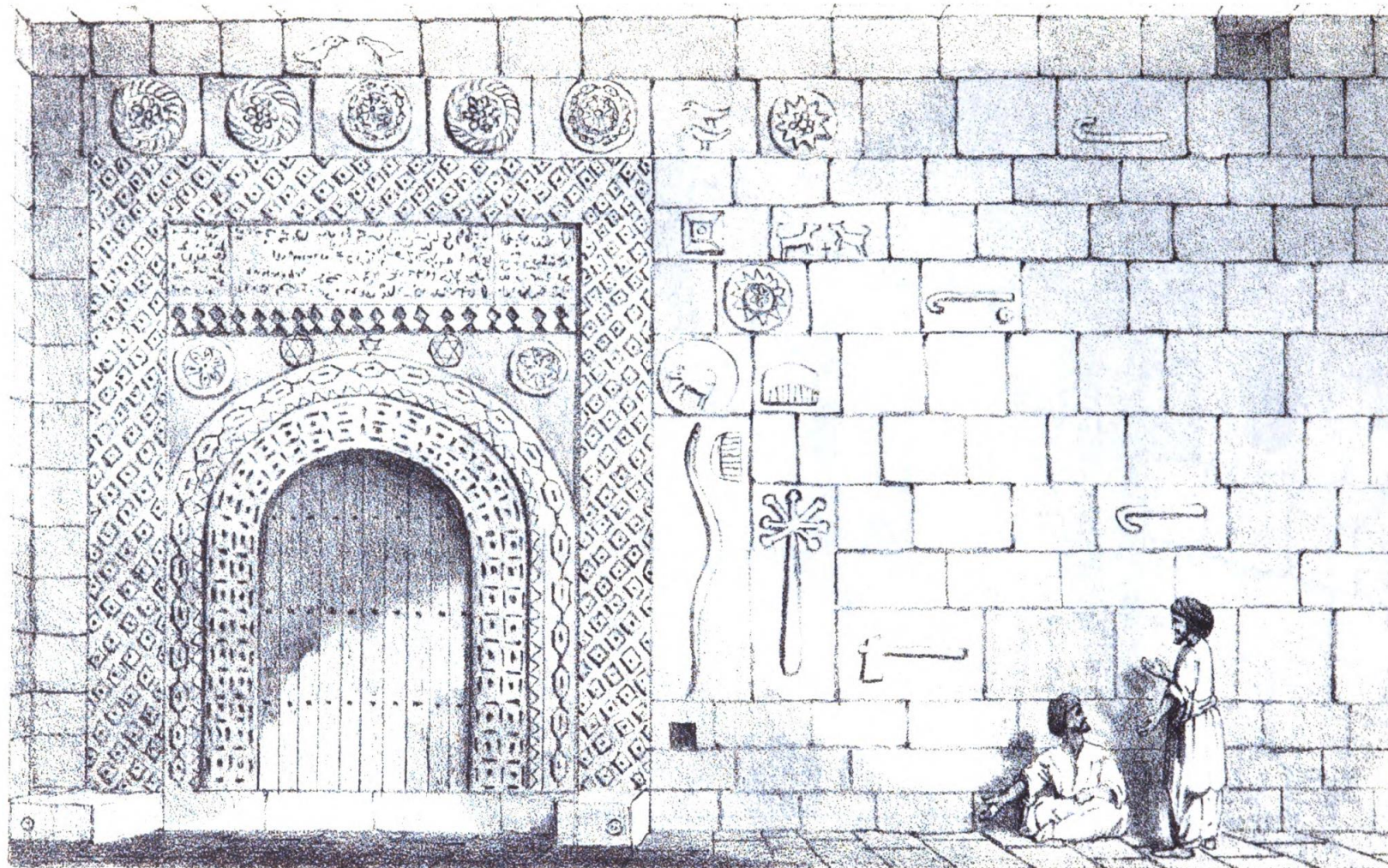
*Printed by C.Graf, I, Great Castle St.*

*A. Nazir's Seat.*

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

### 3. Courtyard in front of the 'Main Hall'

Badger 1852(1844): I, (106f)



*F. Cooper, del.*

FRONT OF THE TEMPLE OF SHEIKH ADI.

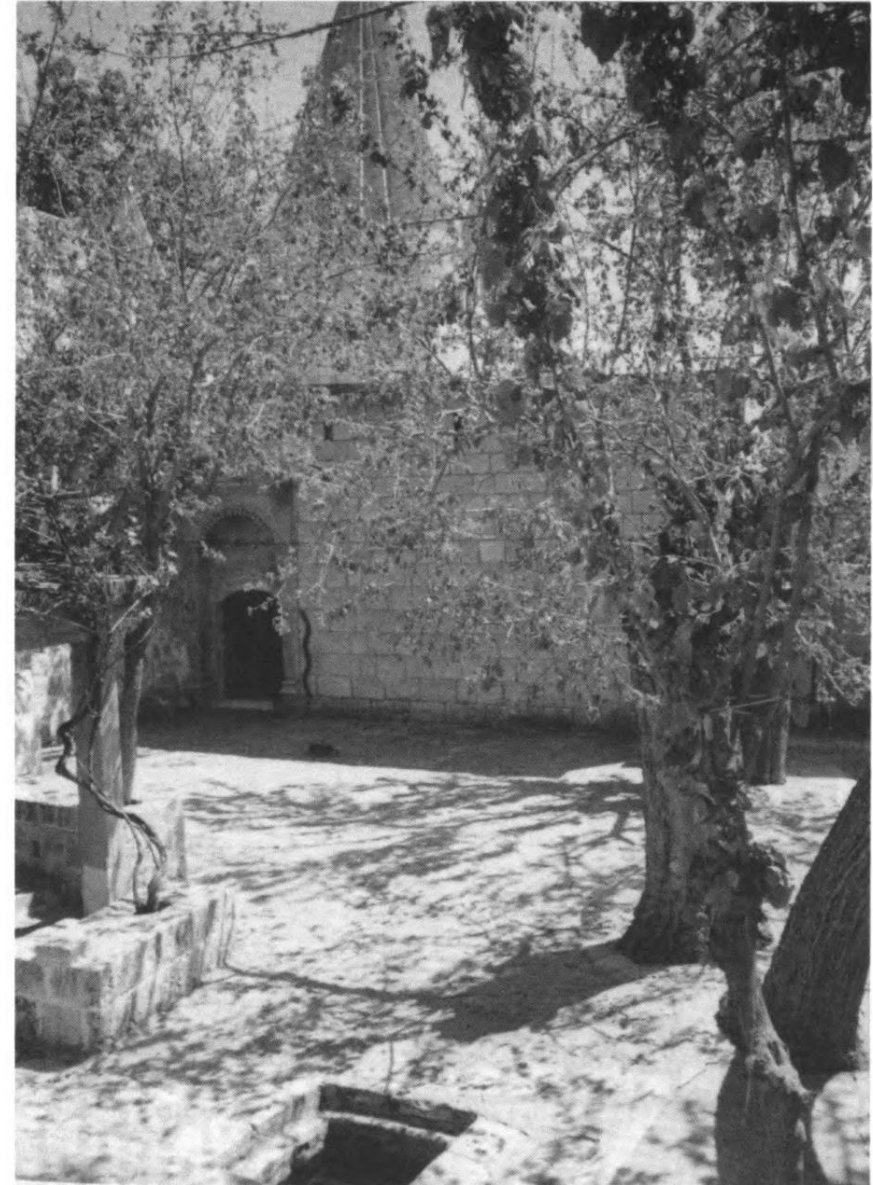
*Printed by Coln. 1, Great Castle, St.*

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 3. Courtyard in front of the 'Main Hall'



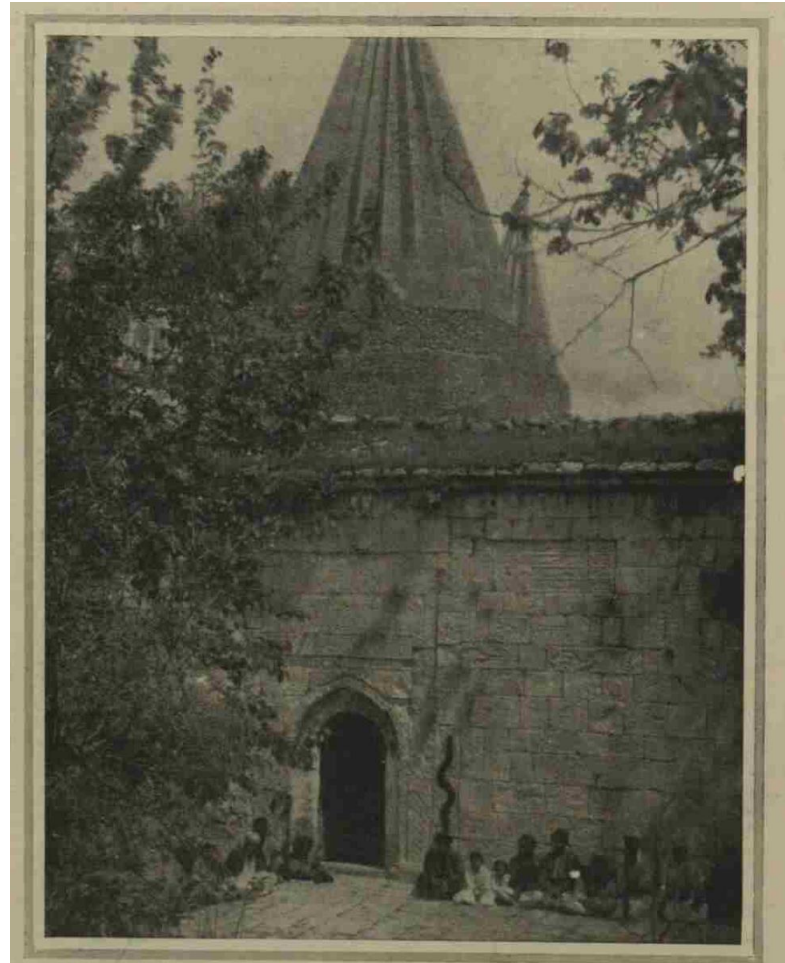
Bell (1909) M\_048  
(from <http://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/> online archive)



46 Inner courtyard of the sanctuary of Sheikh 'Adi, Lalish  
Açıkyıldız 2010:133

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 3. Courtyard in front of the 'Main Hall'



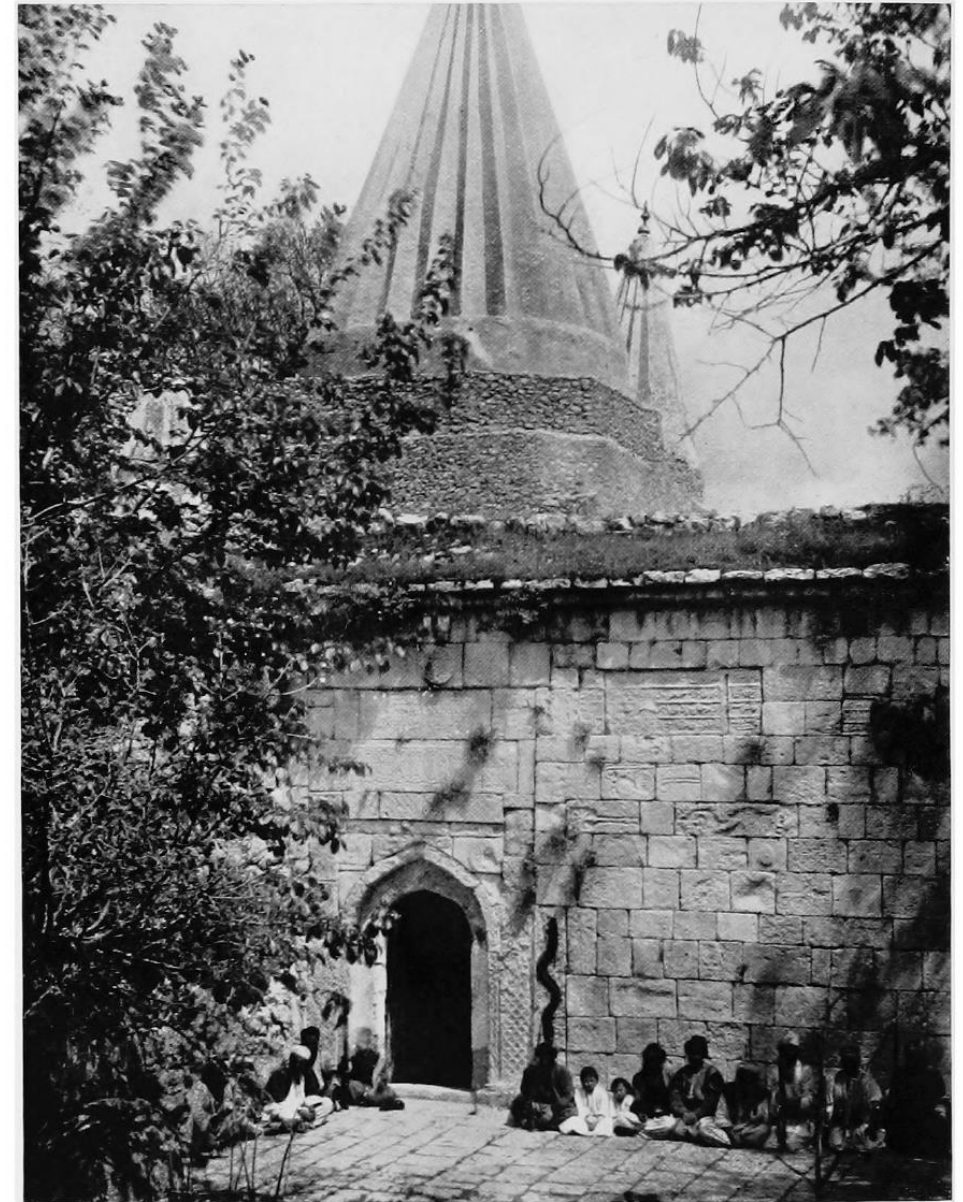
WHERE SATAN IS WORSHIPPED: THE TEMPLE COURT, SHEIKH ADI, KURDISTAN — SHOWING THE "SERPENT" ON THE WALL.

