



Gordion (Yassihöyük) and Its Environs Site Management Plan

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Gordion (Yassihöyük) and Its Environs Site Management Plan
has been prepared by The Ministry of Culture and Tourism,
General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums with
the support of the Polatlı Municipality and The Gordion
Archaeological Project.

ABBREVIATIONS

AAMM:	Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum
ABB:	Ankara Metropolitan Municipality
CHEP:	Cultural Heritage Education Program
DOSIMM	Revolving Funds Management Central Directory
DSI:	General Directorate for State Hydraulic Works
WHS	World Heritage Site
FRIGKUM:	Association for Development and Protection of Phrygian Cultural Heritage
GAP:	The Gordion Archaeological Project
GM:	Gordion Museum
IAM:	Istanbul Archaeology Museums
KOSGEB:	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Turkey
KUDEB:	Conservation, Implementation and Supervision Bureaus for Cultural Properties
KVKBKM:	Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties
KVMGM:	General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums
MoCT:	The Ministry of Culture and Tourism
MUES:	Museum National Inventory System
METU:	Middle East Technical University
PB:	Polatlı Municipality
POTA	Polatlı Municipality, Historical Sites Promotion Centre
TB:	Terrace Building
TUBITAK:	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
TUES:	National Immovable Cultural Heritage Inventory System

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SECTION 1- INTRODUCTION

The famous historian Strabo indicates that the Phrygians were a people who came to Anatolia from the Balkans, while the Roman historian Quintus Cirtius (Hist Alex III,1-2) remarks that the capital of the Phrygians was near the Sakarya (Sangarios) River. Tangible remains about this people, who founded a civilization and whose political, social and cultural relations were the subject to ancient sources, started to be discovered in a relatively not so distant time. German classical philologist Alfred Körte defined this ancient settlement as “Gordion”, based on what Greek and Latin writers said about the old Phrygian capital, during his visit to a place on the Sakarya (Sangarios) river in 1893. This discovery of Alfred Körte was a turning point not only for Gordion and the nearby Yassıhöyük Village, but also for world history and archaeology. After this date, Gordion excavations continued at intervals. Discovery of the Great Tumulus (Tumulus MM), which has the oldest wooden burial chamber in the world, by Rodney S. Young in 1950, aroused great excitement. The archaeological investigations in the Site have yielded numerous materials which shed light to the Phrygian civilization and also showed that Citadel Mound that are uninterruptedly inhabited. The tumuli scattered over wide steppe geography marked the landscape, the legends have inspired the ancient art. Taking into account Gordion’s Universal Values, the site was included UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List in 2012.

Today, along with the excavations carried out within the scope of the Gordion Archeology Project, conservation studies have been continued with an interdisciplinary team. In addition, many plans and projects have been implemented by academicians, the experts of Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum and Gordion Museum, as well as relevant local stakeholders, especially Polatlı Municipality, on protection, conservation, documentation, and education. These works are mentioned in this management plan. Within the scope of Gordion's nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List, the Management Plan studies have also accelerated and this Management Plan has been prepared within the scope of the cooperation protocol signed between the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums and Polatlı Municipality on 14.09.2018.

1.1. Rationale for the Management Plan

Yassıhöyük, where Gordion is located, is a neighborhood that has been defined as a rural settlement due to its geographical, social and economic structure, as a part of Polatlı district of Ankara province in accordance with national legislation. Therefore, in accordance with its legal and administrative structure, it has the characteristic of being a settlement where many

stakeholders at central and local scale are authorized to develop plans, programs and projects in the field.

The development of scientific research and excavation activities in the site, the establishment of priority policies for their conservation and protection, the implementation method that will contribute to the development of rural and local life and tourism, is made possible by practices and approaches within the framework of the "site management plan". There is a need for a management plan that will constitute a framework for providing decision-making mechanisms and managing the site in order to protect, preserve and evaluate all the values as well as the archaeological and cultural importance of Gordion and its surroundings with a holistic approach.

1.2. Preparation Process of Gordion (Yassıhöyük) and Its Near Environment Management Plan

1.2.1. Working Process

Preparation process of a site management plan is defined in additional article 2 of Law No. 2863 amended by Law No. 5226 as well as in "The Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites" entered into force after being published in the Official Gazette dated 27.11.2005 and numbered 26006.

In accordance with the aforementioned law and regulation, draft management plan was prepared by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in order to protect, conserve, evaluate and develop the Site.

First of all, the planning team has been formed with an interdisciplinary approach and a planning schedule has been envisaged. Within the framework of article 10 of "The Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites" the experts in the planning team and the departments they graduated from are as follows:

Pınar KUŞSEVEN	Archaeology
Yıldırım İNAN	Archaeology
Dr. Zeynep TUNA YÜNCÜ	City and Regional Planning
Kıvılcım Neşe AKDOĞAN	City and Regional Planning
Dr. Şule KILIÇ YILDIZ	History of Art

Ümmühan Nurşah CABBAR	Architecture
Uğur IŞIK	Economy
Erdem EŞ	Business
Yavuz YAĞAN	Public Administration

The management structure consisting of the "Site Manager", "Advisory Board" and "Coordination and Audit Board" is formed by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism In accordance with Article 14 of the "The Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites"; a site manager, who has previously worked on the area, has adequate knowledge of the area, can develop a specific vision for the area, has knowledge on new approaches to cultural and natural property management, is experienced in management policies and implementations, is a graduate from university departments such as architecture, urban and regional planning, archaeology, art history, public administration, business management and economics shall be appointed by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. In Article 15, it is stated that; the advisory board shall be composed of at least five members from persons with the right to property in the area, professional chambers, civil society organisations, relevant university departments, site manager and members to be determined by the competent authority. In Article 16, it is also stated that the coordination and audit board shall be composed of at least five members, one of them being the site manager, two members to be elected by the advisory board from among its own members, and at least one representative from each of the administrations the services of which are needed within the scope of the draft management plan.

The management plan is assessed by the Advisory Board and approved by the Coordination and Audit Board. The process (preparation, evaluation, approval, implementation, monitoring and updating of the management plan) is carried out in cooperation with the site manager. The site manager is also responsible for the preparation of the annual working schedule and audit reports.

Accordingly, Mustafa KAYMAK, Director of the Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties Directorate, was appointed as the "Gordion (Yassihöyük) Site Manager" with the Ministry's Approval dated 27.11.2019 and numbered E.967202. The Advisory Board and the Coordination and Audit Board constituted for the "Gordion (Yassihöyük) Management Plan" were determined by the Authority Approval dated 08.06.2020 and numbered E.378691. Members of the Advisory Board and the Coordination and Supervision Board are listed below:

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Prof. Dr. Musa KADIOĞLU	Archaeologist / Lecturer
Dr. Ayşe GÜRSAN-SALZMANN	Archaeologist / Faculty Member,
Dr. Müge BAHÇECİ	Architect / Faculty Member
Architect / Member of the Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties	
Mehmet And ATASOY	Archaeologist
Melek YILDIZTURAN	Archaeologist
Ünver YAVUZ	Mukhtar of Yassıhöyük Neighbourhood
Burhan ALBAYRAK	Mukhtar of Beylikköprü Neighbourhood
Gökay ŞAVUJ	Mukhtar of Çekirdeksiz Neighbourhood
Mehmet YAVUZ,	Mukhtar of Kıranharmani Neighbourhood
Nurullah ÖZ	Mukhtar of Ömerler Neighbourhood
Korkmaz KADEMLİOĞLU	Mukhtar of Sazılar Neighbourhood
Rıza BAĞCI	Mukhtar of Şabanözü Neighbourhood
Sedat ÇEVİZDALI	Mukhtar of Gençali Neighbourhood
Kadim KOÇ	Polatlı History and Cultural Studies Association
Mukadder EKREMOĞLU	World Heritage Gordion Platform

COORDINATION AND AUDIT BOARD MEMBERS

Site Manager (Mustafa KAYMAK)

Representative of the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums

Representative of Ankara Governorship Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate

Representative of Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum Directorate

Representative of Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties
Directorate

Representative of Ankara Survey and Monuments Directorate

Representative of the Gordion Excavation Directorate

Representative of Ankara Governorship, Provincial Directorate of Environment and
Urbanization

Representative of Ankara Governorship, Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry

Representative of Ankara Development Agency

Representative of Ankara Metropolitan Municipality

Representative of Polatlı District Governorship

Representative of Polatlı Municipality

Representative of General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works - the 5th Regional Directorate

Representative of Highways 4th Regional Directorate

Representative of Polatlı Chamber of Agriculture

Representative of Polatlı Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Muge BAHÇECİ Architect/Faculty Member*

Kadim KOÇ / Polatlı History and Cultural Studies Association*

(* These representatives were elected from the members of the Advisory Board in accordance with Article 16 of the "The Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites".)

1.2.2. Method of the Management Plan

During the preparation of the Gordion (Yassıhöyük) Management Plan, the relevant national legislation provisions mentioned above, the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO 1972), Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (UNESCO, 2019), The "Management Guide for World Heritage Sites" prepared by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) has been examined. Additionally, the plans and projects related to the Site prepared in previous years were taken into consideration.

One of these projects considered as an important resource was the Conservation Management Planning Project for Gordion and its Environs initiated in 2007 with the partnership of Penn Design, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Penn Museum) and Ankara Middle East Technical University Faculty of Architecture. The aims of the mentioned project were mentioned in Section 7.4.1. This project is not an approved management plan, but it is an important document presenting the results of a comprehensive study.

During the preparation process of the Management Plan, various meetings were held with the main stakeholders, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Penn Museum), the Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum Directorate, the Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties Directorate, and the Polatlı Municipality. In these meetings, ideas were exchanged on the content and development of the Management Plan. Important information was provided at these meetings and this information helped to identify issues to be addressed.

Furthermore, a questionnaire was prepared by the experts of the Ministry to be applied to the people living in the rural settlements located in Gordion and its surrounding. This survey study aimed to understand the relationship between the local people and the site and then to develop the most appropriate and realistic policies for the site. It was applied to the residents of Yassihöyük, Çekirdeksiz, Sazılar, Şabanözü Neighbourhoods by the authorities of Polatlı Municipality and Polatlı History and Cultural Studies Association.



Fig.1 Questionnaire work with local people.

1.2.3. Purpose and Scope of the Management Plan

The Management Plan is a guideline document in which the management approach is documented and the decisions made about the site are taken as a basis in the planning process. In this context, management plans are described as a practical tool that aims to ensure the cultural sustainability of the site by establishing a balance between research, conservation, restoration, tourism, economic development and the needs and priorities of the local people of the region. Therefore, the main objectives of the management plan are to ensure the protection and sustainability of the importance and values of the site, and also to help all stakeholders and visitors to adopt the importance and values of the site in the best possible way.

The primary purpose of the Gordion (Yassihöyük) Management Plan is to determine the values and importance of Gordion, and its environment, and to ensure that these values are understood by all segments of the society. Sustainable management of the balance between protection and use of the archaeological and cultural resources of the site; and to create an opportunity for joint action among stakeholders and the development of implementation mechanisms in order to make healthy decisions on the site are also other purposes of this Management Plan.

In this way, it is aimed to ensure coordination among all stakeholders who have responsibility and interest in the site, in order to protect, keep alive, evaluate and transfer all the values of Gordion and its environment to future generations. In this direction, a process-oriented approach was adopted rather than an action-oriented approach during the preparation process of the plan.

SECTION 2-DESCRIPTION AND VALUES

2.1. Location and Boundaries

The archaeological site of Gordion is located in the Central Anatolian region of Turkey, at the village (mahalle) of Yassihöyük, near the point of junction of Sakarya and Porsuk Rivers, east of Sakarya River, ca. 90 km. southwest of Ankara, and 18 km northwest of Polatlı. Yassihöyük is neighbors with Kıranharmanı, Beylikköprü ve Çekirdeksiz districts.



Fig. 2 Map showing the location of Yassihöyük (Gordion)



Fig. 2.1 Aerial photo of Gordion.

The property was designated as a 1st and 3rd degree Archaeological Site by the Decision No.1096, 16.02.1990 of the Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural and Natural Properties. 1st Degree Archaeological Site includes the Citadel Mound, the fortifications (incl. Küçük Höyük/Small Mound, Kuştepe/Bird Mound), the Lower Town and 73 Tumuli including Tumulus MM. A part of Yassihöyük and the Outer Town is located in the 3rd Degree Archaeological Site.

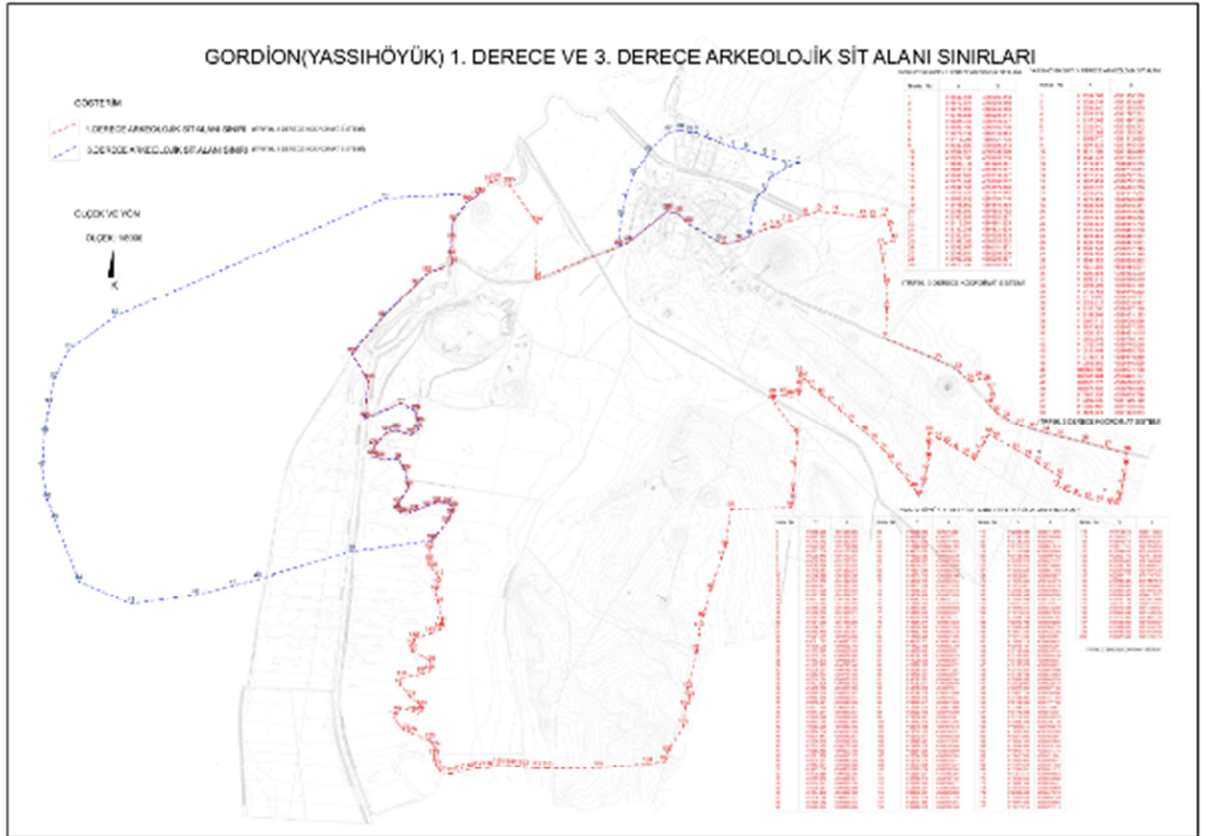


Fig. 2.2 Map showing the 1st and 3rd Degree Archaeological Site of Gordion

Primarily, the management area boundaries of Gordion were determined within the scope of the preparations for the nomination of Gordion to UNESCO World Heritage List.

According to “Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites”, the boundaries of management area are determined by the Ministry (Ministry of Culture and Tourism) by taking the opinions of the relevant administrations. While doing this, coordination between central and local administrations competent for planning and conservation and non-governmental organizations is ensured. The aim is effectively protecting, sustain, evaluate, develop the site around a certain vision and theme as well as meet the cultural and educational needs of the society in the natural integrity of the site.