"The Yezidis, or 'Devil-worshippers,' congregate principally in the *vilayet* of Mosul. . . . The Being whom they seek to propitiate is actually identical with the *Sheitan* of the Christians and Moslems and Jews . . . The most ominous (symbol) is the famous Snake."

From "The Cradle of Mankind."

The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 18 1914 - 92

Wigram 1914 (1907?): :96



THE TEMPLE COURT, SHEIKH ADI

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

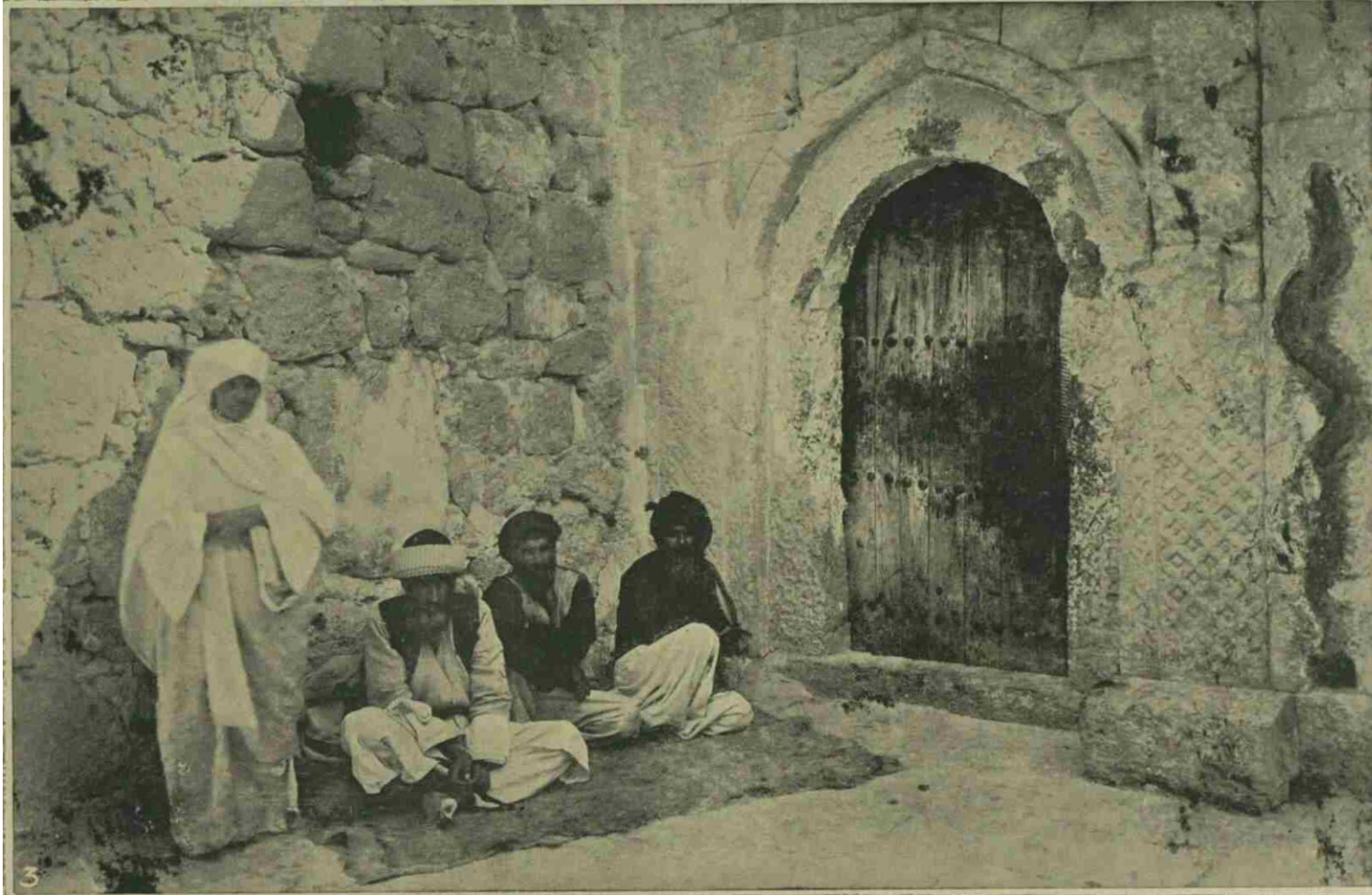
### 3. Courtyard in front of the 'Main Hall'



Unclear date. Image courtesy of Baba Chawish (received 12/04/2021).

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Derîyê Kapî



Lalish sanctuary: east wall of inner courtyard, photographed by Athelstan Riley in 1886 (source unknown, provided by VOSSING)

Vössing 2011a:4  
(photograph by  
Athelstan Riley, 1886)

The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 151

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Derîyê Kapî

Bell 1911(1909):Figure 178

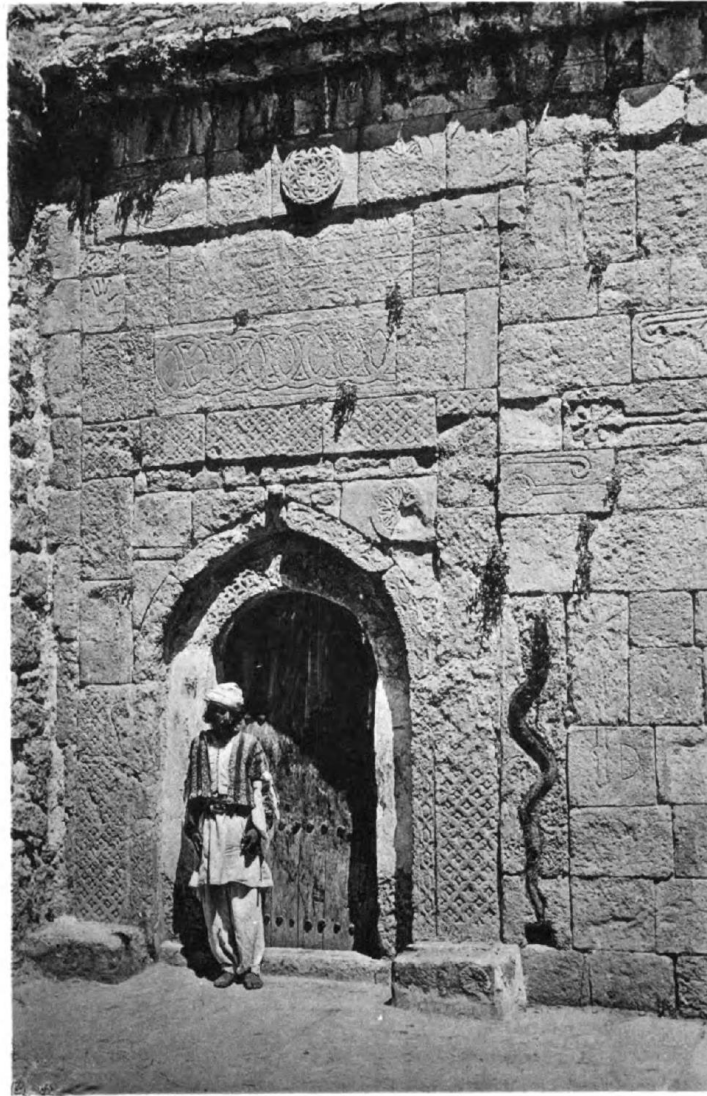


FIG. 178.—THE KHÂTÛN AT THE DOOR OF SHEIKH ADÎ.  
Digitization Support from  
MICROSOFT  
Original from  
YALE UNIVERSITY

Bell (1909) M\_046  
(from <http://gertrudebell.ncl.ac.uk/> online archive)

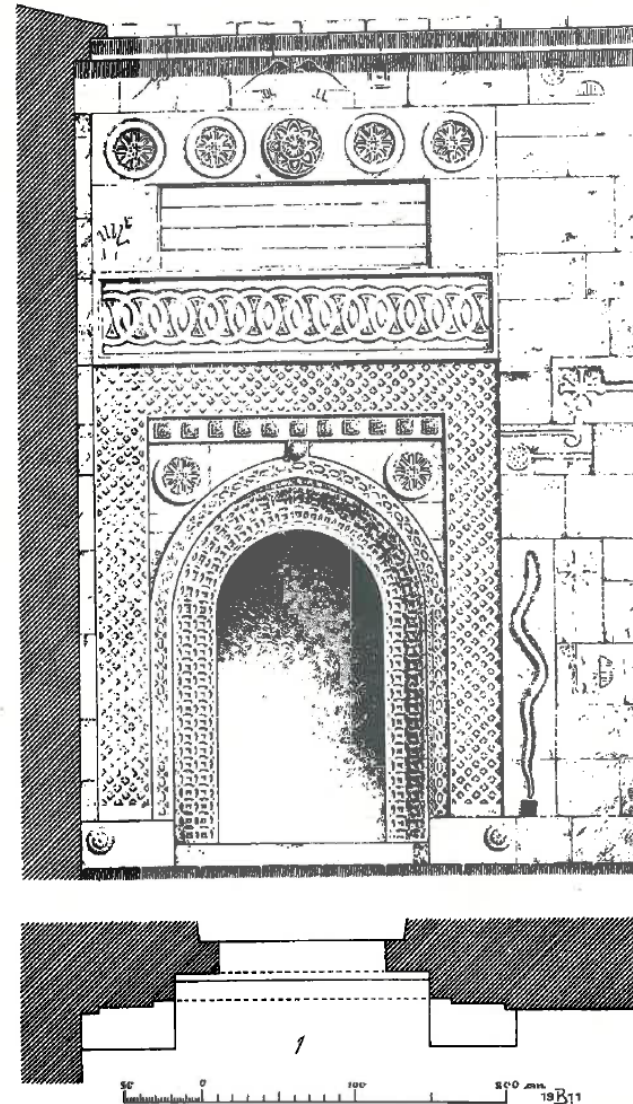
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Derîyê Kapî



SCHEICH 'ADĪ, EINGANG ZUM HEILIGTUM DER JEZIDEN  
Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 16a

KIRCHEN UND MOSCHEEN



Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 15



Drower 1923(1922):Frontpiece



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

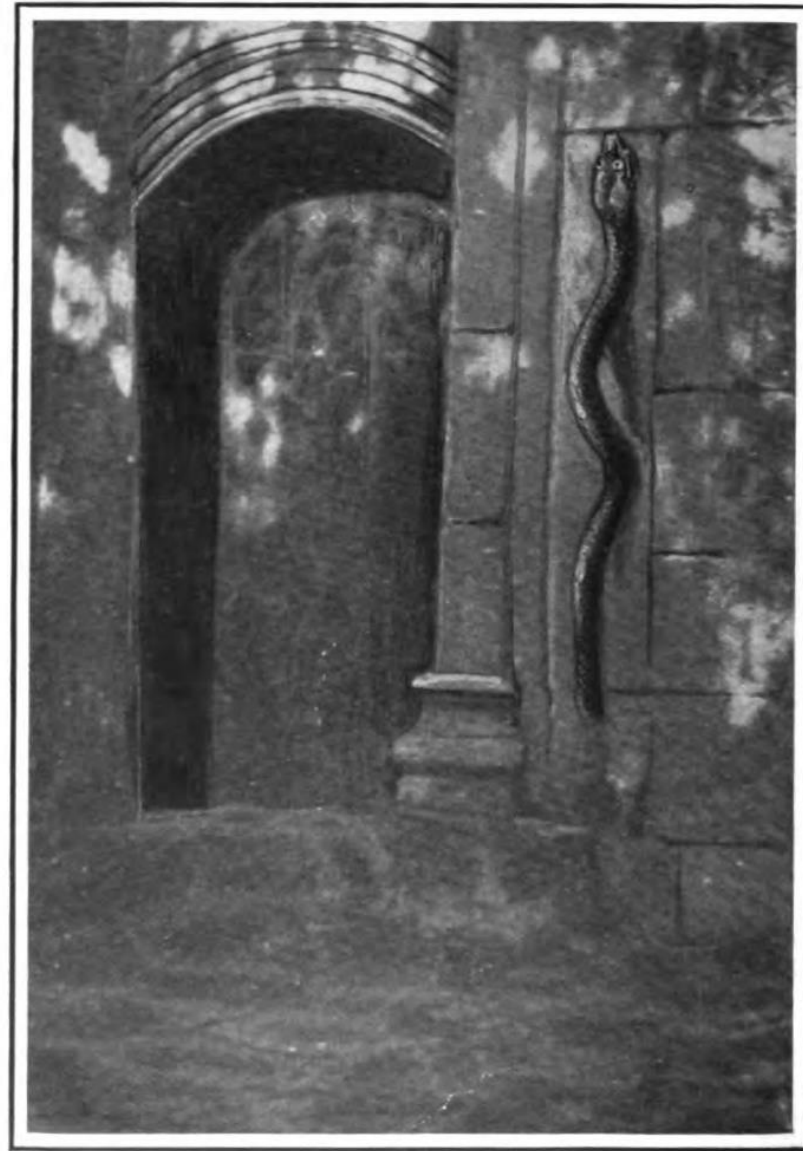
## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Derîyê Kapî



380

*Assiria.  
Sheikh 'Adi.  
Porta d'entrada  
a la mesquita.  
des Yarithi.*

Ubach 1922:162



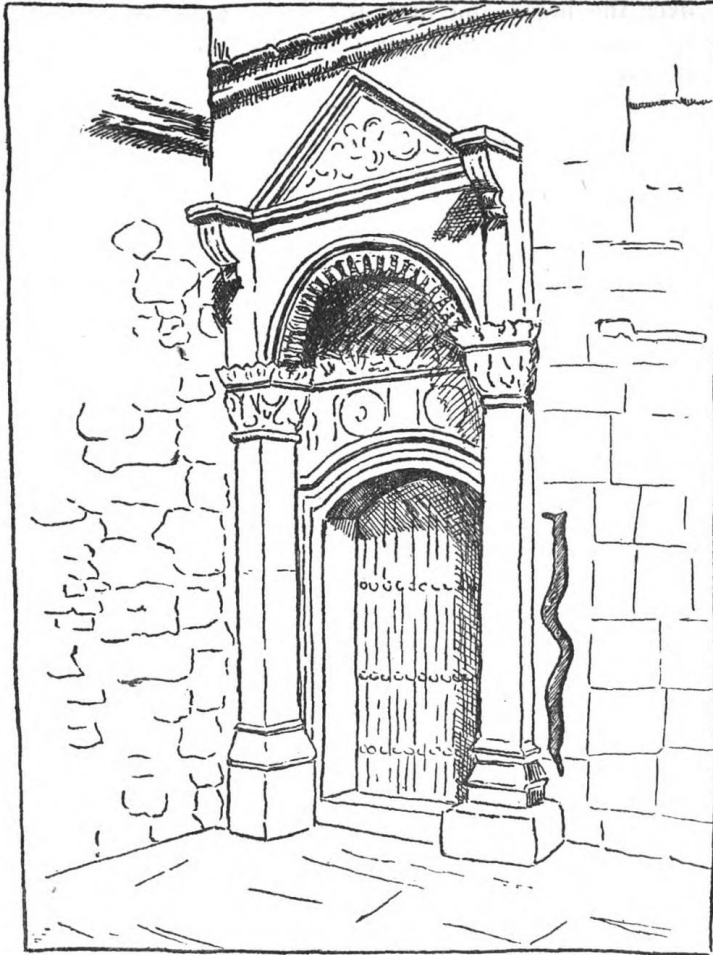
Seabrook 1927 (Year visited?):(316f)



Bradley 1928

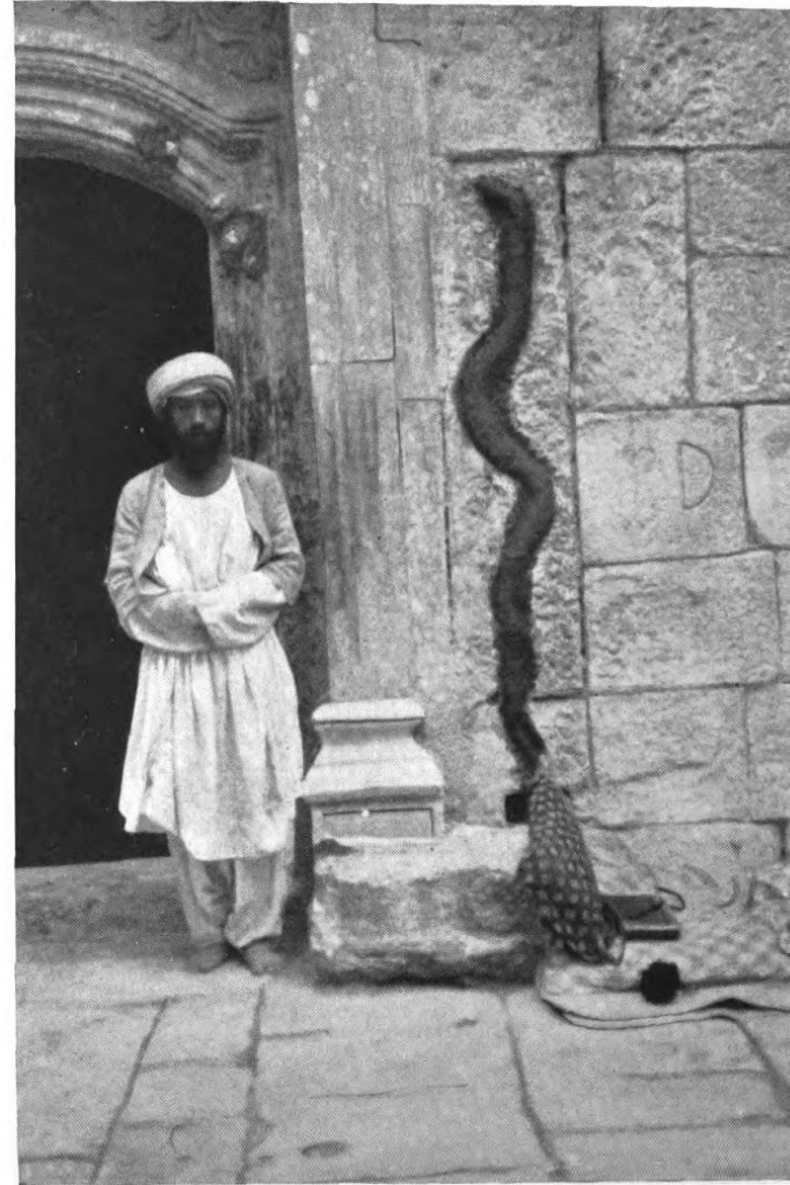
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Deriyê Kapî



*Door : Shrine of Shaikh 'Adi.*

Drower 1941:195



Drower 1941:153

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Derîyê Kapî



(c) Forecourt of Shaykh Ādī's.

Edmonds 1967(1944):Plate 1c



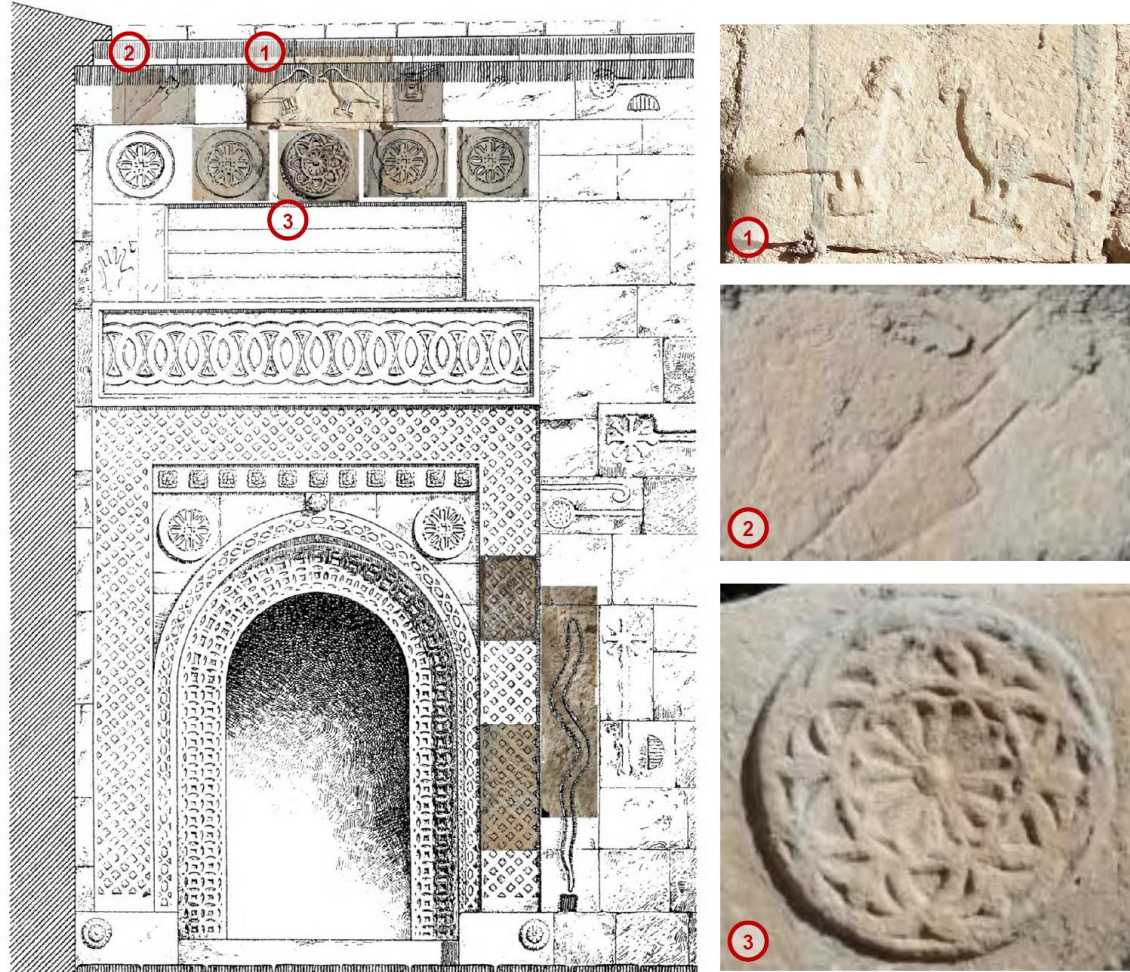
Vössing 2011a:80 (post 1911?)

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 4. Gate with access to 'Main Hall' / Deriyê Kapî

Finding no. 23 – Level 4.2 – Room 4.2.09 – Faced brickwork

Within the faced brickwork several spoils with Arabic inscriptions can be found.