In order to determine the boundaries of the management area, on-site surveys and field studies were conducted between 23-24 July 2019, with the participation of the relevant units of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums), Gordion Excavation Team and Polatlı Municipality experts. Following the field studies, meeting with stakeholders was held. As a result of the studies, the boundaries of the Gordion (Yassihöyük) Management Area were found appropriate with the Authority Approval dated 18.11.2019 and numbered E.912100.

During the meeting, attention was drawn to the following issues;

- It would be appropriate that the boundary of the 1st and 3rd Degree Archaeological Site as the boundry of the Nominated WHS since all those areas and/or attributes that are a direct and tangible expression of its Outstanding Universal Value would have been included.
- Buffer zone is an important component of the conservation strategy to protect the Site as a whole.
- Therefore, the buffer zone should include the the immediate vicinity of the Site taking into account important vantage points, or attributes for the conservation of the site in a holistic approach.

Within this framework, boundary of the Nominated WHS and buffer zone has been established and composed the scope of the Management Plan. Regarding to the boundary of Management Plan, the opinions of the relevant institutions were consulted and in line with the opinions, the Boundary of the Management Area of Gordion (Yassihöyük), as is seen on the map below, was approved in 04.01.2021.

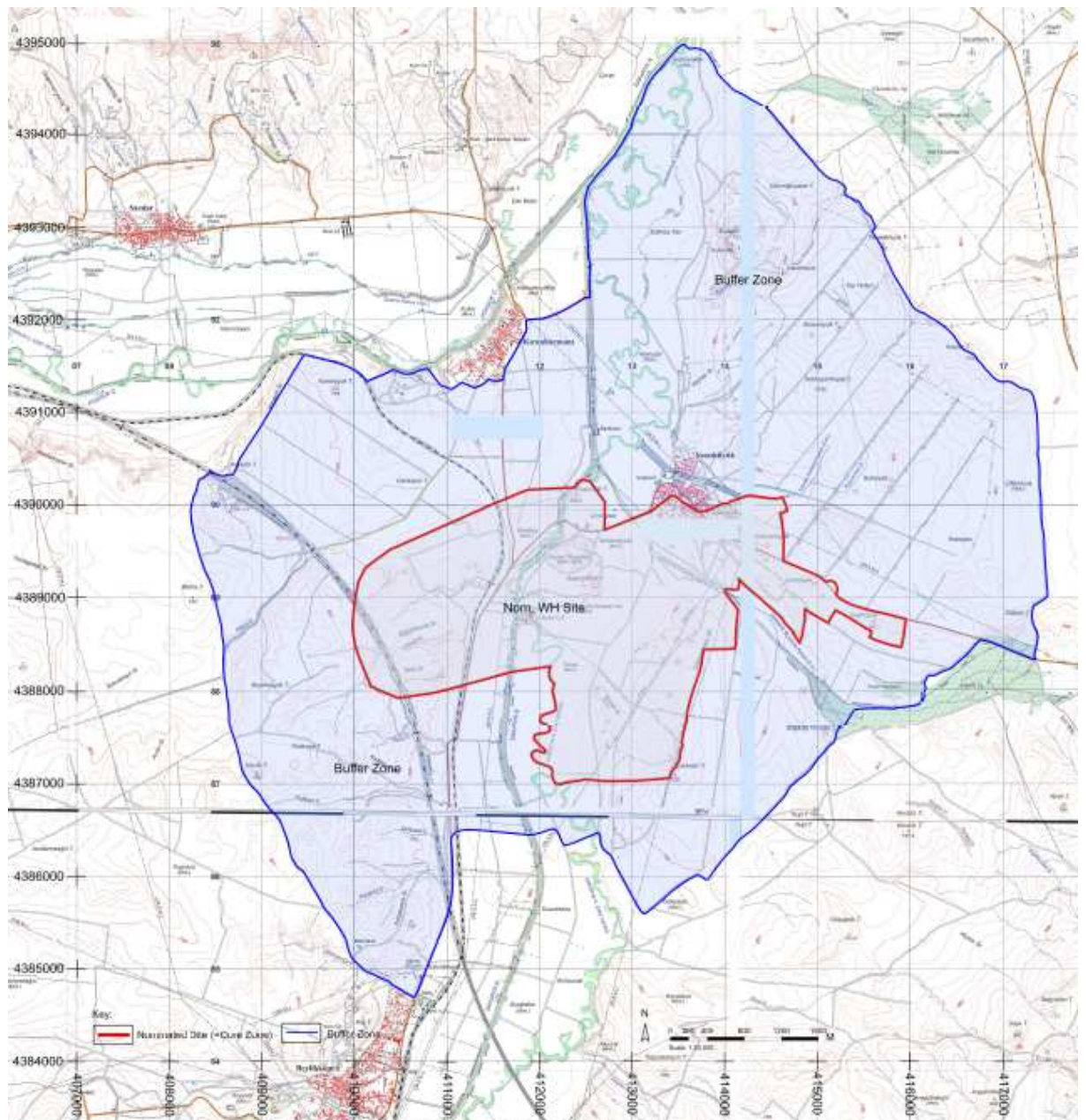


Fig. 2.3 Map showing the boundaries of the Nominated WHS and bufferzone.

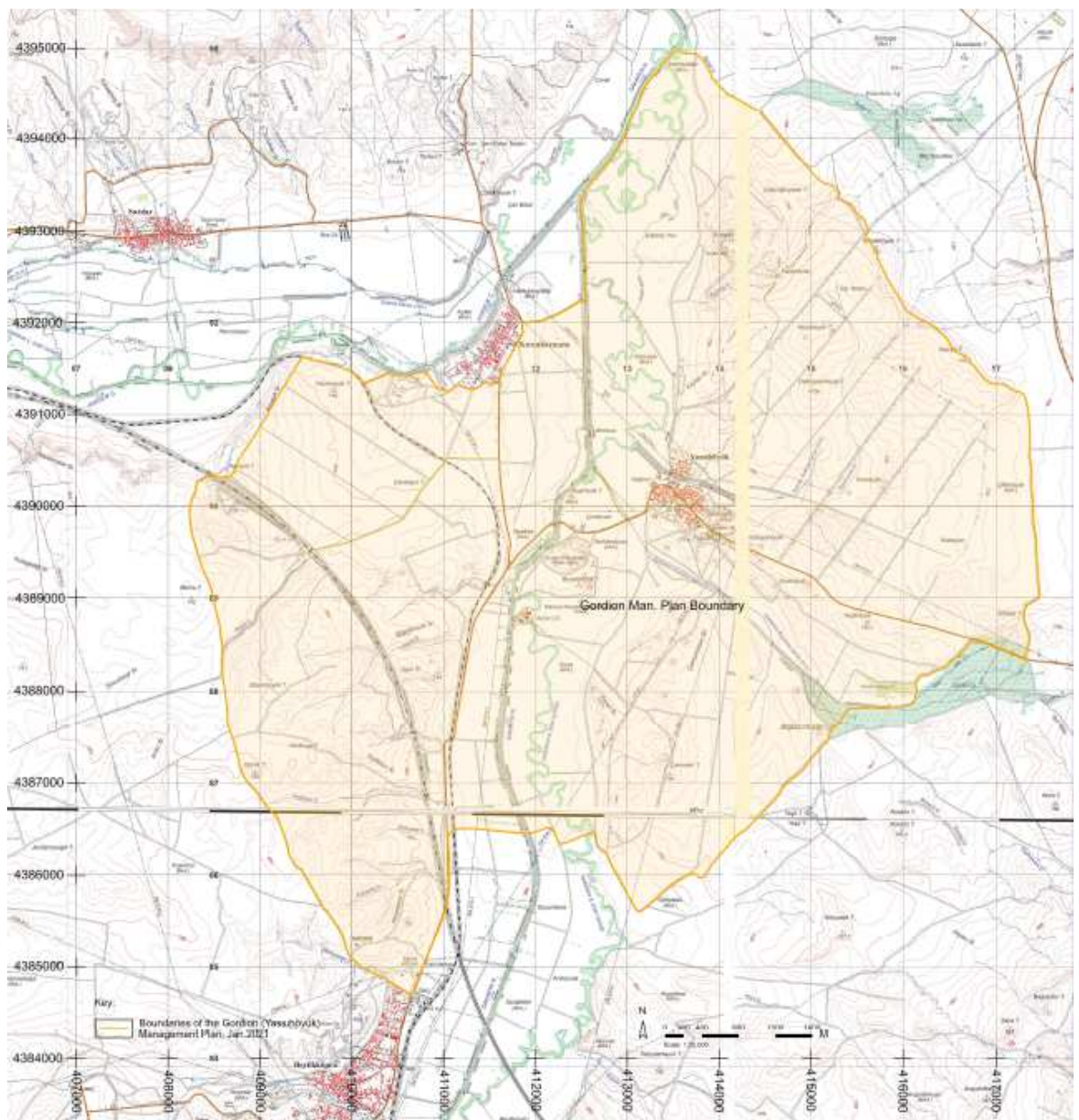


Fig.2.4 Map showing the boundaries of the Management Plan.

Locations of the Tumuli in the Nominated WHS and buffer zone are shown in Table 1 and Table 2. 73 of these tumuli are in the Site and 41 are in the buffer zone. As can be seen from the map below, tumuli are mostly concentrated in Yassihöyük Neighbourhood, Sülüklü district.



Fig.2.5 Map showing the Tumuli in Yassihöyük, Sülüklü Distri
(Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

In addition to Yassihöyük, the tumuli are distributed in rural settlements in Şabanözü, Çekirdeksiz, Beylikköprü, Kıranharmanı, and Sazılar.



Fig. 2.6 Yassihöyük and its neighbourhods

2.2. Description of the Site

2.2.1. Environmental Features

Gordion is located to the east of Sakarya River and to the north of the point where Sakarya River meets Porsuk River. Sakarya and Porsuk rivers are important water resources in the region.



Fig. 2.7 The Sakarya (anc. ‘Sangarios’) River, flowing north-east at Gordion (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Gordion settlements are close to where springs are located. It does not reach the still flowing rivers in the area. Today, with the irrigation of the fields, the water layer has deepened, causing even more springs to go underground for much of the year. Because the river has recently been channelized to several meters below its floodplain, the site of Gordion provides an unusually clear display of the archaeology of a fluvially buried city. The lowest parts of the city were abandoned and decaying by the time most sedimentary burial was occurring. Gordion provides the most precise evidence to date about a widespread episode of sedimentation that affected central Anatolia after human settlement began, apparently caused by tree-cutting and over-grazing.

The siltation of the Sakarya River was a basin-wide event. The watersheds immediately adjacent to the city show the same sequence of erosion and stream-sedimentation as the river, although the small streams were affected many centuries earlier. The Sakarya’s shift to its present course on the west side of the Citadel Mound was relatively recent. 19th century date for the shift is consonant with the steep and uneven bed of that stream course.

There are two main rock types in Gordion. These rock types are volcanic basalt stone with a thick layer of muddy and sandy lime rich in sedimentary stone. Siltstone and basalt are not

good in building stone materials and stone, including limestone, was used only in important buildings in Gordion.

Gordion is located Turkey's temperate zone and has a large number of endemic species as well as a wide variety of flora. The number of tree trunks and rainfall in Gordion decrease as the altitude increases; both vegetation and soil use follow these precipitation changes. The most common vegetation in the region is steppe. Steppe vegetation is common in summer and in the plateaus with little rainfall. There are usually thorny bushes. There are willow and poplar trees in rows along the streams. Almost all of the land is agricultural land or pasture.

The continental climate, which is the climate of the Central Anatolia Region, is observed in the region. Summers are hot and dry; winters are cold and snowy. Day and night temperature differences are high. Rainfall is high in March and April and the average amount of precipitation is 377.6 mm.



Fig.2.8 General view of the Tumuli in snow (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

In Gordion, which is generally under the influence of dry winds, winds blowing in summer come from the northeast, winds blowing in winter come from the north, and winds that bring strong precipitation come from the northwest and southwest. The annual average humidity is 60%, this rate rises to 80% in December-January, and decreases to 40% in the hottest months of the year, July-August. According to the average of the data for many years, the

highest temperature (in August) is 40 degrees, the lowest temperature (in January) -24.9 degrees. Snowfall is often between January and April.

According to Earthquake Zone Map for the (1996) of the former Ministry of Public Works and Settlement Gordion is located in the 3rd degree earthquake zone.

2.2.2. Citadel Mound

The most important element forming Gordion Archaeological Site is the Citadel Mound which today rises to a height of 13 – 16,5 m above the surrounding plain and measures approximately 480 x 330 m (covering just over 10 hectares).



Fig.2.9 Aerial view of the Citadel Mound of Gordion.

Gordion's Citadel Mound served as the capital of Phrygia between the 10th and 7th centuries BCE., and it is the premiere showcase for monumental Iron Age architecture in Central Anatolia. On the southeast side of the mound is an enormous stone gate complex leading into the citadel. It takes the form of a ramped approach-way, flanked by massive courts and leading to a double-doored gatehouse. The stone walls beside the approach-way are still preserved to a height of about 10 meters, but the original height was probably 16 m. This is the best-preserved city gate of Iron Age date in Asia Minor.



Fig. 2.10 The Early Phrygian East Gate (ca. 850 –800 BC) on the Citadel Mound during the 1955 excavations. The gate passage looks west to Tumulus W (=T5) in the distance- the large mound at the centre of the photograph (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

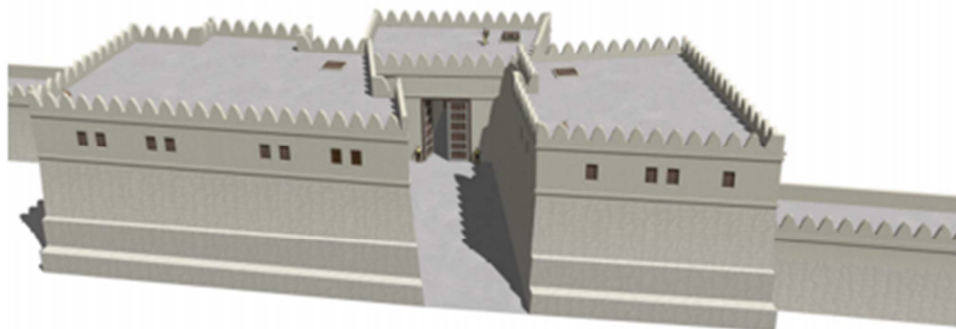


Fig.2.11 Reconstruction of Early Phrygian gate Complex in the 9th century BCE by Gabriel Pizzorno and Gareth Darbyshire (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).



Fig.2.12 Plan of the Early Phrygian citadel's "Palace Area", ca. 825–800 B.C. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Within the citadel, two main districts have been unearthed. The Palace Area consists of two large courts open to the sky and divided by a thick partition wall. To the southwest of the courts lies the Terrace Complex, consisting of two long, multi-unit buildings facing each other across a broad street, all elevated on a terrace that is as much as two meters higher than the level of the Palace Area. The buildings along the southwestern side of the Palace Area (Megarons 1–4) and those in the Terrace Complex were all destroyed in the great fire around 800 BCE.

The building type of choice in the Early Phrygian citadel was the megaron, a rectangular structure with a large, deep hall fronted by a much shallower anteroom or porch. The type has a long history in Anatolia going back to the Early Bronze Age. The megarons of the citadel show a variety of sizes and building features. Among the smallest is **Megaron 1**, in the outer court of the Palace Area. The building's walls are of mudbrick on a low stone socle. In the fire that destroyed the citadel around 800 BCE, the mudbrick became baked, leaving clear inserts, ledges, and hollows where wooden beams had originally been placed. This technique of half-timbering also has a long history in Anatolia.

Next to Megaron 1, **Megaron 2** is a stone building that incorporates timbers in ways similar to those seen in its neighbor. Several features of this building are remarkable: the wildly-patterned pebble-mosaic floor of its hall; the elevated platform in front, as though to distinguish it from other buildings; figural and abstract designs incised on its external walls; and, from a structural point of view, an enormous span of 9.75 meters for the principal timbers of the roof. Found directly in front of the building, and perhaps belonging to it, is a stone roof-crown or akroterion, similar to those that have been sketchily incised on Megaron 2 itself. If there is to be a candidate for a temple in the Early Phrygian citadel, Megaron 2 is perhaps the strongest contender, and the Phrygian mother goddess Matar is the likeliest choice for the focus of adoration.