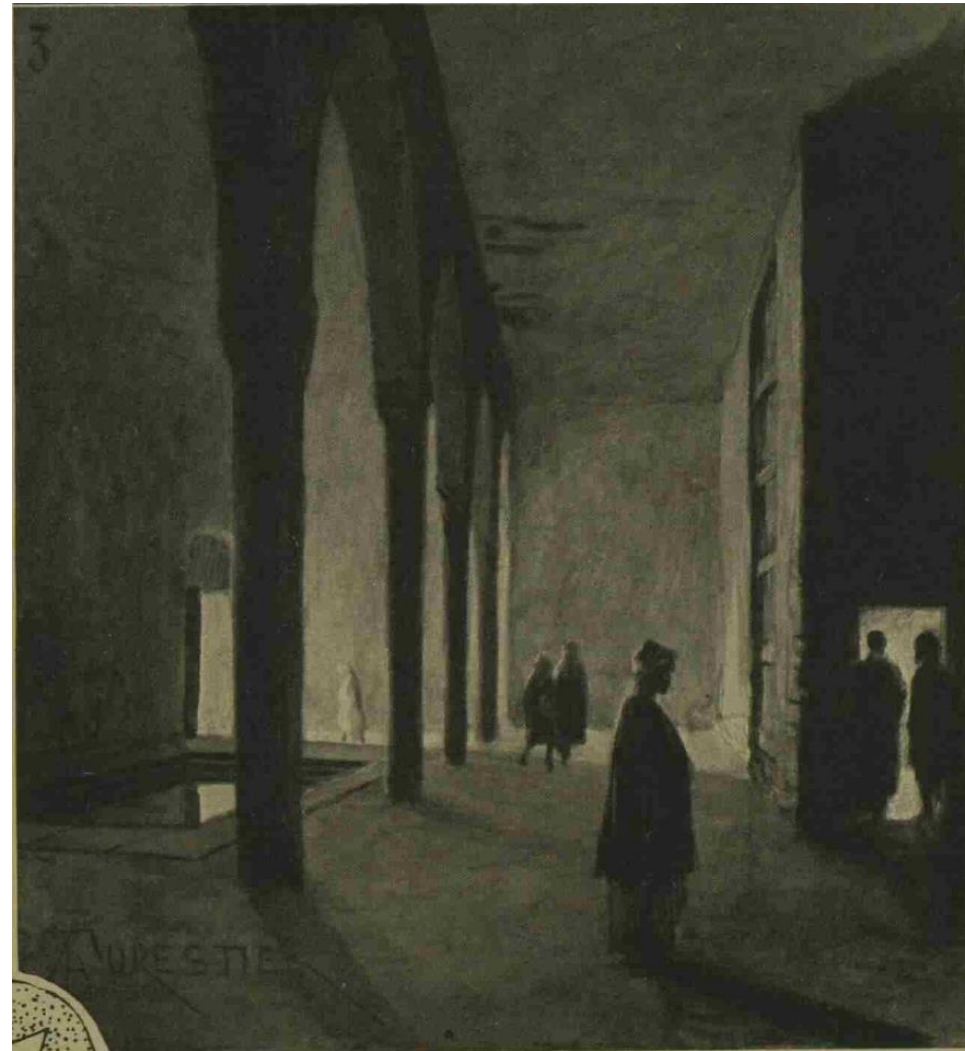


Localisation of findings on the portal / entrance to the sanctuary (drawing and photograph (straightened) by Bachmann<sup>35</sup>)

Vössing 2011a:31

Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 5. 'Main Hall'



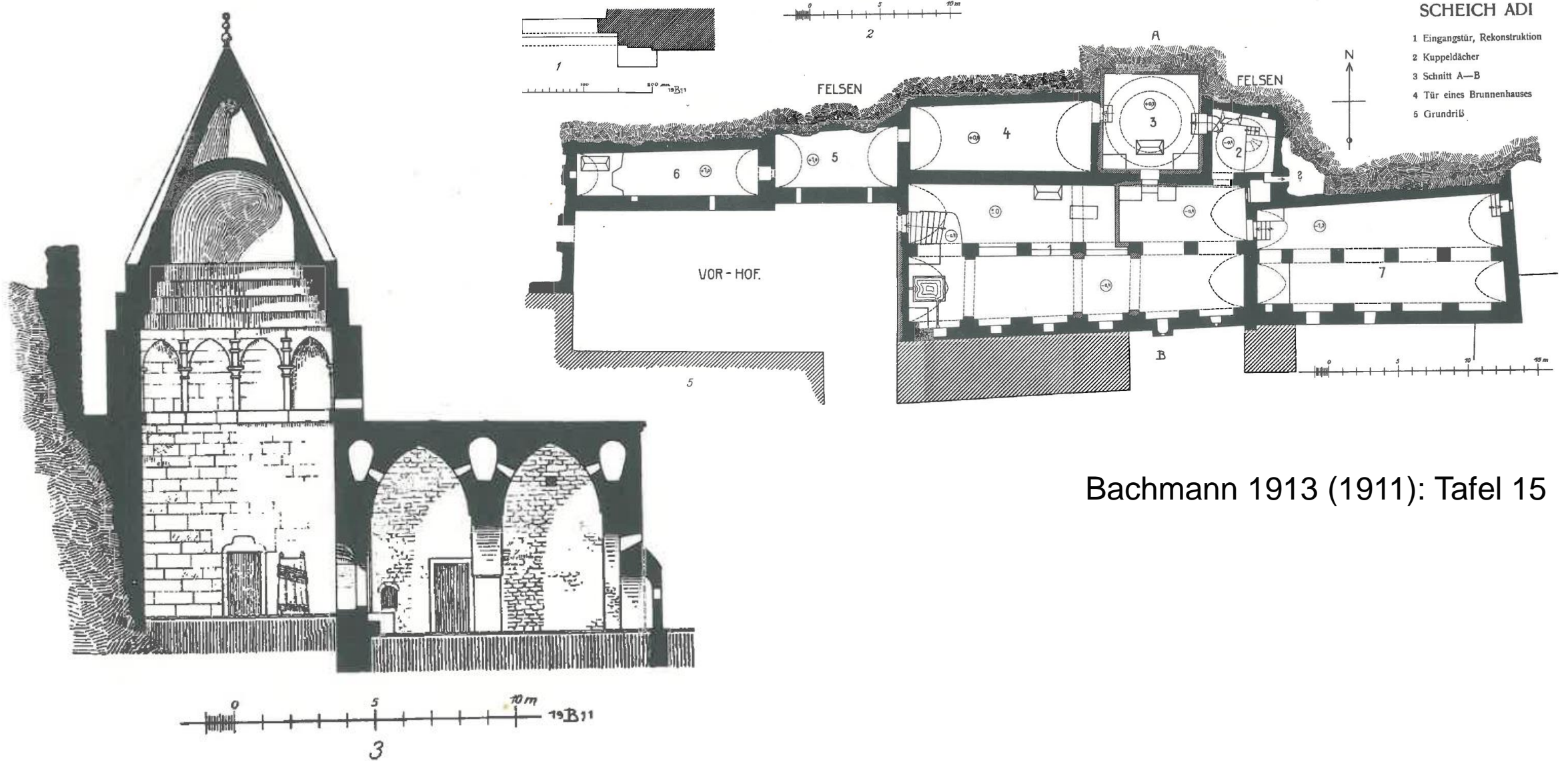
The Illustrated London News

Feb. 18 1911 - 233

Accuracy Dubvious

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 5. 'Main Hall'

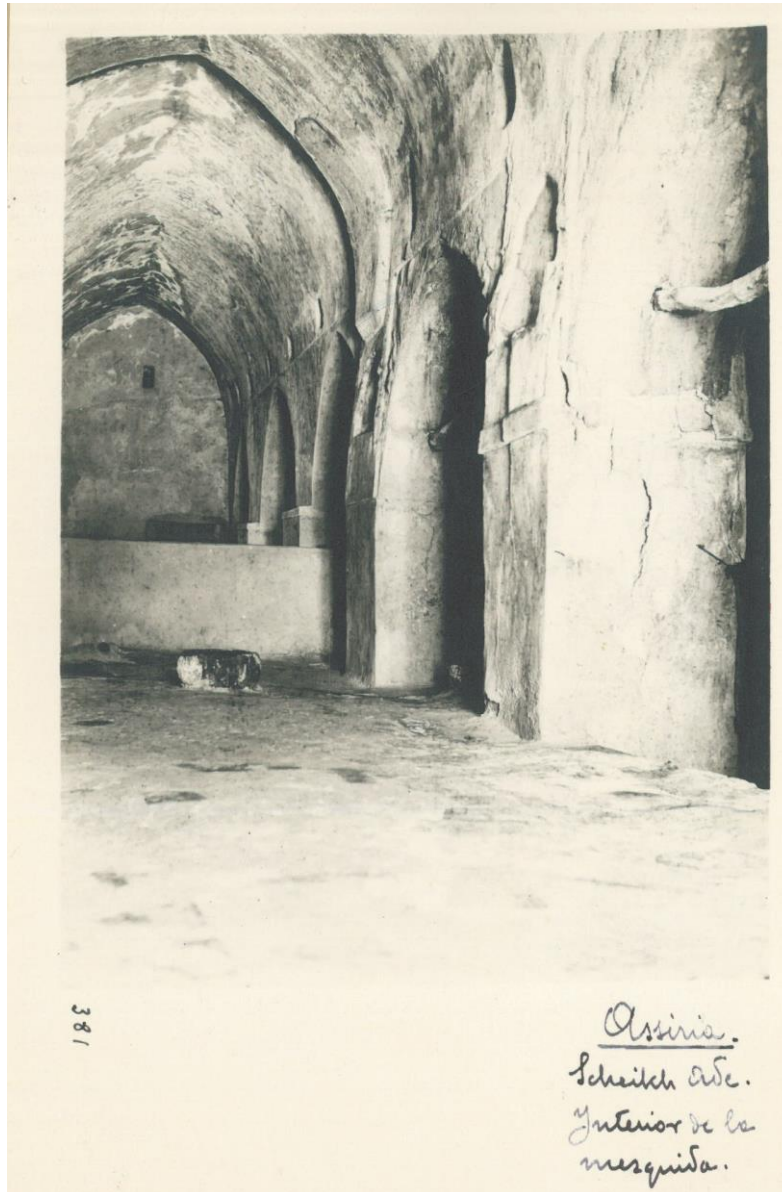


Bachmann 1913 (1911): Tafel 15

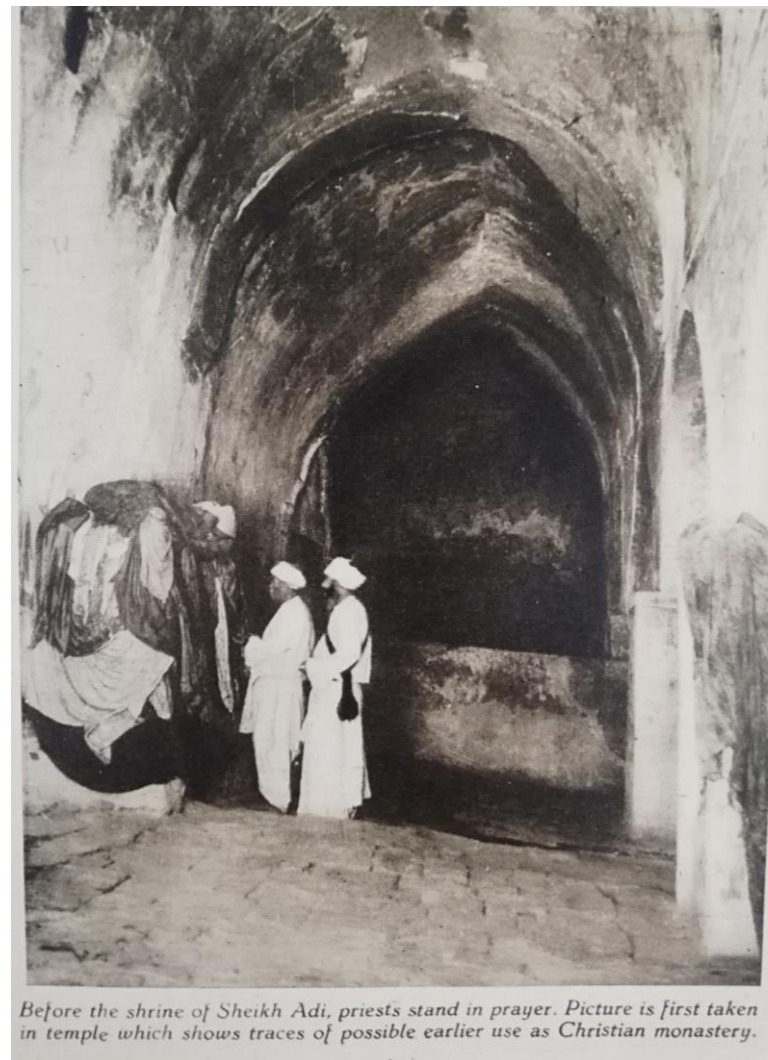
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 5. 'Main Hall'

Ubach 2009 (1922-23):162



Parade 1943



2019

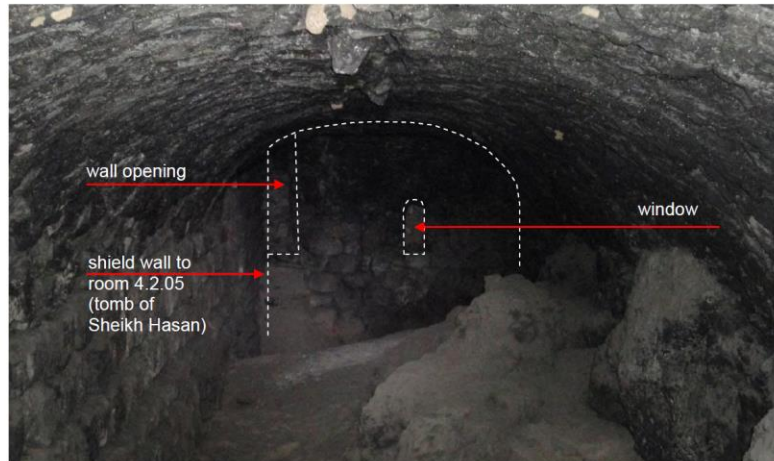
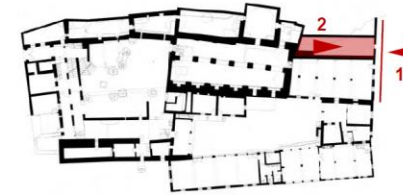


# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

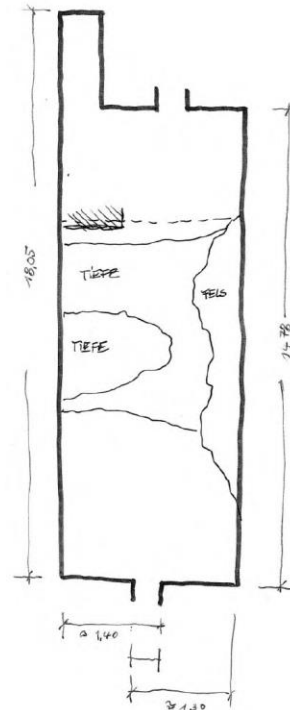
## 6. Hall of Sharaf al-Din



(1) wall elevation



(2) view into room 3.10



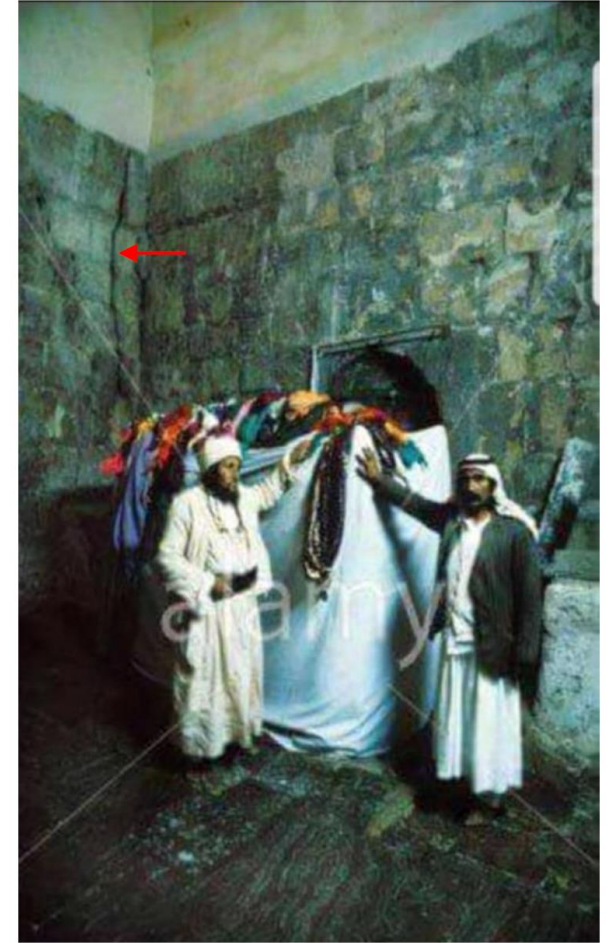
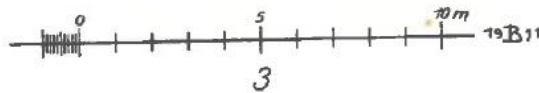
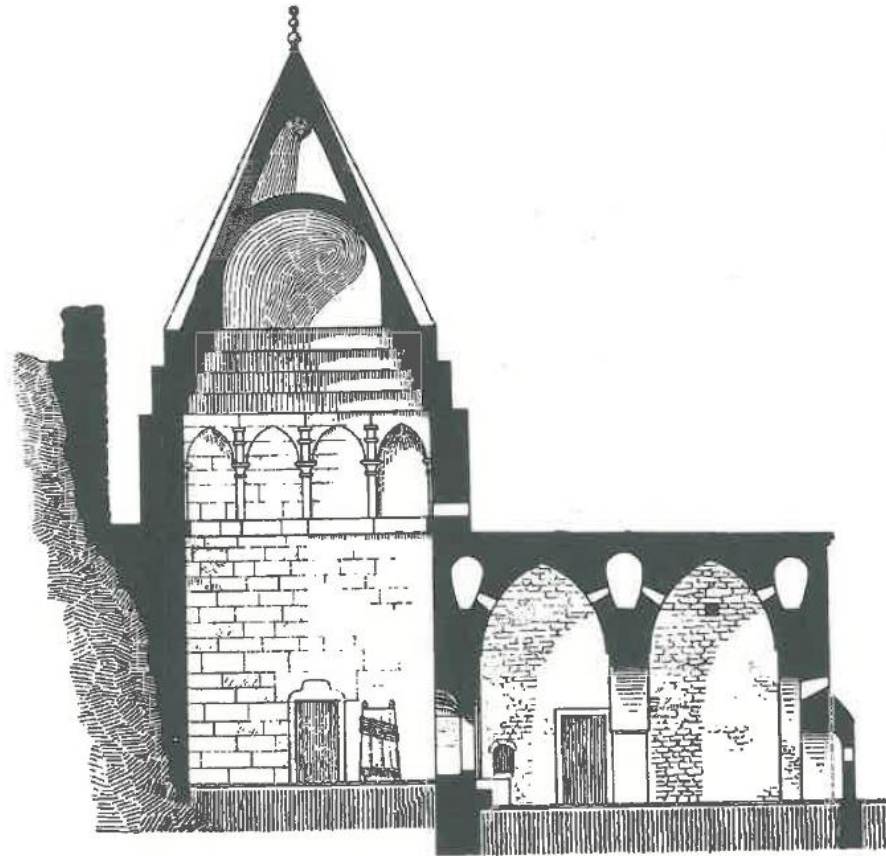
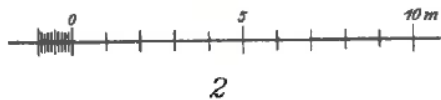
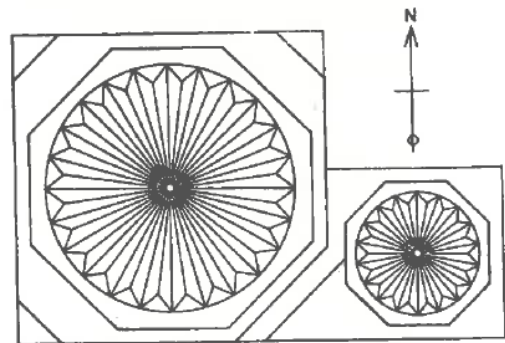
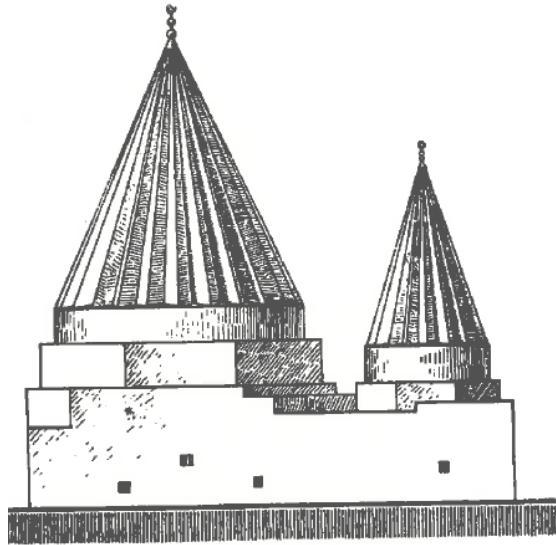
In line with structural modifications in the late 20th century (after 1973) several passages to rooms and room ensembles have been closed. Hence they are not accessible these days.

Room 3.10 could be cited as an example for that. It is located north from room 3.09 and is roofed by a barrel vault. Its western shield wall is attached to the tomb of Sheikh Hasan. Two former wall openings can be found in this area.



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 7. Mausoleum of Sheik 'Adi



*Above left, interior of the tomb of Sheikh Adī (1970s ?), showing exposed limestone ashlar. Note the structural crack visible in the east wall (arrovved)*

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 8. Oil Halls



*Above right*, oil amphorae in Oil Hall 1 stacked behind a dwarf wall made of concrete. *Left*, this archive photo (1970s?) shows that previously the oil jars were propped on boulders. This important photo also shows the walls of Oil Hall 1 unplastered, with expressed rubble masonry

The oil amphorae in the three Oil Halls are restrained behind modern dwarf walls made of concrete. Where they are located has been modified in recent decades. For example, there are

CCD 2020:13.2



*Above left*, Oil Hall 3, area of historic lime plaster showing beneath a modern cement screed



*Above right*, the vault of Oil Hall 3, covered with a crudely executed cement screed