Fig.2.13 The Early Phrygian pebble mosaic in the main room of Megaron 2, photographed during the 1956 excavations. Blackening from the great fire of ca. 800 B.C. can be seen on the floor. Note also the large hearth, with a diameter of 2 m, in the center of the room. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Megaron 3, the largest single megaron in the citadel, faces onto the inner court of the Palace Area. Wooden beams set into its floor indicate that the hall had two rows of upright timber supports forming a central nave with side-aisles, and probably also balconies along the sides. Numerous textiles remain along the rear wall suggest a low divan. The megaron contained a wealth of luxury items: much fine pottery, bronze vessels, and furniture with ivory and metal fittings and inlaid ivory plaques. Possibly the rulers of ninth century Gordion used Megaron 3 as a reception and audience hall, where in spacious surroundings they could display outward signs of their wealth and rank. **Megaron 4**, elevated on a terrace beside Megaron 3 and approached by a monumental cobbled ramp, was the only building of the citadel that suffered major intrusions by later inhabitants of the site. Made largely of mudbrick, the building would have been prominent within the citadel, yet its purpose remains elusive. Like its neighbor, Megaron 3, the main hall has a nave and side-aisle arrangement.

The Terrace Complex to the southwest of the Palace Area consists of two long, multi-unit buildings facing each other across a wide street. The one toward the Palace Area, the Terrace Building, has been excavated for its entire length of over 100 meters, thus making it one of the largest buildings of ancient Anatolia. Its eight, virtually identical units have again the basic megaron plan, in this case sharing party walls. The interior arrangement of each unit recalls Megarons 3–4 in having two rows of pillars forming nave and side aisles. The walls consisted of stone and intermittent wooden coursing in their lower parts, with mudbrick above. Each unit was entered only by a door leading from the street into an antechamber; there were no internal doors connecting the units, nor rear doors giving access to the Palace Area.



Fig.2.14 Aerial view looking north-east, showing the Terrace Building (TB) Complex in the foreground. From right to left: units TB1, TB2, TB3, TB4, and TB5 (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Of the structure opposite, **the CC (“Clay Cut”) Building**, only three units have been excavated, but the basic plan of each is identical to the megaron-type units of the Terrace Building.

After a catastrophic fire ca. 800 B.C., the Phrygians decided to erect their new citadel at a considerably higher level than that of the old, as much as four to five meters higher in the area of the former megaron courts, and higher still around the entry gate at the southeast. To achieve the desired level, they brought in enormous amounts of clay and stone rubble. Comparison of the plans of the New and Old Citadels shows that the former largely duplicated the latter in terms of layout. At the southeast, a monumental gate complex in part overlay its Early Phrygian predecessor yet extended further toward the southeast. The massive rubble underpinning of the new gate was kept in place by a stepped retaining wall of multi-colored worked blocks that may have risen as high as 20 meters above the outside

ground level. Creating a dramatic and impressive vista, the retaining wall no doubt also figured prominently in the defense of the New Citadel. Sections of the fortification wall for the New Citadel have been excavated at the northeast and northwest, where they lie just outside the line of the older citadel walls and, again, at a higher level.

Within the fortifications, the principal districts are virtually the same as in the old citadel: at the east, two large courts flanked by megarons, and, at the west, two rows of buildings facing each other across a wide street. The latter structures were now free-standing, whereas in the old citadel the so-called Terrace and CC Buildings had each been a multi-unit, single structure. A major addition to the layout of the New Citadel was Building A, a large, multi-unit row structure, longer than 80m extending to the southwest of the gate complex.

Around 500 BCE it experienced a major alteration: the two megarons at the northeast end were renovated and continued in use; at the same time, two of the megarons to the southwest were demolished to make way for a different kind of complex—the Mosaic Building. This was a multi-room layout with a paved court of large, worked andesite blocks, leading to rooms decorated with colorful river-pebble mosaics in meander patterns. One red-painted column base still stood in its original position. There was once probably a matching base on the other side of the entrance, leading the visitor in an axial procession from a paved exterior court to a mosaic anteroom and then to a central throne or cult room, also decorated with a mosaic floor. The exact function of this complex is uncertain, but it may have been a Fire Temple.

During the Late Phrygian period, in the early fifth century B.C., another structure was added to the citadel that is especially important for the history of women at Gordion. This building, called the Painted House, was highly unusual—a very small, partly subterranean building inserted between the back-ends of two pre-existing (Middle Phrygian) megarons (C and G buildings).

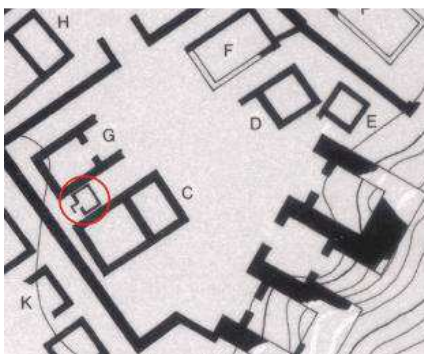


Fig.2.15 A detail, showing the location of the Painted House. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Its entrance was unlike any other in the citadel. Instead of being oriented toward the courtyard, it faced the nearby back wall of the precinct, and was only accessible by walking behind the two adjacent megarons. The entrance was reached by descending a flight of four steps to a landing, then turning left and down another step into a vestibule, before turning right into the main room. This measured 4.50 x 3,75 m with a floor about 1 m below the level of the courtyard and the floors of the adjacent megarons. The narrow, crooked approach and sunken nature of the room meant that it probably had little or no natural light.

The walls of the vestibule were originally decorated with a mosaic of terracotta pegs, nearly 1,000 of which were found on the gray-blue stucco floor. The floor of the main room was covered with collapsed debris, including thousands of fragments of painted wall plaster from a fresco that included several figural friezes. The largest of these was about 2 ft high and featured a procession of human figures, probably arranged in two groups moving along the walls at left and right and meeting on the back wall opposite the door.

Within the procession there are particular gestures and attributes that can be discerned. One of the figures raises her right hand toward her lips, which is a well-known gesture in Achaemenid art conveying respectful silence. The archaeological context of the Painted House, coupled with the style of the figures, would tend to favor a date of ca. 500–490 BCE for the building and its decoration.



Fig. 2.16 Frescos from the Painted House (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

2.2.3. The Lower and Outer Town, Fortifications (incl. larger forts and/or strongpoints i.e., Kustepe, Küçükhöyük)

To the north and south of the Citadel Mound is the Lower Town, an enormous residential area measuring ca. 45 hectares in total. This was an enormous residential area built by the Phrygian kings, measuring ca. 45 hectares in total and reaching its greatest extent in the time of King Midas (c. 700 BCE.). It was connected at the west to an additional residential area usually referred to as the Outer Town, covering another ca. 45 hectares. Excavations in the Lower and Outer Towns revealed large stone buildings to the east and small mud-brick houses to the west.

The periphery of both the Lower Town and the Outer Town is fortified and their surroundings also have larger castles or fortifications at certain locations. These walls protect the Lower Town located to the north and south of the Citadel Mound.

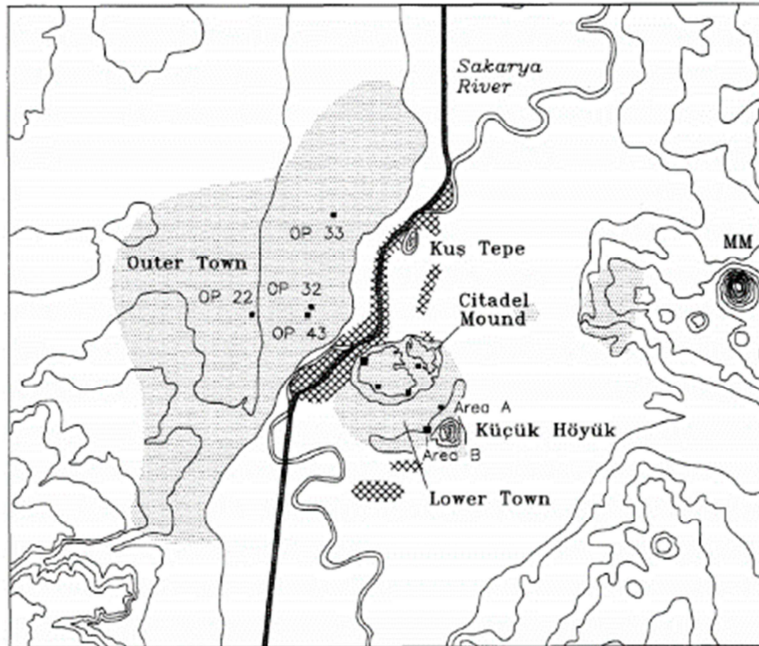


Fig. 2.17 Map showing the location of Kuş Tepe and Küçük Höyük.

The largest of these forts, today called Küçük Höyük (the Small Mound), lies 200 m southeast of the citadel; the other, Kuştepe (Bird Mound), lies 450 m to the north of it.



Fig.2.18 The “Küçük Höyük” fort (=K7; “Small Mound”), located at the southern end of the Lower Town (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).



Fig. 2.19 Kuştepe (=K8; “Bird Mound”) fort, at the northern end of the Lower Town. The two mounds called Küçük Höyük and Kuştepe were originally prominent forts that greatly strengthened the Lower Town’s defensive circuit (Middle Phrygian period, ca. 8th–6th centuries B.C.). (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Excavations at the Küçük Höyük revealed a high mud-brick platform 12 m in height, at least 50 m long and with a width of 10,25 m, on which stood a four-story mud-brick fortress/barracks complex of mud-brick reinforced with timber. A series of rooms was interconnected by narrow doors and lit by large windows. Wooden stairways or ladders would have provided access to the upper stories, although no traces of such were found during the archaeological investigations.

Excavation of the mudbrick fortification walls on either side of the Küçük Höyük revealed they had a thickness of 3, 50 m and an original height of 14 m or more, with square towers projecting from the outer face at intervals of ca. 16 m Elsewhere on the circuit, whole sections of wall have been removed by erosion or buried by alluvial deposition in the flood plain of the river. However, recent magnetic prospection at key points has demonstrated that these walls reached as far as Kuştepe, which remains unexcavated, and continued past the west side of the Citadel Mound. Magnetometry has also confirmed that the mound of Kuştepe covers a bastion that is probably of the same format and date as the one excavated at Küçük Höyük.



Fig.2.20 The interior of the “Küçük Höyük” (=K7; “Small Mound”), the fortified complex at the southern end of the Lower Town defensive circuit, photographed during the 1957 excavations. Originally at least four stories high, the fort was destroyed by fire during the Persian siege of Gordion in ca. 540 B.C.; the Persian assault ramp that was built against the fort’s outer wall still survives (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

To the northeast of the fortified Lower Town, on the same low ridge as the modern village of Yassihöyük, and adjacent to the royal/elite tumuli there, excavations have revealed not only a Bronze Age cemetery but also the remains of an extramural Middle Phrygian settlement complex and—of later date but still within the Middle Phrygian period—a cemetery of lower social status than the tumulus burials of the elites.

The buildings were of megaron design, similar to those on the Citadel Mound but smaller, with stone socles and mud-brick walls strengthened by wooden posts. The rooms were sometimes plastered, with stone pavements both inside and out. Internal installations included horseshoe-shaped hearths, ovens, and benches for grinding foodstuffs, bins of plastered mud brick, flat baking troughs, and small recessed storage areas. These and other

finds indicate that food processing and textile production were primary activities, as in the citadel. A number of small cultic idols presumably belonged to shrines within the settlement complex. These were probably the houses of the workers who constructed the Phrygian tumuli, not unlike the situation in New Kingdom Egypt wherein the laborers' houses were situated near the Pharaonic tombs that they built.

Settlement activity here finally ended in destruction by fire around 700 B.C., in a military attack. Signs of crisis include the large amounts of material equipment hurriedly abandoned—pottery, metalwork and bone tools, spindle whorls and loomweights—and an unburied body in one of the burned buildings, shot with an arrow.

After the destruction of this settlement complex, the area was given over to the so-called “Common Cemetery” and to a number of small but elite tumulus burials, extending down to the sixth century B.C. The poorer burials of the Common Cemetery—furnishing rarely-found information on the more populous lower orders of Phrygian society—included single interments in cists, pits, jars, and earth graves (with or without stone covers), and finally, cremations. The full extent of this cemetery is unknown, but several hundred burials probably remain to be discovered. This part of the ridge again saw use as a cemetery in the Roman period.

2.2.4 Tumuli



Fig.2.21 General view of the Tumuli.

Surrounding the settlement area were numerous tumuli—monumental earthen mounds covering the burials of the elite. These are the most visually striking feature of the site today, all of them sited in topographically prominent or roadside locations and they emphasize Gordion's function as a royal capital. Nearly 40 of them have been archaeologically

investigated (See Table 1-2). The largest of them is Tumulus MM, the tomb that King Midas constructed for his father in 740 B.C. It still stands to a height of 53 m high, and the intact burial chamber within it is the oldest standing wooden building in the world. Second tallest tumulus is Tumulus W (T5), which stands 22 m high.

They range in size from small, nearly imperceptible humps, to the largest example that still stands some 53 m high after 2700 years of erosion, and is visible from miles away in the valley of the Sakarya River.

The burials range in date from the Early Phrygian period (ninth century BCE) to Hellenistic times. Inhumation burials are the rule in the earliest tumuli, but cremation burials appear at the end of the seventh century BCE. The occupants of the tombs can be male or female, and range in age from a child of 4–5 years old (Tumulus P) to an older adult in his early 60s (Tumulus MM).

The tumuli with wooden tomb chambers from the Early and Middle Phrygian periods have generally similar designs. First, a rectangular pit intended to contain the tomb chamber was dug 1–2 meters deep. The base of the pit was normally lined with stone or gravel, but occasionally it was nothing more than hard-packed earth. The tomb chamber itself was essentially a flat-topped box, made from large pine or juniper timbers, usually with a wooden floor (though the base of the pit could serve as well). The interior spaces range from about 2 m square to 6.15 x 5, 10 m (Tumulus MM), all of which provided room for some form of wooden coffin as well as an array of grave goods.

Today, the only tomb chamber from this period still visible is the one in Tumulus MM, which is exceptional in every respect. It is the largest tumulus, and it covers the largest tomb chamber. Its roof is double pitched, like the roofs of the Phrygian megaron. The pit that would normally hold the tomb chamber was lined with roughly trimmed limestone blocks and completely filled with stone rubble.

Excavated by Rodney Young in 1957, Tumulus MM is easily the most studied of all the tumuli at Gordion. Peter Kuniholm of Cornell University began his dendrochronological studies on timbers from the tomb chamber. The latest scientific date for the juniper logs surrounding the tomb chamber proper is around 740 BCE. Assuming that the juniper logs were cut and trimmed for use in this tomb, they provide the best absolute date for the construction of the tomb. And if 740 BCE is the date of the tomb, it is too early for Midas, who is historically attested as late as 709 BCE. Tumulus MM could, however, have been the tomb of Midas' father Gordios. If so, it would have served as the new king's first major

building project and his name has continued to be attached to the mound by virtue of its modern nickname: Tumulus MM, the Midas Mound.

Within the wooden chamber in Tumulus MM, a body of a man aged 60 – 65 had been placed on a thick pile of dyed textiles inside a unique log coffin. Although the body of the king had disintegrated, patterns of purple and brown dyes were seen on the textile bedding when the tomb was first opened. The king's coffin, which had probably been used in a public viewing ceremony before being carried into the tomb, was accompanied by 14 pieces of wood furniture. These pieces of furniture were used in the feast attended by the mourners before burial. Three large boilers with a capacity of 150 liters each and the tripods on which they stand are most likely used to serve drinks at the banquet.