CCD 2020:14

8. Zemzem / Chilekhane

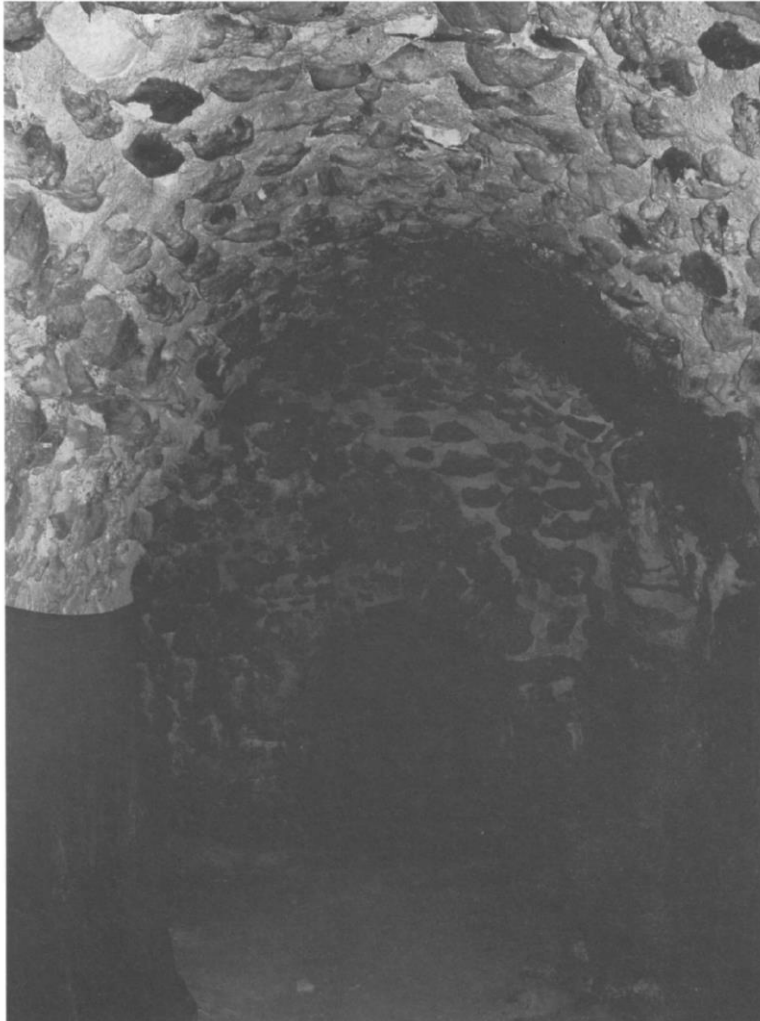


Figure 12. Components of Chilekhane

Açıkyıldız 2009:Figure 12

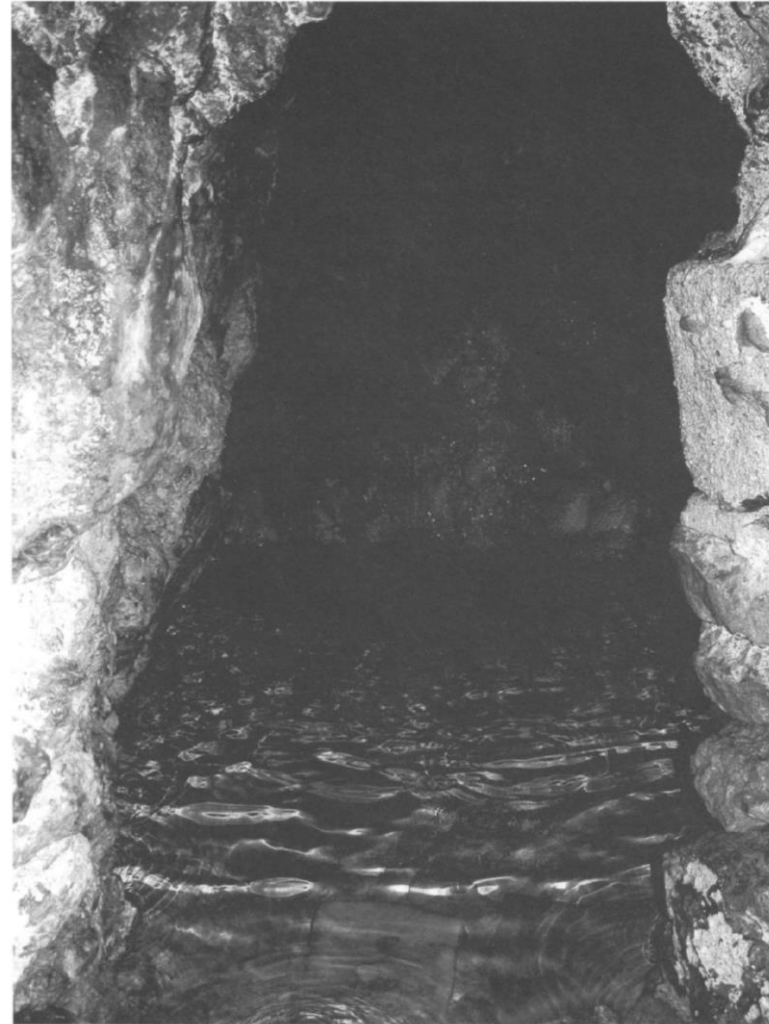


Figure 11. Spring of Zemzem

Açıkyıldız 2009:Figure 11



oment:  
Lalish, Sim Sim spring in the basement

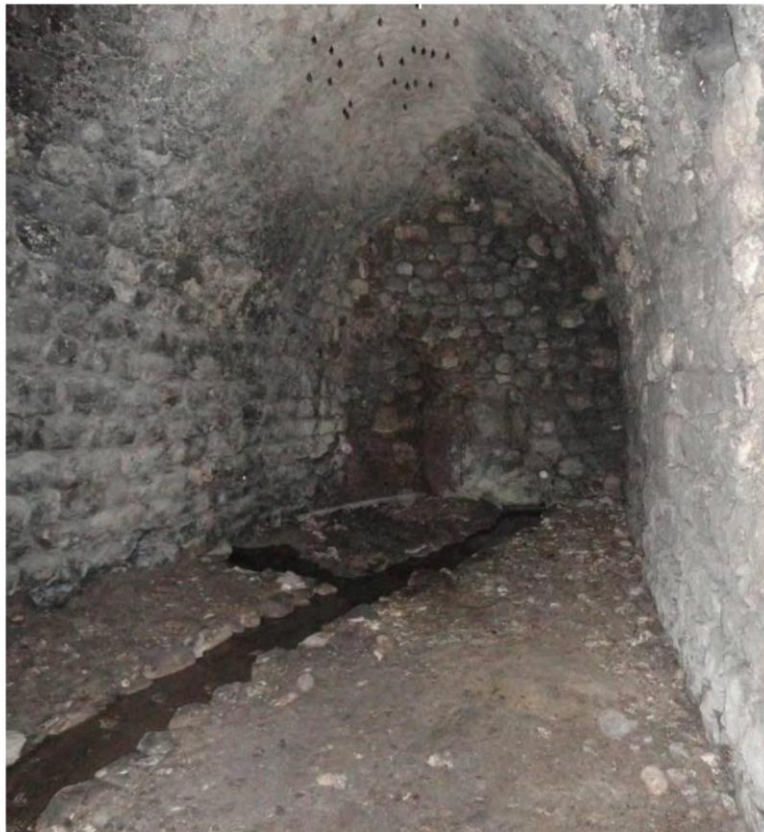
Vössing 2011a:20

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

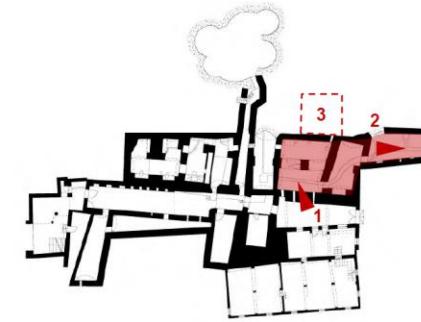
## 8. Zemzem / Chilekhane



(1) - View into room 2.09



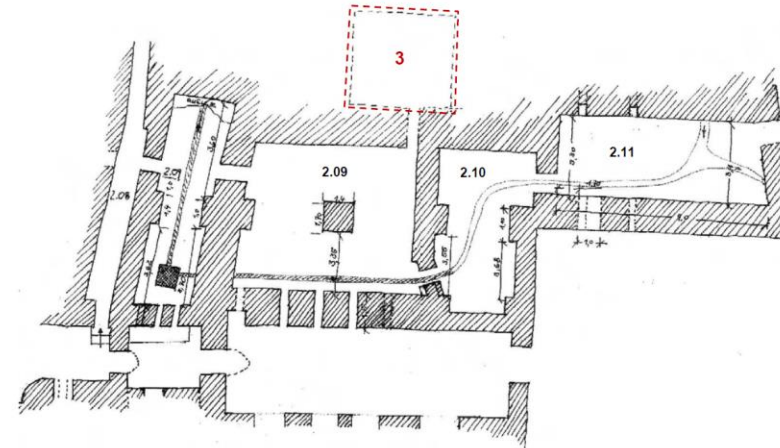
(2) - View into room 2.11



As mentioned above in chapter 4.1 caves and springs might be regarded as initial points of first man-made development in this area.

The Sim Sim spring, coming to surface in the basement of the these-days temple complex, surely was the beginning of the structural developing from a cave to a bigger complex. Presumably it served secular functions first and then was led over into a sacral context in which it must be seen today.

Over those many past centuries the shape of the plan was consequently modified and adequately adapted to the particular situation. So it is possible today to chance upon hidden structures or even rooms, as it happened for example in the adjacent area to room 2.09 (3).



On-site measurement, 2010

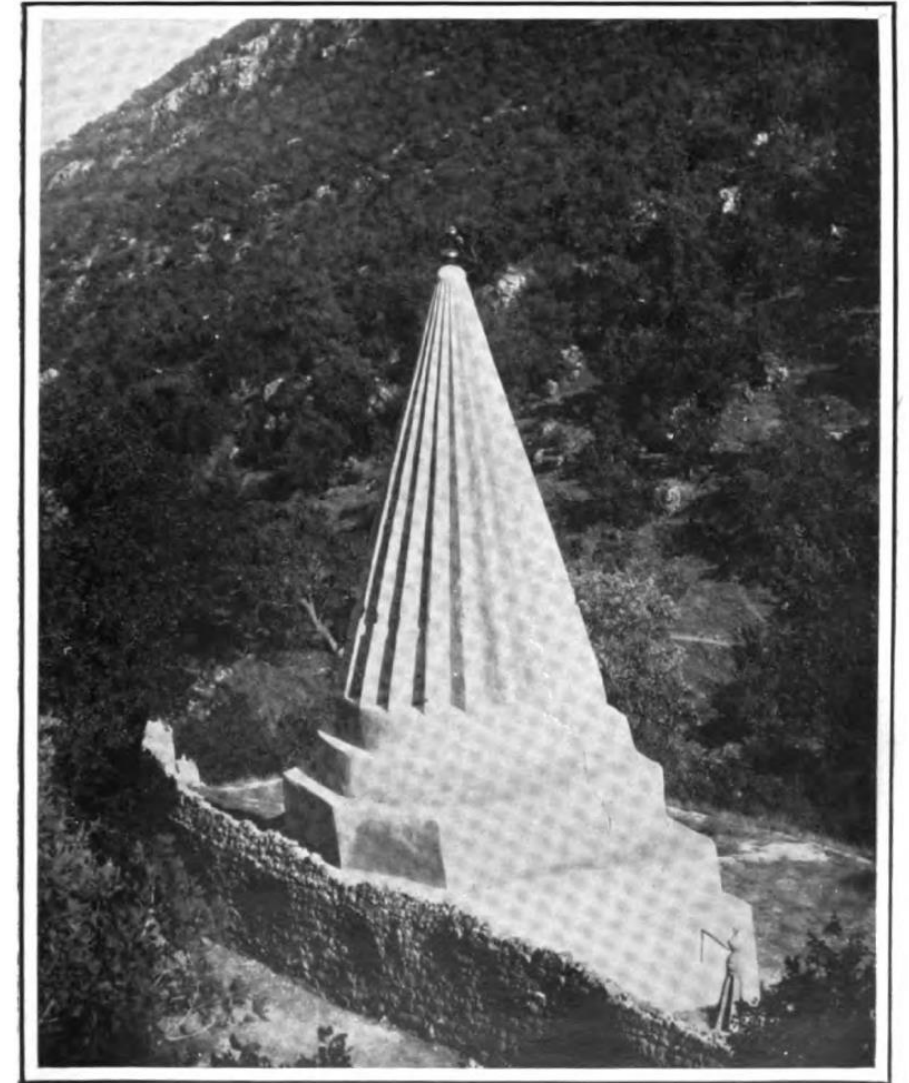
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 9. Roof



(d) The Chāwūsh on the Roof.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate Id



HOLLOW TOWER AT SHEIK-ADI

In the Crypt Beneath It, the Kolchaks or Magicians of the Yezidees  
Perform Their Mystical Incantations.

Seabrook 1927 (Year visited?):(316a)

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



Yezidi Cawals.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 192



Yezidi Women at Sheikh Adi.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 194

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

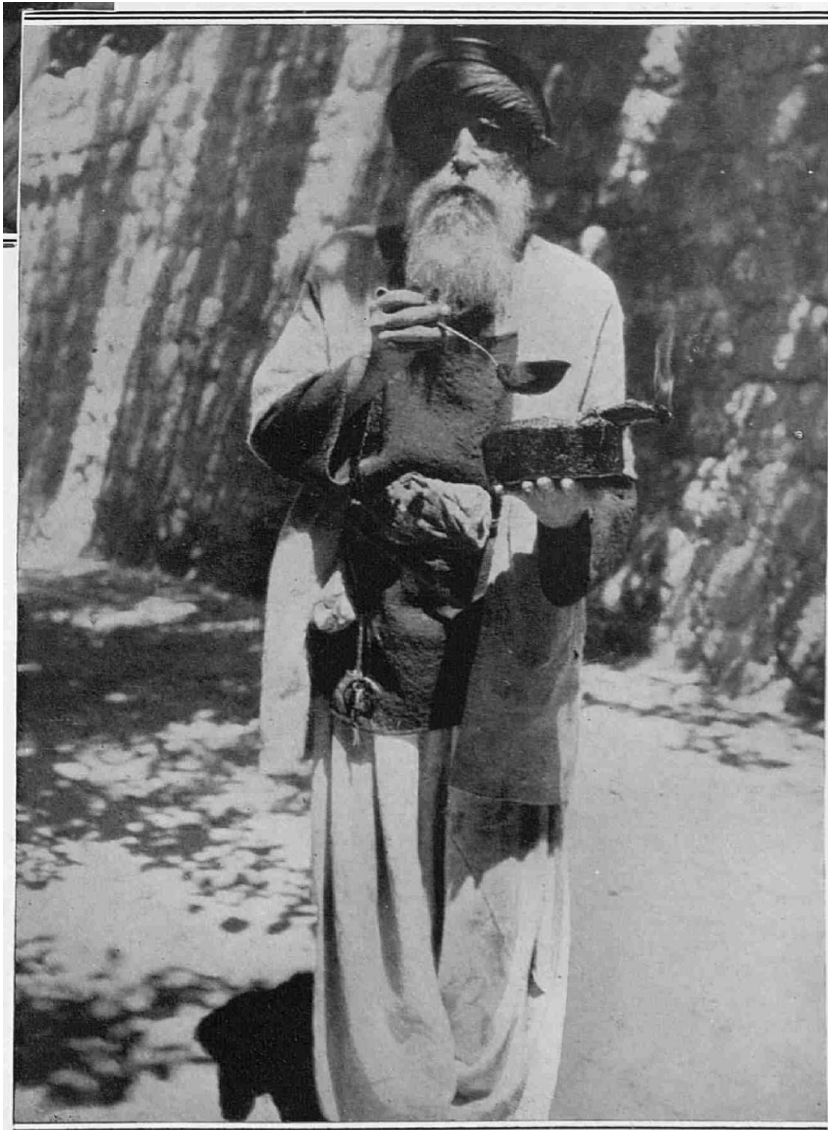
Accuracy dubious



The Illustrated London News  
Feb. 18 1911 – 222-233

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



WITH THE UNDYING FLAME: A fakir at the shrine of Sheikh Adi, clad in the costume ascribed to the founder of the Satanic cult of the Yezidis

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate IIc



(c) In the Market Place.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate II d



(d) The Auction at Shaykh Shams's.