Fig. 2.22 The two wooden serving stands leaning against the east wall of the MM tomb chamber, as discovered in 1957. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

Lion-head and ram-headed situlas, 2 jugs with long sieve spout and 19 small jugs are used to transfer drinks to 5-liter bottom buckets. These buckets are placed inside the service tables. From there, it is served with a ladle in 100 bronze omphalos, forged with fine workmanship, in drinking vessels. 19 larger bowls with two handles were also used by those who were thirstier. It has been determined that a drink consisting of grape wine, barley beer and mead was drunk from these vessels



Fig.2.23 Three bronze cauldrons in situ against the south wall, with four of the ten fallen trefoil- mouthed jugs that originally hung from iron spikes on the west Wall as discovered in 1957. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

In 2007, more information about royal funerals was obtained. While exploring the outer burial chamber, Richard Liebhart discovered four Phrygian inscriptions engraved on some wooden beams in the northeast corner. (NANA, MYKSOS, SIIDOS ve KYRYNIS). The names were engraved around 740 BCE when the beams were placed here. All words appear to be written by the same person. The word SIIDOS is larger than others and this beam was probably placed in the grave after the funeral was over.



Fig.2.24 Phrygian inscription within the tomb chamber of the Tumulus MM (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

2.3. Historical Phases

2.3.1. Chronology

Life in Gordion started in the Early Bronze Age and still continues in the Yassıhöyük neighborhood. During this long period, archaeologists were only able to detect a few interruptions. The periods represented are listed below.

	PERIOD NAME	APPROX. DATES	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	YHSS PHASES
Bronze Age	Early Bronze Age	2500-2000 BCE		
	Middle Bronze Age	2000-1600 BCE	Hittite	10
	Late Bronze Age	1600-1200 BCE	Hittite	9-8
Iron Age	Early Iron Age	1200-900 BCE	Phrygian	7
	Early Phrygian Age	900-800 BCE	Phrygian	6A-6B
	Early Phrygian Destruction Level	800 BCE	Phrygian	
	Middle Phrygian Period	800-540 BCE	Phrygian	5
	Late Phrygian Period	540-330 BCE	Phrygian/Persian (Achaemenid)	4
Hellenistic	Early Hellenistic Period	330-260 BCE	Phrygian /Greek	3B
	Late Hellenistik Çağ	260-100 BCE	Galatian	3A
Roman	Roman Period	1st century BCE– 4th century CE	Roman	2
Medieval	Medieval	6th.-13th centuries CE	Seljuk	1
Ottoman	Ottoman	13th-19th centuries CE	Türkish	0

2.3.2. Bronze Age

Relatively little is known about the Bronze Age at Gordion, primarily because of overlying monumental buildings of the Phrygian Iron Age period. The earliest evidence for settlement comes from the cemetery: a cist grave (under Tumulus F) and a simple inhumation (H28, within the main cemetery) which yielded handmade pottery typical of the EB I (Early Bronze Age I) period

The later Early Bronze Age levels were encountered in two of the three deep soundings on the Citadel Mound. As these soundings cover a very limited area, the nature of Early Bronze Age settlement on the mound cannot be ascertained with certainty, but excavation has yielded buildings with stone foundations and a mudbrick superstructure.

Although the transition from Early to Middle Bronze Age is not as clear as one would like, there appears to have been no lengthy hiatus following the destruction of the EB IIIb settlement (ca. 2000 BCE.). The Middle Bronze Age is characterized by wheelmade, red-slipped, highly burnished ‘Hittite’ type pottery that differs significantly from earlier ceramic traditions. This pottery sequence is well represented within the central and central-west Anatolian tradition, especially at Polatlı, Beycesultan V, and Boğazköy-Hattusha (Ref.377). This period corresponds with the rise of the Old Assyrian Trading Colony Period in

Anatolia, wherein power centers in Anatolia established strong commercial connections with their Assyrian neighbors, trading primarily silver in return for tin and textiles from Assyria. The Assyrian merchants established enclaves in Anatolia called *karums*, where they settled in large numbers. Gordion's Middle Bronze Age pottery exhibits similarities to the ceramics of known *karum* sites such as Kültepe (Tent.List Ref. 5905) and Boğazköy.

During the late Middle Bronze period, when the Hittite Kingdom began to develop, Gordion's cultural ties to the central Anatolian plateau grew even stronger. The discovery of a bulla with Hittite hieroglyphic script has suggested to some that Gordion was using an administrative system similar to that of the Hittites. The extramural cemetery belongs primarily to this period. The burials include simple inhumations, cist-graves, and pithos-graves (burials in large storage jars), with the latter in the majority. The pithoi themselves were presumably expensive items.

Gordion fully entered the political and cultural orbit of the Hittite Kingdom during the Late Bronze Age (1600-1200 B.C.). From the textual archives unearthed at Boğazköy- Hattusha (Ref.377), Hittite kings are known to have periodically campaigned to the west, and their preferred route involved crossing the Sangarios/Sakarya River at or near Gordion. Gordion's ceramics are easily paralleled in other settlements on the central Anatolian Plateau, such as Boğazköy-Hattusha (Ref.377), Alişar, Maşat, and Alaça Höyük, but similarities are also apparent as far away as Tarsus, Korucutepe and Beycesultan, undoubtedly due to Hittite expansion into these areas.

2.3.3 Early Iron Age

Early Iron Age Gordion is known only from very limited, deep sondages on the eastern part of the Citadel Mound. A coherent picture has begun to emerge, however, suggesting a succession of villages with small, lightly constructed houses containing every-day, domestic kinds of items. The earliest (Voigt's YHSS 7B) is stratified directly above the Late Bronze Age level with no sign of a stratigraphic break to indicate a significant hiatus after the fall of the Hittites. Nevertheless, there are clear changes in architecture, domestic features, ceramics, and animal remains between the Late Bronze and the Early Iron Age.

Architectural change is represented by a number of "pit-houses," which take the form of a shallow rectangular pit sometimes faced with flat stones. The walls above them were made from a framework of reeds and branches covered with mud plaster. A building from Voigt's later Early Iron Age phase (YHSS 7A), the "Burned Reed House," is larger with walls made of posts and reeds coated with thick mud plaster.

2.3.4. Early Phrygian Period

After a relatively modest Early Iron Age phase that may mark the beginning of Phrygian settlement on the Citadel Mound at Gordion (ca. 1200–900 BCE), the site took on a truly monumental character during the Early Phrygian period (ca. 900–800 BCE), indicating the emergence of a Phrygian state.

In the course of the tenth and ninth centuries BCE, a major transformation occurred, and through several successive building programs Gordion became a citadel with substantial fortification walls and monumental buildings. This dramatic change in the character of the site can be linked with the formation of a Phrygian political state, under a central authority that could oversee the organization necessary for such major works. The earliest of the excavated elite burial mounds, Tumulus W, was also built during this period, ca. 850 BCE. It is the second largest of all the Gordion tumuli, rising to an imposing height of 22 m. The young adult buried there, who was probably male, was obviously someone very important, and it is tempting to identify him as a member of the ruling family.



Fig. 2.25 The Tumulus W.

Part of this citadel was destroyed around 800 BCE in a great fire that spared the inhabitants but left numerous material remains in place. This Destruction Level is the only extensively excavated example of an early Iron Age political center in Anatolia. But the only possible text from this period is a graffito and its context is suspect. The range of imports, however, suggest ties with Neo-Hittite kingdoms to the east.



Fig.2.26 The main room of unit TB2 in the Early Phrygian Terrace Building, showing the Destruction Level of ca. 800 B.C. The photograph was taken during the 1961 excavations, looking north-east. Dozens of pots (some of them containing loomweights) lie on the floor against the building's north-west wall. The large holes in the floor originally contained the wooden posts or columns that supported the roof / upper floor. The blackening from the conflagration is clearly visible (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

On Gordion's Citadel Mound, the Early Phrygian citadel of the later 10th and 9th centuries BCE is the premiere showcase for monumental Iron Age architecture in Central Anatolia. On the southeast side of the mound is the only known gate complex leading into the citadel. The buildings along the southwestern side of the Palace Area (Megarons 1–4) and those in the Terrace Complex were all destroyed in the great fire that occurred around 800 BCE. The contents of Terrace Building and the CC (Clay Cut Building) reveal some of the activities that were carried out here. At low, mudbrick platforms, kneeling or squatting workers ground grain into flour using sets of grinding stones. Numerous spindle whorls suggest that others spun wool into thread or yarn. Still others wove fabrics on looms weighted by “doughnuts” made of unbaked clay, or used iron needles to sew fabrics together. The antechambers of the units served as kitchens, as indicated by large, beehive-shaped ovens of mudbrick and clay, and also by other kinds of cooking installations. The same activities were repeated in virtually all units of the Terrace Complex. In the absence of written records, one is left to guess the social and economic realities evinced by the Terrace Complex. Most of the workers may have been slaves or conscripts, and their activities could have formed part of a centralized palace economy wherein raw materials were brought to the citadel for processing and distribution.

2.3.5. Middle Phrygian Period

The cause of the fiery destruction of the Early Phrygian Citadel ca. 800 BCE is unknown; whatever the source, the Phrygians had sufficient resilience to begin construction of a new citadel soon after the disaster. Midas, active as ruler of Phrygia in the later eighth century, may have witnessed the completion of an ambitious project begun under his predecessors.



Fig.2.27 Plan of the Middle Phrygian citadel's "Palace Area", ca.800-540 BC. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives).

Within the fortifications, the principal districts are virtually the same as in the old citadel. A major addition to the layout of the New Citadel was Building A. In the sixth century BCE, and probably before the Persian conquest, a number of buildings must have been retro-fitted to receive terracotta tiled roofs and decorative revetment or frieze courses. Exactly which buildings underwent such remodeling is uncertain, since the terracottas were found scattered across the site, with no concentration large enough to suggest a connection to a particular building.

It is during the life of the Middle Phrygian New Citadel that have most plentiful evidence for Phrygian writing and religion. Numerous inscriptions, mostly incised on pottery after firing, attest to a degree of literacy in an alphabet closely related to that of the ancient Greeks. Statuettes in stone of a figure usually holding a cup and sometimes a bird no doubt represent the Phrygian mother goddess Matar. A stone relief shows her in a doorway, presumably that of her temple. Numerous statuettes of birds in stone and terracotta are probably connected with her cult.

In the late eighth century BCE, Phrygia was at the the height of its political and military power, under Midas, who challenged the Assyrians' control over the westernmost parts of

their empire. He is to be identified with Mita of the Mushki, who appears in Assyrian records at first as a dangerous adversary who organized anti-Assyrian resistance among the Neo-Hittite states of southeast Anatolia and later as a valuable ally of the Assyrian king, Sargon II.

Midas might have close personal ties with Greeks and their culture; according to Herodotos, he dedicated a throne to Apollo at Delphi, an object which was still extant in Herodotos' day; and Aristotle claimed that he married a woman from the East Greek city of Kyme. Contact with the Greeks during the Middle Phrygian period is archaeologically documented by the import of Greek pottery, perfume, and wine to the site, and by the presence of a number of Phrygian bronze objects in both Mainland and East Greece. The Greeks themselves borrowed freely from the Phrygians, adopting both the cult and the iconography of the goddess Matar. Cultural and commercial interchange between the Greeks and Phrygians was no doubt facilitated by Greek colonization, which by the seventh century BCE made the two peoples neighbors along the Propontis (the Sea of Marmara).

Very late Classical chronological sources give dates of 696 or 675–674 BCE for Midas' death, but those dates are demonstrably untrustworthy. The latest reliable information concerning Midas is the indication in the Assyrian records that he was still in power in 709. There is no excavated tumulus at Gordion that can be plausibly identified as Midas' burial place, but particular contexts, including minor tumuli, can be dated to his time, in part through the help of associated Greek pottery.

Herodotus suggests that Gordion had passed from being the capital of an independent Phrygian state (at least through the reign of Midas) to becoming dominated by the west Anatolian kingdom of Lydia, with its capital at Sardis, in the first half of the sixth century BCE. If not earlier. By 585, the smaller Phrygian area east of the Kızılırmak River (the ancient Halys) had passed under Median control.

Excavations at Gordion dramatically revealed that the Lower Town's defensive installation, now called the Küçük Höyük, was destroyed by fire following a siege, an event that can be linked to the successful Persian conquest of Lydia by king Cyrus II "The Great" in the 540s BCE. The assault ramp built by the Persians to gain access to the city is still preserved on the southeast side of the Küçük Höyük, and numerous traces of the attack were recovered during the excavation: hundreds of arrowheads (predominantly two-flanged), many of which were buried in the faces of the walls. At the time of its destruction, the fortress occupants were using primarily Lydian instead of Phrygian pottery, suggesting that the site was indeed a Lydian garrison.

2.3.6. Late Phrygian Period

In 546 BCE the forces of the Lydian king Croesus were decisively defeated by the Persian army commanded by Cyrus II “The Great.” As a result of this campaign and subsequent “mopping up” operations, the Lydian state, which included Gordion, was integrated into the Persian empire along with the rest of Anatolia.

Gordion is one of the few settlements in Turkey for which there have been large-scale excavations of Achaemenid levels (ca. 546–334 BCE). Evidence for the Persian attack of 546 on the Lower Town defenses includes a plethora of arrowheads (some of them stuck fast in the fortification walls), a monumental assault ramp built against the Küçük Höyük fortress complex, skeletons of dead soldiers inside the building, and the destruction of the defensive installations after the attack. Even though Gordion was no longer a capital, it was still an important district center with a strong economic base.

The earlier part of the Achaemenid period at Gordion (ca. 550–400 BC) is marked by strong continuity from the preceding Middle Phrygian phase. On the Citadel Mound, the existing Iron Age architectural layout of the east citadel was largely retained

The continuation of tumulus burials into the early Achaemenid period is another indication of continuity from the Iron Age at Gordion, and again indicates the presence of powerful elites.

Although it is difficult to assign some of the sixth century BCE Gordion tumuli to either side of the Persian conquest, one of the most striking, Tumulus A, is datable ca. 540–530 BCE. This was a very wealthy female cremation burial with a dismantled vehicle (hearse) and harness fittings, as well as a striking quantity of precious metalwork, including a silver mirror and a gold necklace. The practice of depositing vehicles within elite burials finds close parallels from the same period in the western parts of the Hellespontine Phrygian satrapy (e.g. at Üçpınar.)



Fig.2.28 Tumulus A. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

The cultural impact of the Persians on the Phrygians seems to have been limited at first, although it is clearly detectable in the archaeological record. Already in the second half of the sixth century BCE some Achaemenid vessel types came into use at Gordion, and local craftsmen incorporated them into their own pottery and metallic repertory. Women also began to wear some Achaemenid-type jewelry, in addition to Levantine, Greek, and local types. One excellent piece of evidence for actual Achaemenid administration is provided by a cylinder seal with a Persian name incised in Aramaic on it.

Despite the evidence for continuity, there were clear changes to Gordion's built environment during this period. On the eastern side of the Citadel Mound, and datable to around 500 BCE, some expensive building programs were carried out, most notably the "Painted House," and the renovation and partial demolition of Middle Phrygian Building A, combined with the addition of the "Mosaic Building." The Painted House and Mosaic Building represent new architectural types at Gordion, and reflect the new cultural attributes of the Persian administration.

In the western part of the Citadel Mound and in the Lower and Outer Town areas, excavations have revealed substantial houses with stone foundations as well as semi-subterranean "pit dwellings." This variation in house form and domestic installations (hearths and ovens), coupled with statistically significant differences in the sample of animal

bones, suggest the possibility of ethnic neighborhoods in Achaemenid Gordion. The extent of the Outer Town in the Achaemenid period is uncertain, but all trenches here produced evidence for several phases of Achaemenid period architecture.

Gordion continued to serve as an economic center throughout the Persian period, and it may have increased in importance. The production of stone, bone, ivory, and metal artifacts is well-attested. High quality ceramic imports include Attic and Lydian finewares, and imported Greek wines are evident from the late sixth century BCE onward.

During the period of Achaemenid control, pottery came to Gordion from Athens, Corinth, Lakonia (Sparta), and “East Greece” (an unidentified production center or centers on the west coast of Turkey). Gordion received very fine quality black-glazed and figural pottery, including vases by first rank painters such as the Pistoxenos Painter and the Penthesilea Painter in the late 5th century BCE. As in the period of Phrygian rule, the main forms are for drinking, but oinochoai, and lekythoi now complement the cups

The presence of Greek and East Greek products in Phrygian Gordion attests to its cosmopolitanism. Drinking cup shapes and kraters were particularly welcomed at this time. It is unclear whether shapes such as skyphoi and kylixes, used as part of the wine drinking symposium in the Greek world, maintained their function among Phrygian dining customs. It does not appear that the Phrygians of Gordion imported entire “sets” of sympotic equipment, so it is more likely that the imports complemented indigenous commensal rituals (be it of beer or wine) and helped to distinguish the status of their users.

Excavations on the Citadel Mound have revealed evidence of a great structural collapse dated by imported Greek ceramics to around 400 BCE. It is marked by the destruction of ashlar buildings in the citadel complex, including Building A, the Mosaic Building, and the Painted House. Roof tiles and other debris covered their floors, and there was evidence for scattered fires. This “destruction level” has been attributed to an earthquake.

Around this time (395 BCE), Gordion was attacked by the army of the Spartan king, Agesilaos, as part of a wide-ranging raid through the western satrapies.

Late Achaemenid (or “Late Phrygian”) Gordion has a distinctly provincial quality, far removed from the greatness of the past. In this period little remained of Gordion’s once striking monumental architecture, and the strong impression that we get from contemporary Greek writers is that the site had become minor in comparison with the great cities of

southwest Phrygia, Kelainai and Kolossai. There is so far no evidence for elite tumulus burials from late Achaemenid Gordion (they reappear in Hellenistic times)

On the Citadel Mound, excavations have revealed that most of the earlier, monumental ashlar halls had been demolished and their stone plundered for the construction of rather shabby semi-subterranean houses, workshops or cellars, and other small buildings. Nevertheless, Gordion was still a large settlement with good communications, and it remained important as an industrial and commercial center. It continued to attract trade goods: Greek fine-ware pottery (predominantly Attic) arrived in even greater numbers than before, and Greek wine was now a common import. There was, as well, intensive workshop production at the site, in metal, alabaster, and bone.

2.3.7. Hellenistic Period

The Hellenistic Period at Gordion begins with a visit by Alexander during the first year of his campaign against the Persians, in 333 BCE, when he allegedly cut the Gordian Knot. His visit can be taken as an indication of the strategic location of the site for trade, transport, and military movement from western Asia Minor to Central Asia. Many aspects of Phrygian culture subsequently began to disappear: Greek gods were worshiped or at least recognized, while Greek inscriptions now became the norm, sometimes with Greek or Greek-sounding personal names.

In the mid-third century there was a dramatic change in material culture, one that marks the arrival of European Celts or Galatians at Gordion (Late Hellenistic). The cultural disruption is illustrated by the breaking up of sculpture and inscriptions in the Greek style and their reuse as paving stones. Unique deposits of human and animal bone have been recovered from the Lower Town, providing convincing evidence of Celtic ritual practices, including the removal of human heads.



Fig.2.29 A detail of the Galatian burials.
(Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

It is known that there were three layers, and that the site was abandoned at least twice. It is the second abandonment that is linked to events in 189 BCE, when a Roman army under Manlius Vulso arrived at Gordion to find it empty, the Celts having fled to a nearby fortress where they were reportedly massacred (Livy 38.18-19). The third and latest Hellenistic phase (ca. 150–100 BCE) represents a reoccupation of the settlement by Galatians, who left evidence of their identity in the form of distinctive iron fibulae of a type common in Europe during the second century BCE.

The form of the settlement was significantly altered during the Hellenistic period. In addition to the abandonment of the walls of the Eastern Citadel, the road between the Eastern and Western Citadels was filled to make a single large residential area elevated high above the surrounding plain. At the same time, the Lower and Outer Towns were abandoned, emphasizing Gordion's appearance as a unified town. The final remnants of the Phrygian citadel had clearly been abandoned by the beginning of the Hellenistic period, and a series of houses datable to the third and second centuries were built over their remains

The Hellenistic occupation level is thick, including at least two construction phases dating to Early Hellenistic times, and three construction phases assigned to the Late Hellenistic period. Two of the Late Hellenistic phases were abandoned, leaving rich deposits filled with coins, painted plaster, terracotta figurines, glass vessels, stone and iron tools, and alabaster statuettes. As many as 1,500 complete Hellenistic vessels have been inventoried.

Although most of the Hellenistic architecture was removed during excavation of Phrygian levels, detailed drawings of many individual houses survive. Although the houses were arranged randomly throughout the site, they were quite spacious, with the largest measuring ca. 20 x 10 meters. The mudbrick walls were plastered; every house had an associated courtyard, and several even featured upper stories.

The Hellenistic pottery shows no abrupt change in technology, form, function, or decoration. On the contrary, Phrygian, Greek, and Galatian elements appear throughout the entire assemblage, often in the same household context, and sometimes all within the same vessel. During the Late Hellenistic period, each household contained a mismatched set of dishes and bowls, some light brown and others gray, some painted and others plain. Very rarely does one Gordion house contain two identical vessels. Nevertheless, the entire ceramic corpus is more standardized than the Early Hellenistic corpus, most likely due to greater organization and centralization in ceramic production.

2.3.8. Roman Period

In the decades following Galatia's annexation by the emperor Augustus in 25 BCE, a new settlement was founded atop the Gordion Citadel Mound during the late Julio-Claudian period. Although the geographer Strabo, in the only surviving literary reference to Roman Gordion, describes the site during the Augustan period as a village only slightly larger than those that surrounded it (Geography 12.5.3), current evidence for the resettlement of the Citadel Mound places that event roughly half a century later. This settlement appears to have been occupied intermittently until the early fifth century CE, at which time the Citadel Mound was abandoned for reasons currently unknown.

Only comparatively small portions of the Roman period settlement on the Citadel Mound have been excavated to date. In 1900, the Körte brothers, who concentrated their efforts in the southwest zone of the mound, unearthed scant traces of the Roman settlement in that area. R.S. Young exposed more substantial remains in that location and in the northwest zone during his initial 1950 field season, clearing two distinct building phases of the Roman period town in both areas. Operations in the northwest and southwest zones were halted after only a single season, however, following Young's decision to concentrate in areas with more direct access to the Iron Age strata. Nevertheless, several fragmentary structures along the Roman settlement's eastern edge were encountered by Young's team in the "Central Cut" (CC) and "West City Wall" (WCW) trenches, excavated between 1967 and 1973.

Between 1993 and 2002, M. M. Voigt and T. C. Young reinitiated work in both the northwest and southwest zones, where features previously identified by Young were re-recorded, and the town's earliest known habitation phases, dating to the late Claudian period, were exposed for the first time. Most recently, in 2004 and 2005, A.L. Goldman directed the first series of excavations to target the Roman settlement, at three separate locations on the Citadel Mound.

The recent investigations have substantially altered previous thoughts regarding the town's foundation, which is now recognized as representing a carefully orchestrated refoundation during the mid-first century AD, at which time the surface of the abandoned mound was leveled and a new town built atop its western half. These careful leveling and 107 surveying activities, the adoption of a new north-south axis in the buildings, the careful laying of mudbrick floors and the construction of subterranean water conduits confirm that the settlement's establishment was a far more sophisticated endeavor than formerly imagined.

The longevity of the town's occupation is now also evident: at least four major building phases have been identified between the foundation period and the town's final abandonment in the early fifth century CE. Furthermore, analysis of the material excavated by Young has revealed higher levels of internal organization and economic activity than formerly suspected. The introduction of sophisticated architectural refinements (e.g. a colonnaded street, a house with a peristyle plan), a comparatively high frequency of stray coin finds, and significant quantities of imported ceramics, glassware, and jewelry all indicate that at least some of the site's inhabitants attained a moderate level of prosperity, particularly during the Flavian and Trajanic periods, from the second half of the first to early second centuries CE.

The discovery in 2004 and 2005 of Roman military equipment and the identification of likely barracks buildings at Gordion proves that the town existed as a minor military and/or administrative post for the local area. Ancient road itineraries place a posting station (*statio*) named either Vindia or Vinda in the immediate vicinity of Gordion, alongside the highway that ran between the provincial capitals of Ancyra and Pessinus (modern Ankara and Ballıhisar, respectively). Gordion's selection as a military post is not entirely surprising, since the site is at a strategic location at the confluence of two river valleys (the Sangarius/Sakarya and Tembris/Porsuk).

2.3.9. Medieval Period

The Medieval period at Gordion technically extends from the Early Byzantine period (6th century CE) into the Turkish Selcuk and Early Ottoman periods. Excavations on the Citadel Mound have suggested a settlement hiatus for several centuries, throughout much of the Byzantine period. Nevertheless, the northwestern part of the mound had been a Christian cemetery in the late Roman period, and it is unlikely that subsequent civic and domestic buildings of Byzantine date would have been built on top of it. There may have been Byzantine occupation elsewhere on the mound, in some of the many unexcavated areas.

Between 1077 and the later 13th century, central Asia Minor was dominated by the powerful Turkish Selcuk Sultanate with its capital at Konya, although this was weakened when much of Anatolia came to be controlled by the invading Mongols. The Sultanate subsequently became a vassal of the Mongol Ilkhanid dynasty, ceasing to exist by the early 14th century. As a result of these disruptions, a number of Turkish principalities, or Ghazi emirates, emerged as centers of power.

The site of Gordion lay in the border zone between two of the most powerful of these: the emirate of Germiyan (with its capital at Kütahya to the west), and the emirate of Karaman

(with its capital at Karaman in south-central Anatolia). Another emergent power in northwestern Anatolia was the Osmanlı or Ottoman emirate (the dynasty of Osman). By the mid-15th century CE, the Ottomans had conquered central and western Asia Minor as well as much of the Balkans to form the Ottoman Empire.

Excavations at Gordion have yielded evidence datable by pottery and coins to the 11th–14th centuries CE, but the limited ceramic sample has allowed only limited chronological precision. Settlement remains extend over much of the Citadel Mound. In the northwestern sector of the mound, above the late Roman cemetery, was a substantial building, many subterranean tandoor-style ovens, and a large furnace or kiln. One of several pits contained a 13th century Iranian faience lion's head. Further east on the mound, less well-preserved architectural remains were discovered. A fortification or enclosure wall with concrete mortar and large external buttresses suggest that the site of Gordion was still an important place worthy of protection in this period. The Medieval Turkish name for the settlement is unknown.

2.3.10. Ottoman Period

Very little is currently known about the Gordion area during the Ottoman empire, although research on documentary and cartographic sources would undoubtedly shed more light. It lay within the large administrative province of Anatolia (Anadolu). With the reforms of the later 19th century, it fell under the administrative jurisdiction of the district and subdivision (vilayet and sancak) of Ankara. At this point, occupation was focused on a village named Bebi, lying immediately to the west of the Citadel Mound. Bebi was still being occupied at the end of the 19th century when the Körte brothers commenced their investigations at Gordion, and it was duly marked on their map of 1900. The modern settlement of Yassihöyük had not yet come into existence.

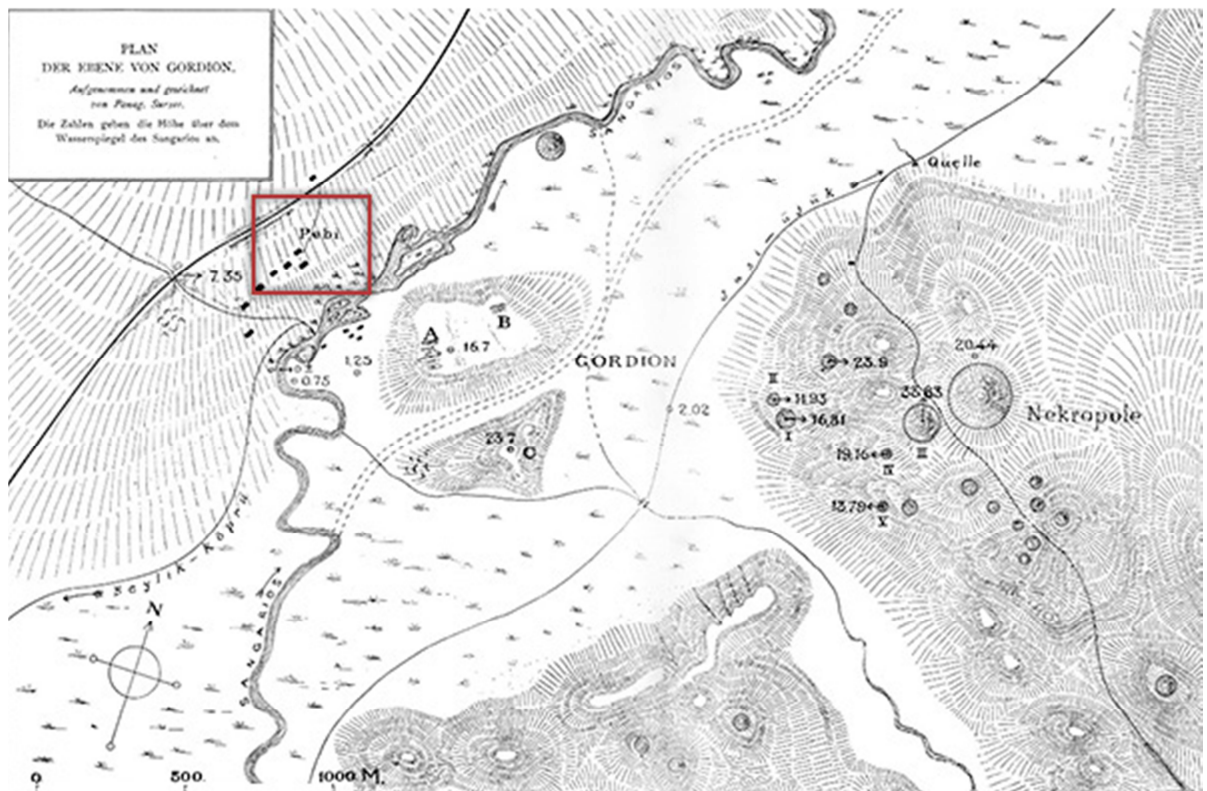


Fig.2.30 Map showing the old village Bebi. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

The final chapter in the history of Ottoman-period Gordion is the climactic Battle of the Sakarya in 1921 (August 23 – September 13). This was the major military engagement of the Turkish War of Independence, when the Turkish army commanded by Mustafa Kemal and Fevzi Çakmak engineered the defeat of the Greek forces that had commenced operations in Anatolia in 1919. The village of Bebi was destroyed during this fierce action. Archaeological evidence spread over a wide area includes fox-holes, spent shells, and a few casualties, which is reminiscent of the evidence for the 1915 Gallipoli campaign at Troy.

2.4. Gordion and Midas in Legends

2.4.1. The Legend of Gordian Knot

The tale of the Gordian Knot is one of the best known stories told about Gordion, and one of the few that features Gordion in a popular figure of speech. The story recounts an episode that took place in 333 BCE during the campaigns of Alexander of Macedon against the Persian Empire. Alexander was advancing with his army across Anatolia and came to Gordion, probably because this was a natural stopping point on the road that led inland from the Aegean Coast towards Ankara (ancient Ancyra) and further east.

While at Gordion, the Macedonian king learned about a special wagon that was situated in the Temple of Zeus. The pole of the wagon was tied to the wagon body with an intricate knot

of cornel bark, and a prophecy had foretold that whoever could unfasten the knot would go on to rule over Asia (or even the whole settled world, in one version). Seized by a longing to test the prophecy, Alexander tried to unfasten the knot by unraveling it, but when he was unable to do so, he drew his sword and cut right through it. From this comes the proverbial expression “to cut the Gordian Knot”, meaning to cut right to the heart of a matter without wasting time on external details.

For the site of ancient Gordion, however, this account owes its interest not only to the connection with Alexander, but also to the explanatory legend attached to it, one that describes the reason for the existence of the knot and the wagon, and its dedication in the Temple of Zeus. The general outline of the legend is as follows: there was once a poor Phrygian peasant named Gordios who was plowing his fields, when an eagle came and sat on the yoke of his plow, remaining there all day. Perturbed as to what this might mean, he consulted the Telmessian people, an ancient race of prophets. Gordios came upon a Telmessian woman, standing in a doorway, who ordered him to sacrifice to Zeus. Gordios did so and also married the woman, who produced a son named Midas. When Midas was grown, he happened one day to drive up into Gordion in his father’s wagon, while the city was in the midst of civil strife. The people of Gordion immediately proclaimed Midas as their king, since they had been told by an oracle that a wagon would end their civil war by bringing them a king. The newly proclaimed king Midas accepted the throne and dedicated the wagon in the Temple of Zeus as a thank-offering to the god and as acknowledgement of the sign of the eagle, the sacred bird of Zeus, that had predicted his kingship.