The Sphere  
Nov. 8 1930



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



(b) Mixed Dancing at Shaykh Ādi's.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate Ib



(a) The Qabākh.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate IIa



(b) Bringing in the Bull.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate IIb

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

Açıkyıldız 2010:Colour plate 10



10 Praying children, Lalish



14 Baptism of the banner of Tawûsi Melek, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:Colour plate 14

Açıkyıldız 2010:Colour plate 16



16 Woman kissing the shrine, Lalish



22 Pilgrims at Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:Colour plate 22

10. Other



Açıkyıldız 2009:Figure 15

Figure 15. New Year ceremony (Serê Sal), forecourt of the sanctuary

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

Açıkyıldız 2010:10



1 Offer of coloured eggs on the occasion of Serê Sal, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:9



21 Banner of Tawûsî Melek (Peacock Angel), Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:21



2 Boys playing with coloured eggs, Lalish



3 Kebanes, religious women, making butter, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:11

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



26 Pesh imam, Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:112



34 Yezidi children from Bashiqe during New Year feast at Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:95

Açıkyıldız 2010:80



22 Baptism of the banner of Tawûsi Melek, Lalish

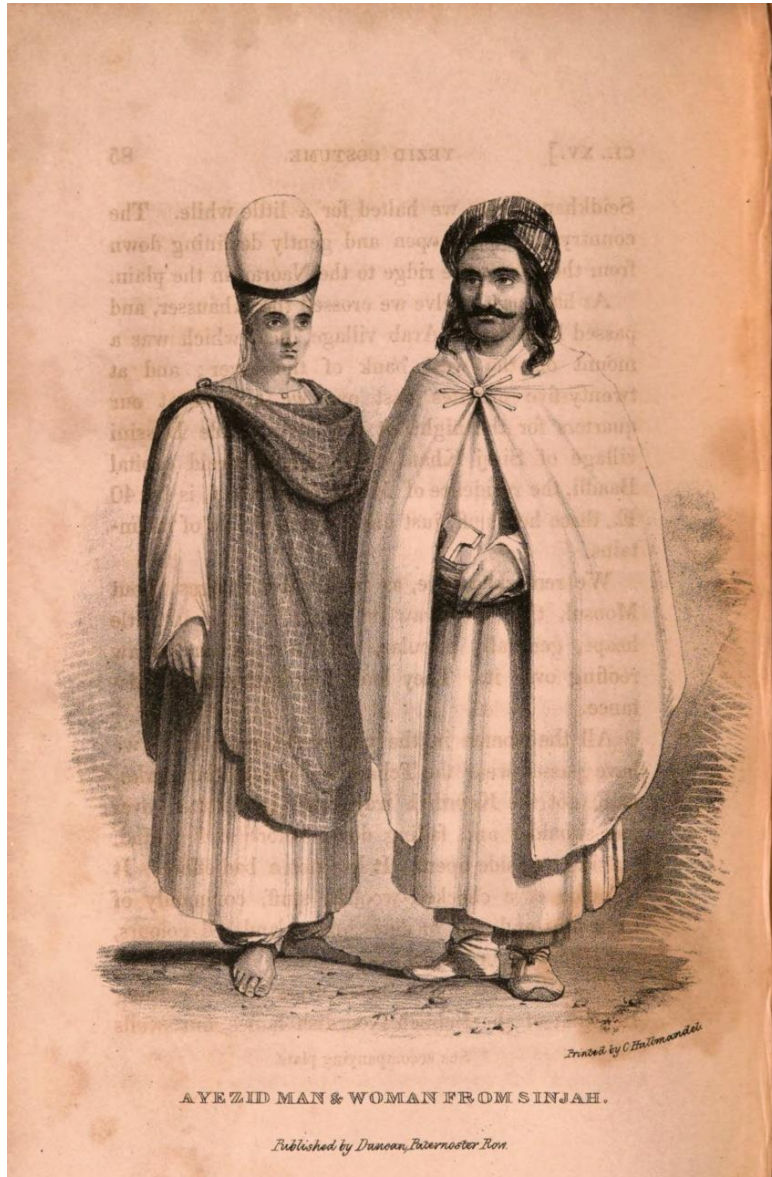


25 Men of religion: Baba sheikh, baba chawush, sheikhs at Lalish

Açıkyıldız 2010:93

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



Rich 1836, Vol II:103



Sheikh Nasr, High Priest of the Yezidis.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 208

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



Hussein Bey, the Chief of the Yezidis, and his Brother.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 178



FIG. 177.—'ALÎ BEG.

Bell 1911(1909):Figure 177

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



GIRL-DANCERS AT A YAZIDI WEDDING.  
(See page 177.)



THE YAZIDI VILLAGE OF BA'IDHRI.  
(See pages 175-178.)

p. 176

Drower 1923(1922):176



DANCERS AT A YAZIDI WEDDING.  
(Note the sacred tree walled in on the hill.)  
(See page 176.)

Drower 1923(1922):176f



# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other



SAID BEG : MIR OF THE YAZIDIS, WITH HIS WIFE.  
(See page 174.)



HASAN FAQIR : GUARDIAN PRIEST OF SHEIKH ADI.  
(See page 180.)

Drower 1923(1922):208f

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

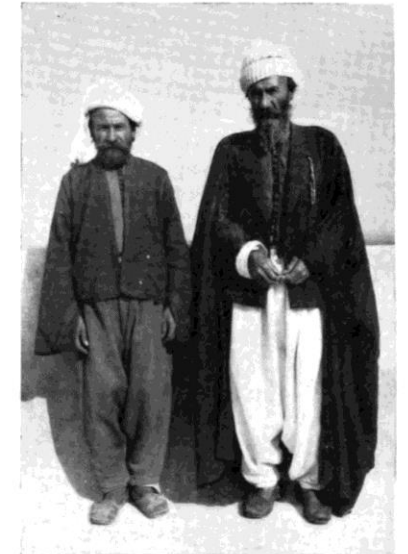


(e) Yazidis of Jabal Sinjār.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plate III e-f



(a) Faqīr Ḥusayn.



(b) Qawwāl and Kōchak.



(f) Mixed Dancing at Ba'shīqa.

Edmonds 1967(1944):  
Plates III a-d



(c) Hamō Shērō.



(d) Juwāna Tribesman of Sinjār.

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

Berezin 1951(1843):Figure 51

Badger 1852 (1844): I, 107



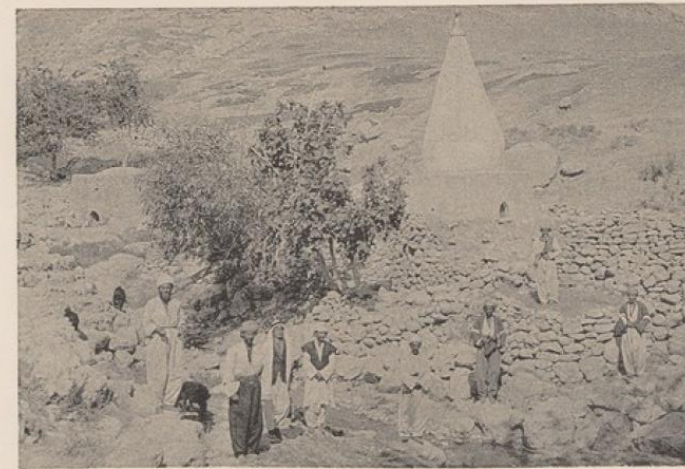
*a*



*b*



*c*

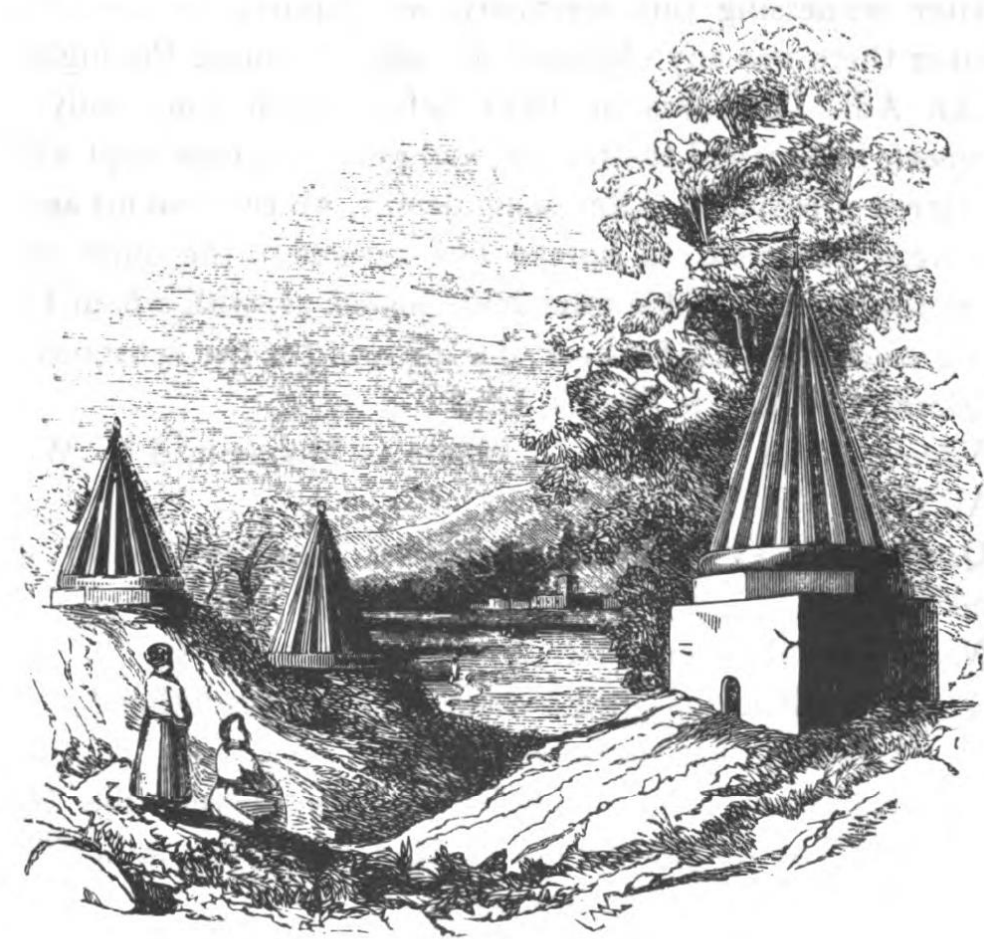


*d*

*a*, Washerwomen near Beled Sinjar. *b*, Stone ruins near Beled Sinjar. *c*, Yezidi tomb decorated with ibex horns near Baadri. *d*, Yezidi tomb near Bahsany.

PEABODY MUSEUM PAPERS

VOL. XLVI, No. 1, FIGURE 51

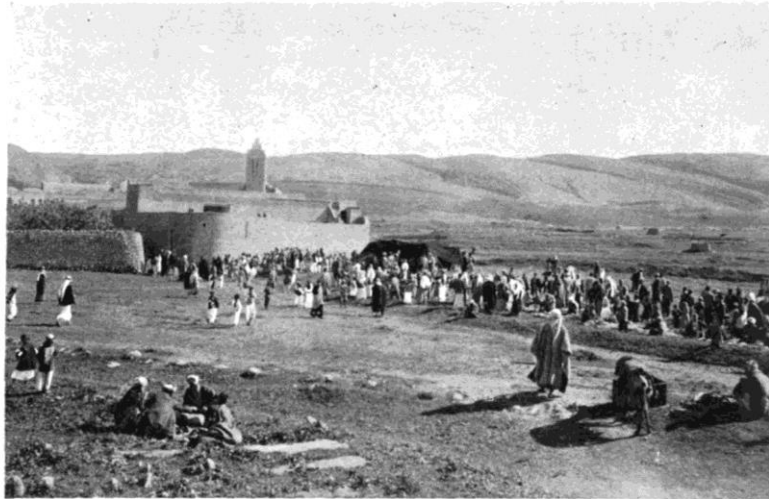


**YEZIDEE SHAKS.**

# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

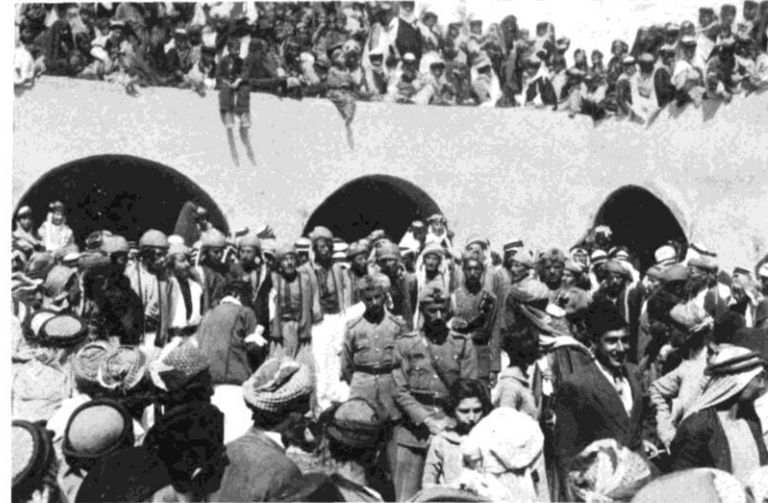
## 10. Other

Drower 1941:130



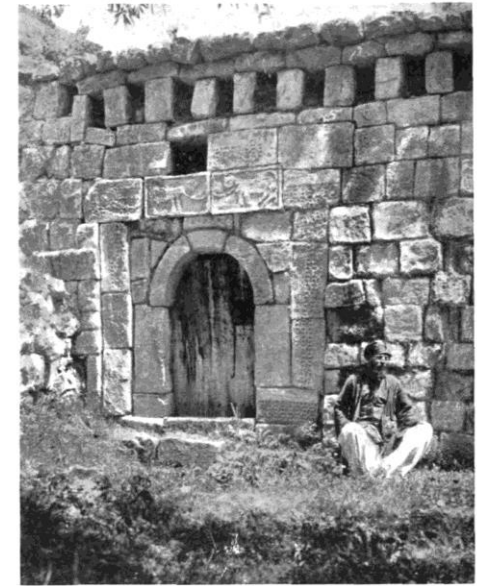
*Villagers streaming in for the feast.  
"As soon as they had entered they fell to their knees."*

Drower 1941:132



*Dancing the debka in the courtyard of Shaikh Muhammad.  
Exterior of the shrine of Shaikh Muhammad on the feast day.*

Drower 1941:165



*The shrine of Pir Hajjali.  
[Faqr Reshu sits by the door.]*

*The shrine of Kadi Bilban*

10. Other



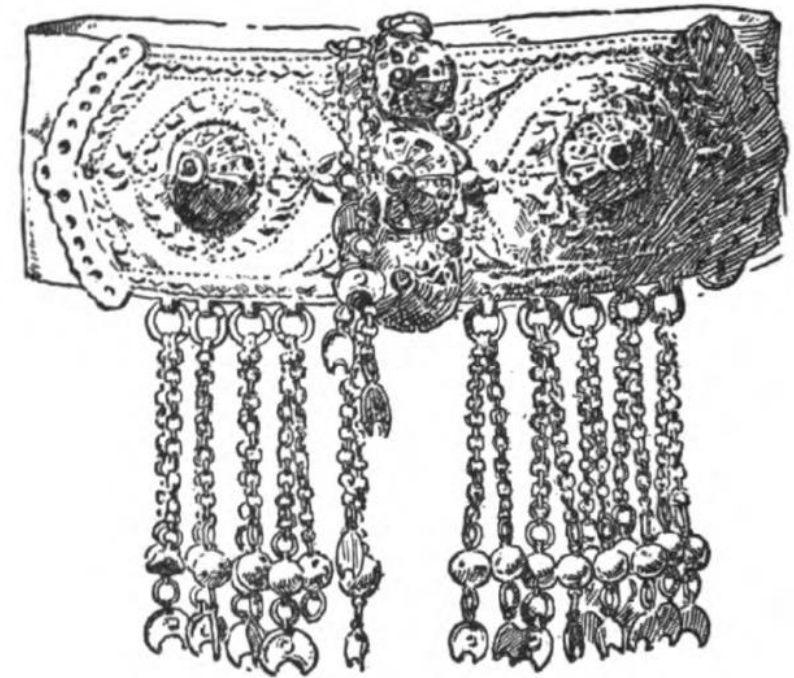
**THE MELEK TAOOS OF THE YEZEDEES.**

Badger 1852(1844): I, 124



The Melek Taous, or  
Copper Bird of the Yezidis.

Layard 1867(1845-47 ?): 196



**YEZIDEE BRIDE'S GIRDLE**

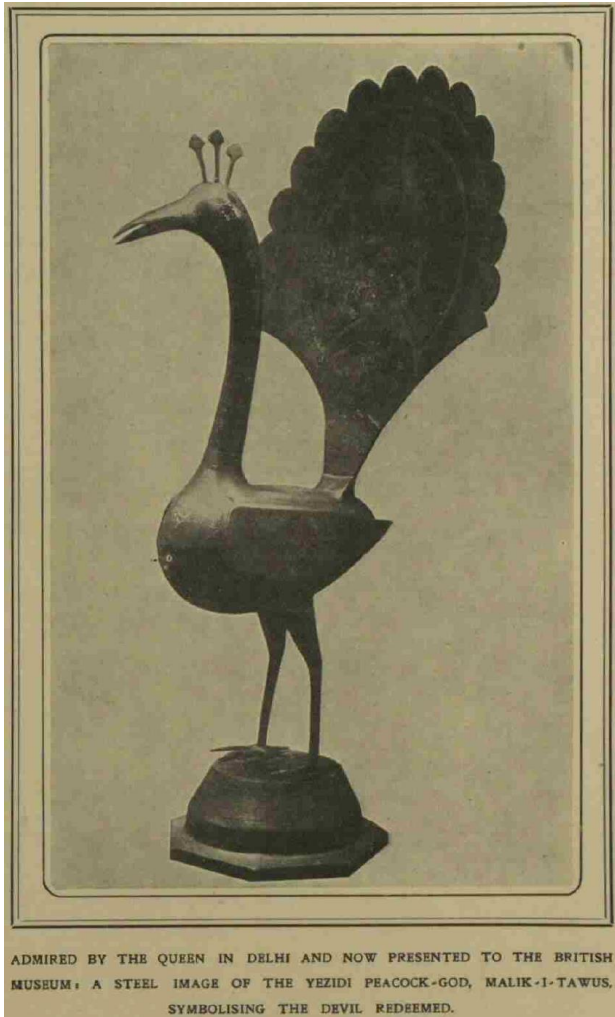
**Barbaric Silver, Set with Uncut Jewels**

Seabrook 1927 (Year visited?):334

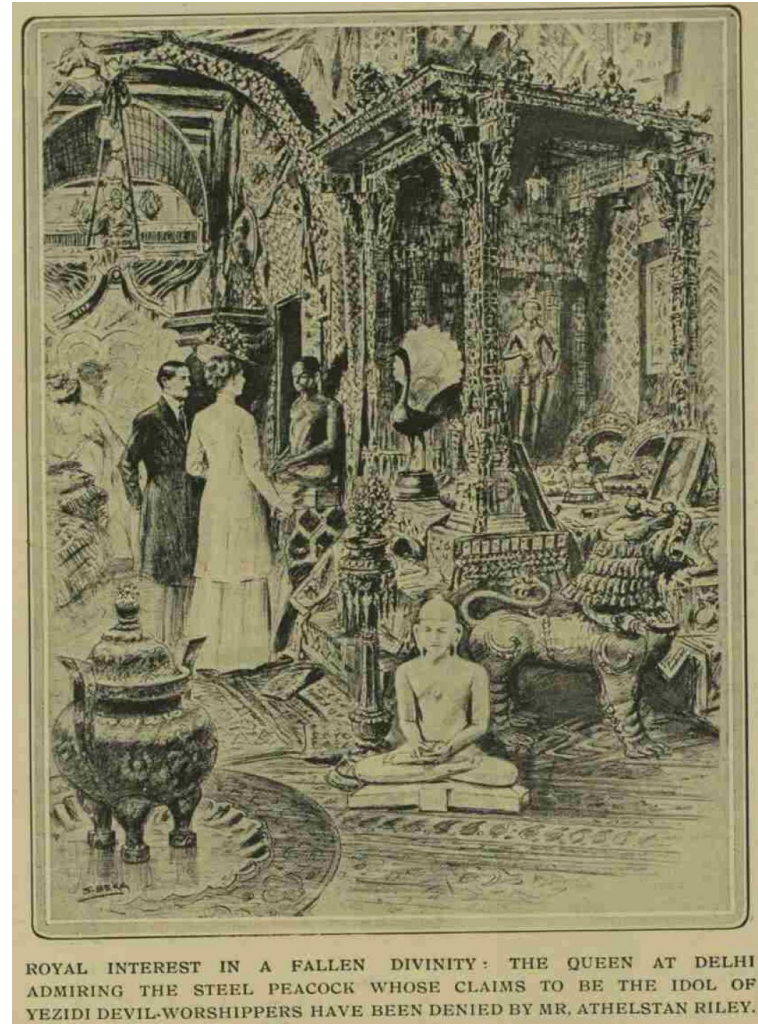
# Historical analysis of the architecture of the Sanctuary of Sheik 'Adi, at the Valley of Lalish (Iraq).

## 10. Other

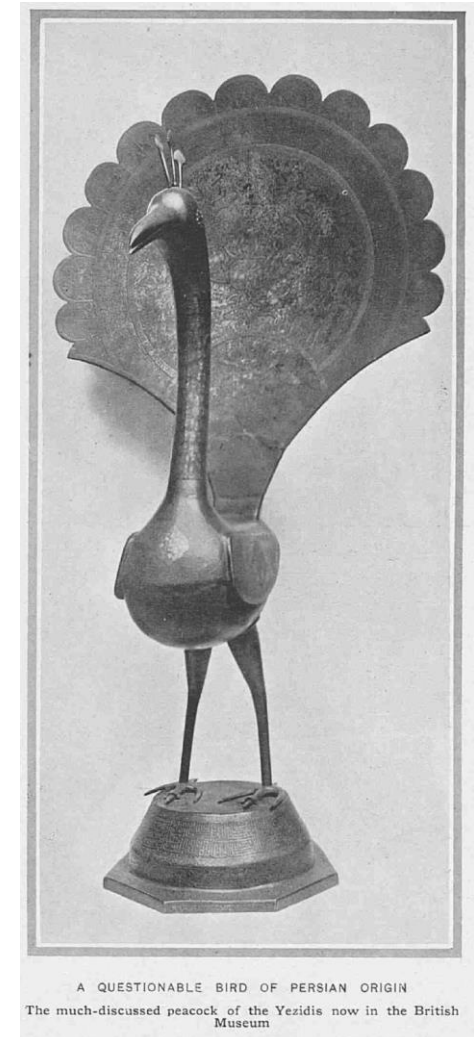
(False Melek Tawus statue,  
In the British Museum)



The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 13 1912 - 47



The Illustrated London News  
Jul. 27 1912 - 156



The Sphere  
Jul. 27 1912 - 79