This legend can be found in several accounts of Alexander’s campaigns, although with some variations in details: in a few cases it was Midas who was proclaimed king, while in others, the honor was given to his father Gordios, and Midas followed him in the kingship. All variants are consistent, however, in connecting the legend with the foundation of royal hegemony in Gordion. The core of the story may well preserve a local Phrygian tradition recounting how Midas, and perhaps also his father Gordios before him, claimed the throne of Phrygia with divine aid. Gordios himself is a shadowy figure, little known outside of this story, but Midas is a well-known ruler whose reign, 738 – 696 BCE, as recorded by the early church historian Eusebios, coincides with the references to a king named Mita of Mushki in the annals of the Assyrian king Sargon II.

The presence of Zeus and his eagle strongly implies divine approval of Midas’s kingship, while the reference to the prophetically gifted Telmessian maiden in the doorway may well allude to the Phrygian Mother goddess, regularly depicted standing in a doorway, and her

role in proclaiming Midas's kingship. Several elements of the legend fall into well-known ancient Near Eastern story patterns of kingship foundation: the divine messenger (the eagle) from the gods, the use of the wagon as a symbol of kingship, the close connection between a new king and a prominent female divinity. But the legend as we have it from the Alexander historians seems to preserve a unique version that was local to Gordion and Phrygia, recording how the kingship of Midas was established in Gordion with the support of the dominant male and female divinities in the Phrygian pantheon. The legend gives us a small window into the Phrygians' traditions of their own past that are otherwise lost to us.

2.4.2. "Midas" in the legends and history

The most reliable information about the famous Phrygian king Midas comes from the contemporary records of the Assyrian king Sargon between 717 and 709 BCE. Some texts state that Midas came to power in 721 BCE before Sargon's ascension to the throne. For most of that time, Midas posed a threat to Sargon by intriguing with restive western satellite kingdoms of the Assyrian empire. After an Assyrian governor launched an invasion of Phrygia, Midas ceased his subversive activities and himself sent tribute. His death must have happened in the late 8th century BC or in the early 7th century BC.

Greek and Roman sources often mention Midas. In the middle of the 5th century BC, Herodotus says that a throne he saw in the Apollon sanctuary of Delphi was the gift of King Midas. He must have said this based on the traditions in the sanctuary. Another special link between Midas and the Greeks is described by Aristotle in the 4th century BC. Accordingly, Midas is married to the daughter of the ruler of Kyme, a Greek city on the west coast of Asia Minor.

Classical writers associate Midas with great wealth. This tradition, which started with the Spartan poet Tyrtaios in the middle of the 7th century BC, ends two or three generations after the death of Midas. A fantastic version of this subject is told in the "gold touch story" in the 4th century. A proof of this richness comes from the rich silver objects found in the Tumulus recently excavated in Elmalı. These objects are dated to the times of Midas' rule.

Over the centuries, stories about Midas have been transferred to the classical tradition. It is said that he caught a satyr by pouring wine into the water source in the 6th century BC. The story that he had donkey ears was told in the 5th century. Even the stories about his death are fantastic. In one of the story (4th century BC), it is told that he died of starvation for turning everything he touched into gold. It is also alleged that he suicided by drinking bull blood.

Plutarch (100 AD) associates his suicide with nightmares and Strabon with the Cimmerian who invaded Phrygia.

2.5. Values

2.5.1. Outstanding Universal Value of the Site

Just as Gordion was the political and cultural center of ancient Phrygia, the site is today by far the best testimony we have for assessing Phrygian civilization. Since very few Phrygian inscriptions have been found, it is primarily through archaeological evidence that we gain a picture of who the Phrygians were, and Gordion is the key site for this purpose

Gordion has been extensively investigated archaeologically, which makes it one of the leading sites for understanding long-term settlement history in the Near East. It is the best documented settlement of the Phrygian kingdom, which controlled much of Asia Minor during the early first millennium BCE., especially during the reign of Midas, its most famous king. With its monumental Phrygian architecture, an extensive destruction level dating to 800 BCE., and a series of wealthy tombs belonging to Phrygian royalty, Gordion is the premier type-site for ancient Phrygian civilization, on a par with Athens, Pompeii, and the Hittite capital at Hattusa.

Settlement began in the Early Bronze Age, at least as early as ca. 2500 BCE., and habitation still continues in the adjacent village of Yassıhöyük. Across that enormous span of time, 4500 years, there have been very few breaks in habitation. In other words, the site's settlement history, nearly 4500 years, is one of the longest in the world.

Gordion is best known as the capital city of the Phrygians and as the seat of the Phrygian king, Midas, who ruled in the late eighth century B.C. When Alexander the Great of Macedon came to Gordion in 333 BCE. he cut the famous Gordian Knot, after which the European Celts (Galatians) established a new center of power in the area, famously the most eastern enclave of the Celtic World. After the First World War, the region witnessed the Battle of the Sakarya in 1921, the Turkish War of Liberation.

The fortifications and monumental buildings of the 9th century BC Early Phrygian citadel are unequalled for the period in Anatolia along with multi-faceted architectural statement of royal power and command of human resources, well-preserved mosaics and textiles.

The landscape of the area is made uniquely distinctive by the large concentration of tumuli. One of these, the "Midas Mound" (Tumulus MM), rises to a height of 53 meters, and is the

third largest burial mound in the world. The tomb chamber within it is the oldest standing wooden building in the world (ca. 740 BCE.), a tribute to the astonishing skills of Gordion's ancient carpenters, who were among the most proficient in the Near East. Inside lay the best-preserved and most elaborate wooden furniture known from the ancient world, as well as over 100 bronze vessels that highlight the Phrygian fame in metalworking.

Since Gordion was such a powerful urban center over such a great span of time, there are many features commonly associated with ancient cities that were first developed there. These include the first colored stone mosaics in the ancient world (9th c. BC.) and some of the earliest roof tiles that have ever been found, all of which were elaborately painted.

Gordion was also one of the most famous textile production centers in antiquity, and they alone had a special dying process for clothing that made their aristocrats look golden in the sun—truly, a “golden touch.

An unrivalled assemblage of several thousand metal artifacts has been discovered at Gordion, in bronze, iron, and very occasionally in lead, silver, and gold. These finds cover a remarkably broad range of applications, from the utilitarian to the elaborately decorative, and include tools, structural fittings, utensils, military equipment, horse harness, vehicle fittings, dress accessories, and ornate jewellery. Perhaps the most astonishing finds are the sets of luxurious bronze banqueting vessels from Gordion's royal tumuli, including cauldrons, drinking buckets, jugs, bowls, ladles, and the regalia of elaborate brooches and belts that accompanied the dead. The largest and most spectacularly preserved of these assemblages came from Tumulus MM, with the vessels still bearing residues of the funerary meal after more than 2,700 years.

The entrance to the citadel at the East Gate features the best-preserved Iron Age (10th -8 th c. B.C.) gate complex that has ever been discovered, with stone masonry still rising to a height of 10 m. Gordion's excellent state of preservation is due in part to the fact that the entire 9th century BC. Phrygian citadel was covered by 5 m of clay after a catastrophic fire in 800 BCE.; this essentially froze the city's monuments and artifacts in time, like Pompeii, until they were excavated nearly 3,000 years later.

The site is directly associated with the episode of the Gordian Knot described by ancient historians such as Arrian (*Anabasis Alexandri* – considered one of the most complete sources on the campaigns of Alexander the Great), Quintus Curtius, Justin's epitome of Pompeius Trogus, and Aelian's *De Natura Animalium*. As a result of the profound and widespread

influence of the legend being used as a metaphor for Gordion, the name of the site and the people who ruled it continue to appear in literary and artistic works

Most of the ancient writers who described the kingdom focused on King Midas, who ruled during the second half of the 8th century BC. He was renowned in antiquity for his great wealth, and was believed to have had the power to turn anything he touched into gold – “the Midas Touch.

Phrygia was described in the Homer’s Iliad as a strong and well-fortified kingdom. Even during the period when it was controlled by other major powers, such as Lydia and Persia, Gordion’s citadel would have been one of the most impressive in Anatolia.

Important historical events and legends such as Gordian Knot which is related with Macedonian Alexander the Great’s arrival to Gordion when he started his campaign against Persian Empire, afterwards Galatian’s invasion the region as well as Sakarya War in 1921, Turkish Liberation War, have often been the subject of art and literature.

2.5.2. Local/Regional Values of the Site

It is very important that the characteristics attributed to Gordion are adopted and understood by different stakeholders and especially local people in order to manage the area in a sustainable way. While determining the management policies regarding the most appropriate use of the area, Gordion's values should carefully be taken into consideration. Main striking values are indicated below.

<i>Archaeological</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multilayered feature of the Citadel Mound which contains archaeological values from different periods.• Being the key area in understanding Phrygian culture as the capital of Phrygian civilization• The Tumulus MM and its wooden burial chamber which is among the best preserved rare example in the World.• Well preserved Iron-Age gate complex with stone masonry.• Striking ancient handicrafts such as bronze, textile, wooden furniture production.
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<i>Natural</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide area with steppe landscape away from urbanization • Mounds and tumuli as being distinctive feature of this landscape
<i>Scientific</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The character of the site allowing for interdisciplinary scientific studies • The numerous tumuli allowing for scientific study in the long term
<i>Cultural</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yassihöyük and surrounding villages preserving their cultural and traditional identity
<i>Educational</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with archaeologists and archaeological processes that provides educational opportunities • Cooperation with local and foreign schools
<i>Economic</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • job opportunities through archaeological excavations and presentation • Economic returns of tourism to the local people
<i>Touristic</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be suitable for the development of tourism in line with its environs
<i>Symbolic</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association with various legends and historical events

SECTION 3- ARCHAEOLOGY, CONSERVATION AND DOCUMENTATION

3.1. History of Archaeological Investigations in Gordion

The site of Gordion was “discovered” in November, 1893, when the German classical philologist Alfred Körte visited a location on the Sangarios (modern Sakarya) river where engineers working on the Berlin–Baghdad Railroad had come across the remains of an ancient settlement. Körte identified the site as Gordion primarily on the basis of what ancient Greek and Latin writers had to say about the old Phrygian capital. Seven years later, in 1900, he returned to Gordion with his brother Gustav to carry out a single, three-month season of excavation, among the first controlled field projects to take place in central Anatolia. On the Citadel Mound they reached levels that were perhaps as early as the sixth century BCE. Of the roughly 85 burial tumuli known in the immediate vicinity of Gordion, the brothers opened five, known today as K (Körte) I–V. Tumulus K-III, dated to the first half of the eighth century BCE, was especially rich in furnishings.

Fifty years after the Körtes’ explorations, Rodney S. Young began excavations at Gordion in 1950, under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Young’s work at the site continued over 17 seasons through 1973. On the Citadel Mound he concentrated on the eastern half, where he uncovered major portions of both the earlier and later Phrygian citadels, and also of the overlying Hellenistic towns. In the first years of excavation, the presence of still earlier Bronze Age settlement was attested through a deep sounding. Only limited investigation, however, was to be carried out in these levels. Young also opened 30 burial tumuli, ranging in date from the ninth century BCE into Hellenistic times. These included the spectacular Tumulus MM and the nearby wealthy tomb of a Phrygian child (Tumulus P), both of them from the Middle Phrygian period.

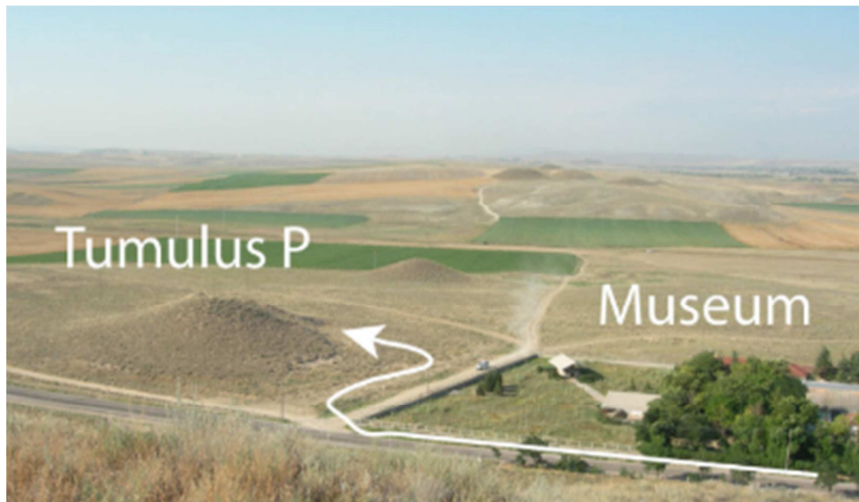


Fig.3.1 Tumulus P.

A few tumuli were found to overlie earlier remains, such as Middle Phrygian houses, and relatively humble cemeteries, one of Middle Phrygian date, the other going back to the time of the Hittite Old Kingdom (17th–15th centuries BCE). To the immediate southeast of the Citadel Mound, excavations on the Küçük Höyük or “Small Mound” revealed a mudbrick fortress atop a high mudbrick bastion, probably a Lydian installation of the late seventh or early sixth century BCE. Mudbrick fortification walls extending from the bastion enclosed a Lower Town. The destruction of the bastion in the 540s BCE, after a siege, no doubt reflects the Persian capture of Gordion.

Rodney Young died in a traffic accident in 1974, and excavation did not resume at Gordion until 1988, under the direction of Mary M. Voigt. During the intervening years, the late Keith DeVries was Project Director, overseeing research and site maintenance. In 1988, G. Kenneth Sams replaced DeVries as Project Director, and assumed responsibility for conservation and for the publication of Young’s discoveries. The new excavations have sought to clarify matters of stratigraphy and to investigate areas of the site that had previously seen little or no excavation. Thus, on the western side of the Citadel Mound, the trenches of Young and the Körte brothers were revisited, while trenches taken down in the area of the main Young excavations revealed Early Iron Age levels heretofore unknown. Work in the vicinity of the Küçük Höyük uncovered dwellings of the Lower Town, and revealed grim evidence of the Celtic presence in Hellenistic times, in the form of bizarre ritual deposits of dismembered humans and animals. To the west of the Citadel Mound, survey followed by excavation revealed an extensive Outer Town dating back perhaps as early as the eighth century BCE.

Archaeological survey of the region around Gordion, directed by Lisa Kealhofer, has placed the site in a broader local context of settlement patterns, while geomorphological

investigations by Ben Marsh and paleobotanical research by Naomi Miller have shed important light on the ancient physical and floral environment.

Excavations in Gordion, which were conducted under the direction of G. Kennedy Sams from 1988 to 2012, were suspended between 2007 and 2013 due to the publication work.

3.1.1. The Gordion Archaeological Project and its Sponsors

Excavations in Gordion were resumed in 2013 under the direction of C. Brian Rose on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania / Penn Museum. The Gordion Archaeological Project has used a range of scientific approaches such as dendrochronology, remote sensing, radiocarbon dating, and geophysical research for the past seventy years, in addition to excavation work.

The Gordion Archaeological Project is one of the excavations carried out by foreign delegations permitted by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism with the President's Decree. All archaeological research by the Gordion Project has been carried out under the aegis of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. The College of William and Mary has been a co-sponsor since 1991, and the Royal Ontario Museum co-sponsored work carried out between 1994 and 2002.

Excavation and survey at Gordion since 1988 have been supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the National Geographic Society, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Kress Foundation, the IBM Foundation, the Tanberg Trust, the Loreena McKennitt Trust, the 1984 Foundation, the George B. Storer Foundation, the Selz Foundation, the Luther I. Replogle Foundation, and Ken Jordan.

The dendrochronology and radiocarbon work has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the Malcolm H. Wiener Foundation, the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences, and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

The Museum of Anatolian Civilizations (Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi) at Ankara has played a fundamental role at Gordion. Many of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism commissars—who supervise the on-site operations of the Gordion Archaeological Project each season—are archaeologists from the museum, and these experts have contributed a great deal to the work and experience of the project. The museum has carried out its own operations at Gordion, including excavations of four Gordion burial-mounds (notably the

Mamaderesi Tumulus and Kızlar Kayası Tumulus A) and salvage work on the Hellenistic Tumulus O's burial chamber.

There is also a platform called "The Friends of Gordion" which is an organization of persons interested in Gordion, the Phrygians, and archaeology in Turkey. It supports the ongoing activities of the Gordion Excavation Project, which include site conservation and publications of the latest discoveries. All Friends of Gordion receive the annual newsletter that provides information about the results of the season's work.

3.2. Archive/Data

The Gordion Archive at Penn Museum is the main repository for the voluminous records created by over thirty seasons of excavation at Gordion. The material includes over 80,000 photographic images (black-and white negatives and prints; color slides), hundreds of drawings (large-scale maps and plans; artifacts), hundreds of written reports (excavation notebooks, end-of-season evaluations etc), thousands of catalog cards and book-lists (containing tens of thousands of entries detailing the attributes of artifacts, photographs, drawings and documents); and miscellaneous other items.

Beginning in 2007 the Gordion Archaeological Project at the Penn Museum began the process of digitizing the content of the Gordion Archive within the framework "Digital Gordion" study which is a Web application based on HTML, PHP, and Javascript, thus making it platform-independent and accessible from anywhere. The goal is to produce not only a digital version of the archive, but also a tool to facilitate research and publication of the materials. Recently available digital technologies can powerfully organize, process, and rapidly deliver large quantities of information (including masses of photographic imagery) to researchers throughout the world. At the same time, they can improve the researcher's analytical toolkit, provide a backup of the data, and facilitate collaboration among scholars working on the same data from different locations. They have the potential to shave off years of post-excavation publication programs by liberating a research team from heavy logistical burdens and allowing them to concentrate on the actual interpretation and presentation of the material. The basic elements of the "Digital Gordion" study data set are field notebooks, photographs, large format plans and maps drawn to scale, artifact drawings, many lists and post-excavation written reports.

To accurately represent the spatial settlements and stratification of a particular time period, the remains must first be linked to a reliable planimetric (horizontal) and altimetric (vertical) coordinate system. Accurate mapping also needs for advanced and reliable archaeological

applications. Accordingly, the "Gordion Digital Mapping Study" was initiated in 2008 by the Gordion Archaeological Project. With the digital mapping study, the process of sending the map to a world-class coordinate system (UTM) has been started using the Geographical Information System (GIS). As a result of the accurate and detailed data set in order to facilitate visualization, 3D architectural and topographic reconstruction studies are still ongoing. Three-dimensional reconstructions are used not only for researchers to benefit from a more detailed and comprehensive array of architectural elements, but also for local residents and visitors to promote the presentation and history of the site.

Additionally, all data about the mounds and tumuli in Gordion were incorporated in National Immovable Cultural Heritage Inventory System (TUES) which a centralized web-based GIS system is run by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums. Studies on registering the Gordion originated objects in the Museums to "Museum National Inventory System" (MUES) which is a system where detailed information on the artifacts in whole museums is kept, have been continuing.

3.3. Conservation

3.3.1. Conservation Status of the Citadel Mound

The history of conservation and scientific research in Gordion and its surroundings goes back to old dates. The protection of the settlement has been the main priority of the Gordion Archaeological Project, especially since 1998.

Most of the structures in Gordion, dated to the Phrygian Period and other periods, have mud walls. For this reason, archaeological materials unearthed in excavations become very fragile when left uncovered. Especially mud brick structures are sensitive to rain. For this reason, some of the mudbricks and some other structures excavated in the past were buried again.

It has been evaluated that traditional re-burial techniques preserved the remains but impaired the topography and readability of the archaeological site. To reverse this trend, it was necessary to develop a conservation program that would use the entire area as an archaeological landscape while preserving the texture and readability of the Citadel Mound.

Necessary work has been done to ensure that a developed conservation program is implemented on a large scale, sustained and economical by using available resources and skills. Accordingly, a Six-Year Site Conservation Plan was developed in 2007 to address the issues of conservation, interpretation and maintenance of the architectural structures in the area, and studies on the plan were initiated in 2008.

The site protection plan prepared for the Citadel Mound consisted of five components determined for the first planning study period. These are:

- 1) the stabilization of the escarpments and restoration of mound profile,
- 2) the design of the platforms for the visitor route and the relevant vantage points
- 3) conservation and stabilisation of architectural structures and pavements.
- 4) the conservation of the lifted and in situ pebble mosaics
- 5) the development of a site guidebook.

Starting in 2006, a team of specialists directed by Frank Matero from the University Of Pennsylvania School Of Design (Penn Design) has been working on site, developing new approaches to the conservation, stabilization and presentation of the Citadel Mound and its architecture.

In the comprehensive documentation and sustainable conservation studies of Citadel Mound, primarily the monumental entrance structure of the Early Phrygian Period and the structures in the Terrace Complex were documented and assessed by laser and digital methods. The possible structural movement was observed at the monumental entrance gate of the Early Phrygian Period and it was detected that there was a significant amount of movement in the Stones. It is thought that this movement may be due to seismic movements or slips. Therefore, clay-based coatings were designed to protect the upper surfaces of the monumental entrance gate from rain water and the durability of this cover was reinforced with local plants. The same method has been applied in certain areas of the buildings in the Terrace Complex, the inner face of the walls has been reinforced with stainless steel wires to prevent outward slipping in some places and with new stones, the walls were rebuilt in certain places.

One of the focal points of the conservation studies of 2014 was the stabilization of the Early Phrygian Period monumental entrance structure. Scaffolding to provide access for stabilization works on the north and east walls of the gate's South Court was installed. Work included ground leveling of the central ramp, construction of a timber mat foundation for the heavy-duty scaffolding along the north wall, and access scaffolding. By 2019, all of the damaged stones had been lifted, consolidated, and reinserted in their original position.

In 20014, within the scope of conservation studies, the existing walls of the Early Phrygian Period terrace building (room 5) were also strengthened and the field documentation of the walls of rooms 6 and 7 was completed in preparation for the 2015 season.

In 2013, one panel from Megaron 2 pebble mosaic currently housed in the Gordion Museum was temporarily faced, then lifted and stored at the Gordion Museum. In 2014, following on three years of research and planning, conservation treatment started on the lifted panel by removing the old reinforced concrete backing using a custom-made grinding system. The conservation of this panel had been completed by 2016, and the other panels are now being conserved.

On the Citadel Mound of Gordion, one has to keep the vegetation in check both to protect the ruins and to make them visible for tourists. Yet one can also use the vegetation strategically in preservation activities, especially when dealing with ruined walls, such as those that form part of Gordion's Terrace Buildings. The upper section of the walls is covered with a layer of soil, and the seeds of native grasses and other shallow-rooted plants are set into it, in the form of mudballs. Such a system avoids insect predation, and essentially fools the seeds into thinking they are in a natural setting as the mudballs are melted by the winter rains. The result is a stable cap that protects the walls and delineates them more clearly for visitors to the site.

In addition to its routine maintenance and minor repairs, conservation program currently incl. the following works:

- The completion of the conservation works in the Terrace Building (TB).
- The conservation of the burned, fractured, and splayed walls of units TB-6, TB-7, and TB-8 is planned to be carried out in 2020 – 2023. Similar conservation techniques that have been used for units TB-1 – TB-5 will be applied.
- Conservation of the South Gate. The walls of the newly discovered South Gate still survive to a height of 4 m in certain parts. As with the East Gate, the upper stones will need to be 148 removed, consolidated with grout, and restored to their original positions.
- The completion of the conservation of the Pebble Mosaic

3.3.2. Conservation Status of Tumuli and Documentation

Tumuli in Gordion and its environs were designated as “cultural property” by the Decision No 1096, 16/02/1990, Decision No 2436, 10/06/2015 and Decision No. 2808, 12/11/2015 of the Ankara Regional Council for Conservation of Cultural Properties. Thus, these tumuli are taken under legal protection. In addition, the protection zone of the tumuli was determined as at least 20 m from the 0 (zero) level by the referred Regional Council.

Within the boundaries of the Management Area, 5 tumuli were excavated by Koerte Brothers in 1900's, 29 tumuli were excavated by the University of Pennsylvania Penn Museum within the scope of the Gordion Archaeological Project and 4 tumuli were excavated by Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum (see Table 1,2)

Among them, Tumulus MM is very important in terms of its size and wooden burial chamber which has reached today intact. Since the 1980's, team members at Gordion have been monitoring the environment and structural stability of the tomb chamber. Electronic dataloggers record temperature and humidity levels throughout the year. Readings of calibrated "telltales" at the corners of the outer casing are recorded by the Gordion Museum staff each month throughout the year, and measurements are taken at fixed points in the interior of the tomb chamber. All these efforts and professional engineering studies led to the installation in 2002 of a new support system for the juniper logs of the outer casing. The goal is to study, document, protect, and preserve the tomb chamber in Tumulus MM, the oldest standing wooden building in the world. In order to prevent erosion in Tumulus MM, a drainage system made of mudbrick was placed in certain parts of the Tumulus and it was surrounded by fence.

Within the scope of a study for "Conservation Management Plan for Gordion and its environs" launched in 2007 and funded by TUBITAK, priority tumuli have been identified in order to prevent the tumuli from being eroded due to agricultural activities. Hereupon, tumuli have been surveyed; current conditions have been determined, photographed and documented by the experts of Ankara Anatolian Civilization Museum and Ankara Regional Council for the Conservation of Cultural Properties in 2019. In addition, the cadastral island-parcel information of the immovables on which the tumuli are located was obtained thanks to technical support of the Polatlı Municipality. During the survey, adverse situations that damage the Tumuli have been also detected (See Table 1,2).

This study shows that the most important factor affecting the tumuli in the Nominated WHS is agricultural activities. Some tumuli have lost height. The Tumuli, T1, T111 and T112 have needed salvage excavation. No illegal excavation has been noted here.

When the tumuli are evaluated in the buffer zone (Table-2), it is also seen that agricultural activities have been carried out in almost all of them. There is a cadastral road near the Tumulus T6 and cause harm the tumulus. Tumuli T94, T95, T96 and T97 are almost to disappear because of irrigation and agricultural activities. Some tumuli (T68, T109, T110, T120 and T125) have been illegally excavated in previous years. Tumulus T120 is needed salvage excavation because of illegal excavation in previous years.

TABLE 1- TUMULI IN THE NOMINATED WORLD HERITAGE SITE

No	Name	Region(s)/ District (s)	Ownership	Period/Date	Excavation Status	Factors Affecting Prop.	Proposal
1	T1	Yassihöyük	private			Intense agricultural activity	Salvage excavation, Ceasing agricultural activities
2	T2	Yassihöyük	private			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
3	T3	Yassihöyük	private			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
4	T4	Yassihöyük	private			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
5	T5 (W)	Yassihöyük	State /private	850 BCE	Excavated in 1959 by Excavation Team	Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
6	T7	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
7	T8	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
8	T9	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
9	T10	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
10	T11	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
11	T12	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
12	T13	Yassihöyük	Private-unregis. land			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
13	T14	Yassihöyük	Private-unregis. land			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
14	T15	Yassihöyük	Private-unregis. land			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
15	T16	Yassihöyük	Private-unregis. land			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
16	T17	Yassihöyük	Private-unregis. land			Undefined	none
17	T18	Yassihöyük	unregistered land			Undefined	none
18	T19	Yassihöyük	private			Intense agricultural activity	Ceasing agricultural activities
19	T20 (Y)	Yassihöyük	Common prop. unregistered land	830-820 BCE	Excavated in 1965 by ET	Undefined	none
20	T21	Yassihöyük	State/unregistered land			Undefined	none
21	T22 (X)	Yassihöyük	Unregistered land	830-820 BCE	Excavated in 1965 by ET	Undefined	none
22	T23	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			agricultural activity /elevation loss	none
23	T24 (P)	Yassihöyük	State	760 BCE	Excavated in 1955-56, ET	Undefined	none
24	T25 (MM)	Yassihöyük	Common prop /Unregis. land	742 BCE	Excavated in 1957 by ET	Undefined	none
25	T26	Yassihöyük	State			Undefined	none
26	T27 (U)	Yassihöyük	State	560 BCE	Excavated in 1956 by ET	Undefined	none
27	T28 (KW)	Yassihöyük	state		Excavated in 1900's, Koerte Brothers	Undefined	none
28	T29 (R)	Yassihöyük	state		Excavated in 1956 by ET	Elevation loss	none
29	T30 (S)	Yassihöyük	state	800 BCE	Excavated in 1956 by ET	Elevation loss	none
30	T31 (Q)	Yassihöyük	state	810 BCE	Excavated in 1956 by ET	Elevation loss	none
31	T32 (Koerte II)	Yassihöyük	State	550 BCE	Excavated in 1900's, Koerte Brothers	Undefined	none
32	T33 (Koerte III)	Yassihöyük	State / common prop.	780 BCE	Excavated in 1900's, Koerte Brothers	Undefined	none
33	T34 (N)	Yassihöyük	State/unregis. land	720 BCE	Excavated in 1950's by ET	Partly located in barn of a house	none
34	T35 (KY)	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	780 BCE	Excavated in 1955 by ET	Undefined	none

35	T36 (M)	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	MÖ 550	Excavated in 1951-52 by ET	Loss of height and form	none
36	T37 (Koerte I)	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	600 BCE	Excavated in 1900's by Koerte Brothers	Undefined	none
37	T38 (Koerte II)	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	550 BCE	Excavated in 1900's, Koerte Brothers	Undefined	none
38	T39 (E)	Yassihöyük	State/common prop.	530 BCE	Excavated in 1950-1951 by ET	Undefined	none
39	T40 (F)	Yassihöyük	state	620-610 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
40	T41 (G)	Yassihöyük	state	850 BCE	Excavated in 1950 by ET	Undefined	none
41	T42 (D)	Yassihöyük	State/common prop.	550 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
42	T43 (C)	Yassihöyük	state	550 BCE	Excavated in 1950 by ET	Undefined	none
43	T44 (B)	Yassihöyük	Unregis. land	575 BCE	Excavated in 1950 by ET	Undefined	none
44	T46 (K)	Yassihöyük	state	600 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
45	T47 (J)	Yassihöyük	state	600 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
46	T48 (I)	Yassihöyük	state	600 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
47	T49 (H)	Yassihöyük	state	600 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
48	T50	Yassihöyük	Common prop. /private	700 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
49	T51	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
50	T52	Yassihöyük	Common prop/private		Excavated in 2019 by AMM	Undefined	none
51	T53	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
52	T54	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
53	T55	Yassihöyük	Common prop/private			Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
54	T56	Yassihöyük	private			Agricultural activities.	Ceasing agricultural activities
55	T57	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	600-550 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Undefined	none
56	T58 (Z)	Yassihöyük	Common prop.	710 BCE	Excavated in 1969 by ET	Undefined	none
57	T59	Yassihöyük	private	640 BCE	Excavated in 1951 by ET	Agricultural activities, loss of elevation	none
58	T60	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
59	T 61	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
60	T62	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
61	T63	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
62	T64	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
63	T65	Yassihöyük	Common prop.			Undefined	none
64	T66	Yassihöyük	Common prop. /private			Undefined	none
65	T111	Beylikköprü/ Eskibebi	private		Geophysical investigation in 2014, burial chamber was identified	Intense agricultural activities	Salvage excavation, Ceasing agricultural activities
66	T112	Beylikköprü/ Eskibebi	private		Geophysical investigation in 2014, burial chamber was identified	Agricultural activities	Salvage excavation, Ceasing agricultural activities
67	T113 (O)	Beylikköprü/ Çifttehöyük	State/common prop.	Hellenistic	Excavated in 1995 by ET	Displayed in GM	none
68	T114	Beylikköprü/	Private/state		Excavated in 1988 by AMM	agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities

		Mamaderesi					
69	T115	Beylikköprü/ Çifthöyük	state		-	agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
70	T116	Beylikköprü/ Çifthöyük	state		-	agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
71	T117	Beylikköprü/ Çifthöyük	state		-	agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
72	T118 (JL)	Beylikköprü	private	Hellenistic.	Excavated in 1950's by ET	Undefined	none
73	T119	Beylikköprü/ Karga yaylası	private		-	agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities

TABLE 2- TUMULI IN THE BUFFER ZONE

	Name	Region(s)/ District (s)	Ownership	Excavation Status / Period/Date	Factors Affecting Prop. /SOC	Proposal
1	T6	Yass/Sülüklü	private		Intense agricultural activities, cadastral road	Cancellation of the rood/ Ceasing agricultural activities
2	T45 (A)	Yass/Sülüklü	private	Excavated in 1950 by ET / 530 BCE	Located in the garden of a house	none
3	T67	Yass/Tokattaş	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
4	T68	Yass /Sülüklü	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
5	T69	Yass. /Kayran	State/private	-	Illegal excavation, intense agricultural activities /poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
6	T70	Yass /Tokattaş	private I	-	Agricultural activities /poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
7	T71	Yass /Sülüklü	Private/state-village legal entity	-	Intense agricultural activities/poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
8	T72	Yass/İkizhöyükler	private		Agricultural activities /fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
9	T73	Yass/İkizhöyükler	private	-	Agricultural activities /fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
10	T74	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities/poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
11	T75	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities /fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
12	T76	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
13	T77	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
14	T78	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
15	T79	Yass/Kabayazı	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
16	T80	Yass/Kabayazı	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
17	T81	Yass/Kabayazı	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
18	T82	Yass/Kabayazı	private	-	Intense agricultural activities/ Elevation loss /poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
19	T83	Yass/Kayran	Private/state-village legal entity	-	Agricultural activities/fpoor	Ceasing agricultural activities
20	T84	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
21	T85	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
22	T86	Yass/Kayran	private	Salvage excavation in 1989 by AMM	Intense agricultural activities/very poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
23	T87	Yass/Kayran	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
24	T90	Çekirdeksiz/Gökyatak	Private/state-village legal entity		Undefined/good	none

25	T91	Çekirdeksiz/Gökyatak	Private/state-village legal entity		Undefined/good	none
26	T92	Çekirdeksiz/Arpahisseleri	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
27	T93	Çekirdeksiz/Arpahisseleri	private	-	Agricultural activities	Ceasing agricultural activities
28	T94	Yass-Şabanözü/Kayran	Private/state	Salvage excavation in 1989 by AMM	Agricultural activities, irrigation /very poor-disappeared	
29	T95	Yass-Şabanözü /Kayran	Private/state		Agricultural activities, irrigation /very poor-disappeared	none
30	T96	Yass-Şabanözü /Kayran	Private/state		Agricultural activities, irrigation /very poor-disappeared	none
31	T97	Yass-Şabanözü Kayran	Private/state		Agricultural activities, irrigation /very poor-disappeared	none
32	T102	Şabanözü/İkizhöyük	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
33	T103	Şabanözü/İkizhöyük	private	-	Agricultural activities/fair	Ceasing agricultural activities
34	T104	Kıranharmanı/ 505 Dönümler	private	-	Agricultural activities, elevation loss, about to disappear/ very poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
35	T105	Kıranharmanı/ 505 Dönümler	private	-	Agricultural activities, elevation loss, about to disappear/ very poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
36	T106	Kıranharmanı/ 505 Dönümler	private	-	Agricultural activities, elevation loss, about to disappear/ very poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
37	T107	Kıranharmanı/ 505 Dönümler	private	-	Agricultural activities, elevation loss, about to disappear/ very poor	Ceasing agricultural activities
38	T109	Kıranharmanı/ Bentbaş	State-village legal entity	-	Illegal excavation in previous years, agricultural activities.	none
39	T110	Kıranharmanı/ Demiryoluüstü	Private/state	-	Illegal excavation in previous years, agricultural activities.	Ceasing agricultural activities
40	T120	Beylikköprü	private		Illegal excavation in previous years,	Salvage excavation
41	T125 (Beylik Tümülsü)	Beylikköprü	private		Illegal excavation in previous years, agricultural activities.	Ceasing agricultural activities

3.3.3. Object Conservation

The movable material in the area is preserved in the conservation laboratory near the Gordion Museum, and many finds are kept in the museum and in the warehouses in the excavation house.

The Objects Conservation Program was started in 1988 to provide professional conservation care for objects found, studied, and stored at the Gordion Excavations. Since its inception, the Program has been committed to advocating preservation so that the collections will continue to be accessible for research in the future.

Conservators play an integral role in the project by collaborating with archaeologists and researchers at every stage of fieldwork. During excavation they assist archaeologists in safely lifting fragile artefacts from the ground, and then assess and treat objects in the laboratory to arrest deterioration and stabilize their condition. Conservators consistently monitor the artifacts once they have been stored or placed on exhibition in the Gordion Museum to ensure their long-term preservation, and provide expertise and support to researchers using the collections.

The Program is also committed to pursuing research that will benefit the site as well as the broader archaeological and conservation community. This has involved exploring methods for removing damaging soluble salts from ceramics, documenting evidence of textiles in metals corrosion, monitoring the environment in Tumulus MM, and cleaning its wooden tomb chamber.

This broad range of activities provides a rich environment for the treatment of archaeological materials, and for the training of conservation students in fieldwork and collections care. The Program continues to provide training opportunities for students in graduate conservation programs.

The excavations in Gordion uncovered an exceptional collection of Phrygian furniture and wooden objects from the Mound and three royal tombs at Gordion. Excavated between 1956 and 1959, Tumulus W, Tumulus P, and Tumulus MM (mid-ninth to later eighth century BCE) produced an unparalleled group of wood finds, including at least 50 pieces of fine furniture and more than 70 small objects. These included tables, serving stands, stools, a bed, and a log coffin, as well as plates, bowls, spoons, a parasol, and eleven small animals, considered to be among the most charming of the Gordion finds.

Much of the wood was in unusually good condition, due to the dry and relatively stable conditions that had prevailed inside the tomb chambers. The pieces were elaborately carved, and some of the furniture was inlaid profusely or studded with bronze tacks. The design of the furniture was highly imaginative, unlike that of any other ancient furniture known. The collection is now recognized as the most important group of well-preserved wooden artifacts ever recovered from the ancient Near East.

Since 1981, the study and conservation of the Gordion wood has been carried out in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, Ankara, by an international team of more than forty conservators, scientists, artists, and graduate interns, directed by Dr. Elizabeth Simpson and with Professor Krysia Spirydowicz as head conservator. In order to conserve the wood, its surface was first cleaned. In most cases, the wood was then consolidated under vacuum in a solution of polyvinyl butyral (Butvar B-98), dissolved in a mixture of solvents. After slow drying, excess consolidant was removed from the surface, and final repairs were made. The methods developed and refined by **the Gordion Furniture Project** team are now considered standard for the conservation of dry archaeological wood.

After conservation, the wood was quite strong and could be studied, drawn, photographed, and put-on display. Now on exhibition in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations, Ankara, are many small objects as well as four large pieces of furniture. The inlaid table and two serving stands from Tumulus MM and the inlaid, studded stool from Tumulus P have been reassembled on Plexiglas. In 1997, new display cases were made for these objects, designed and constructed by MOB Mobilya Dekorasyon A.Ş., Ankara. Those objects have been placed in safe storage in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. These are housed in custom-made steel storage cabinets made by Delta Designs, Ltd., Topeka, Kansas, and shipped to Ankara. The surface of the cabinets is finished with a non-reactive coating. The drawers are lined with a stable foam material, cut to conform to the shape of the pieces and covered with a moisture-permeable Gore-tex sheet.

A wood species analysis has identified the woods used for the Gordion wooden artifacts, which include boxwood, juniper, walnut, yew, and oak, as well as cedar and pine for the Tumulus MM coffin. A wood pathology analysis (Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota) has revealed important new information on the deterioration processes in ancient wood.

An analysis of the textiles associated with the Gordion furniture is being conducted at the Museum Conservation Institute, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Study of the

tools and techniques used by the Phrygian cabinetmakers has also made a significant contribution. In one example, the Tumulus W plates have yielded the earliest evidence for the use of the lathe from a securely dated archaeological context. Comparative research has situated the Gordion woodworkers within their wider geographical context, indicating that several unusual techniques were actually common practice, attested as far east as Siberia, and as far west as Etruria. These scientific and technical studies, in combination with stylistic analysis, have revolutionized the understanding of ancient woodworking.

Scientists have analysed the food and drink residues found in vessels from the Tumulus MM burial. Based on the results, it was understood the way that the furniture was used with the bronze vessels, and to reconstruct the menu of the king's funerary banquet. The guests at the funeral ate a spicy stew containing legumes and barbecued lamb or goat, and drank a mixed fermented beverage made of grape wine, barley beer, and honey mead. The "Midas Feast" was recreated at the University of Pennsylvania Museum in 2000, with the mixed fermented beverage made by Dogfish Head Brewery.

3.4. Factors Affecting the Property

3.4.1. Floods and Erosion

The first settlement in Gordion was built on the alluvium in the floodplain of the Sakarya River. Geographical research at Gordion has shown that the Sakarya River buried much of the Iron Age city in 3–5 m of silt, beginning during its occupation, and then later eroded away major parts of it. The earliest major sedimentation at the city is dated to the late Bronze Age, when a widespread thin silt layer was laid out, upon which the Iron Age city was built. Buried and eroded parts of the site are now visible on the river plain. Recent shift moved the river from the middle of the valley, east of the Citadel Mound, to the west side of the mound.

Another reason for erosion is diminished vegetation over time. According to researches the ratio of juniper, oak and pine decreased at the end of Middle Phrygian Period. The decrease in diversity in vegetation can be also attributed to the intensive animal husbandry in the Roman period and after. Simultaneously, the decrease in the quality of the wood was determined by archaeological researches and it was understood that the trees were constantly decreasing in this region. It has been observed that the accumulation of debris with erosion has been continuous since the Iron Age.

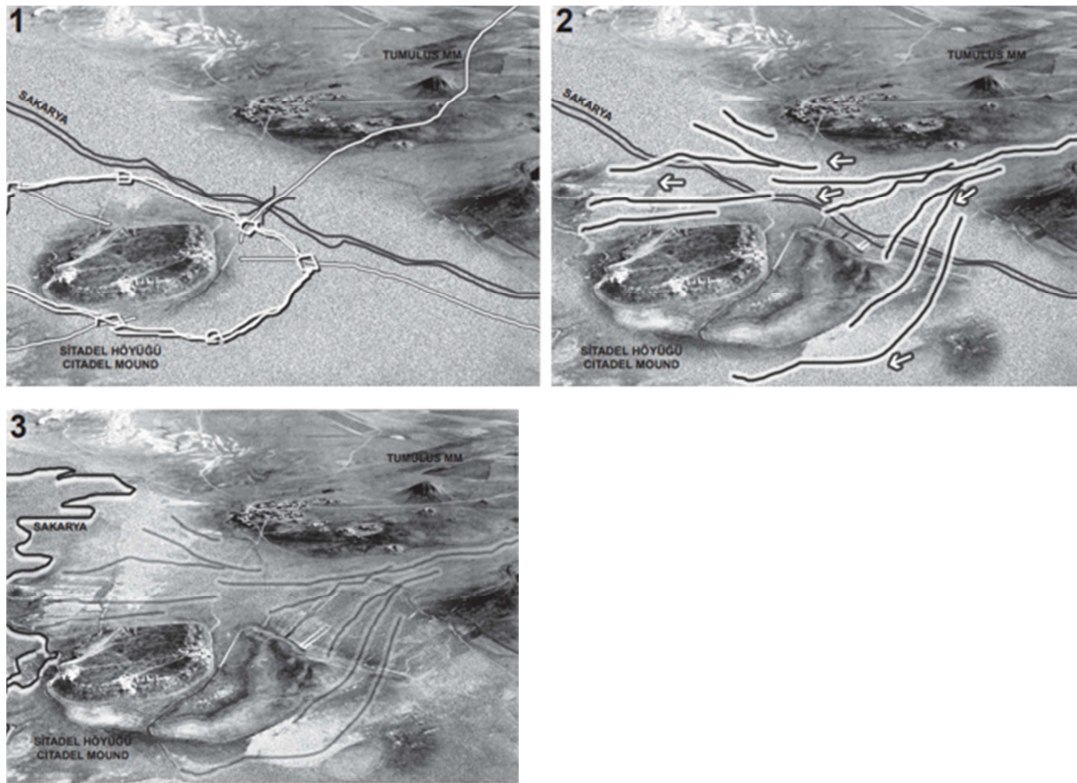


Fig. 3.2 these three plans clarify the changes in the Sakarya River plain at Gordion. The first shows the Citadel and its environs during the Middle Phrygian Period. The second plan shows how significantly the situation had changed by circa 1000 AD. Over the years 3 meters of sediment had been laid on the river plain. This effect driven by centuries of agriculturally related erosion eventually forced the river to shift to its current position on the western side as seen in the third plan. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

In Gordion, since the 1990s archaeobotanist Naomi F. Miller has been concerned with vegetation improvement and archaeological preservation on an increasingly large scale, a project referred to as “The Ecopark.” This has involved planting vegetation closer to the tourist attractions of the site and museum, especially as a way to diminish erosion. One of the focal points has been Tumulus MM, where erosion has increased substantially. Even though the mound itself was nearly bare, there clearly was a seed bank waiting to sprout amid the spiny shrubs, and it had an opportunity to grow once the perimeter of the mound was fenced.

Rising water levels have also the potential of course impact upon the main citadel mound (especially north-west part) and Kuş Tepe (K 8) located at the east bank of the Sakarya River due to their proximity. But given the re-lining of parts of the Sakarya River, (and the results of the observations of the water levels in previous years) the risk of a significant flood/breach of the river bank in the future is considered to be small. Flows/Water level in the Sakarya River is inspected by the Directorate of State Water Works (Regional Office No.3- Ankara) (a member of the Gordion Management Plan Coordination and Audit Board).

3.4.2. Fire

There is only a limited risk of fire on the Citadel Mound, due to sparse vegetation cover. There is, however, a greater risk of fire on the tumuli. For example, between the summers of 1998 and 1999, a carelessly discarded cigarette burned a large swath of the vegetation in the northeast sector of Tumulus MM. In the current situation this risk/ prob. on the Tumulus MM is managed through controlled grazing: a mixed flock of 45 sheep and five goats is allowed to graze on the mound for a week, thereby cropping the excess vegetative matter and thus reducing the fire hazard.

3.4.3. Earthquake

Turkey is situated along several fault lines, which leaves the country susceptible to high seismic activity. Although Gordion is not within an active fault line, its dry-laid masonry structures still remain vulnerable to ground movement. In fact, the earthquake in 1999 (although based in İzmit approx. 300 km from Polatlı) had substantial effect on the ruins incl. the East Gate (built ca.850 BC).

The citadel gate has gone through major restoration/consolidation work incl. stabilization of the stones that were most severely damaged/cracked (2014 – 2019). At present, no immediate action is required due to the apparent good stability of the structures within the Citadel Mound, but monitoring of the dry-laid masonry walls, especially in the Citadel Gate is required on an annual basis.

3.4.4. Agriculture and Irrigation

As mentioned in the above section, the most important factor affecting the conservation status of the tumuli in the region is agricultural activities. In addition, irrigation of the fields with water brought from the Sakarya River harms the tumuli.

Gordion is located within a living landscape, and its surrounding encompasses a number of lands uses and their varying priorities. Farming in particular plays a key role in the economy, life and the contemporary landscape of the Nominated WHS. The majority of the farmland is around the 1st and 3rd degree archaeological site.

In the Nominated WHS boundary (= 1st and 3rd degree archaeo. conservation ‘site’ = 984.72 ha.) there are strict controls to restrict farming activities (incl. restriction on livestock numbers, ploughing and fertilizer applications, etc.). Such restrictions also apply to individual tumuli which are designated separately as cultural properties (Law No.2863)

outside the 1st and 3rd degree archaeological conservation site especially concentrated in the area north of the Yassihöyük village.

While planning measures to prevent the negative affects of agricultural activities on the Management Area, it should be taken into account that farmers can continue to grow crops on their lands and not be financially disadvantaged. Accordingly, some preventive measures were added to Action Plan such as encircling some individual tumuli and mounds with fences, placing warning signs to avoid ploughing, and most importantly, improving the work carried out the raise awareness.

SECTION 4- VISITOR MANAGEMENT

4.1. Transportation

The district boasts a well-developed road network and is accessible by roads and railways. The Polatlı is also a stop along the Ankara-Istanbul, Ankara-Eskişehir, and Ankara-Konya railway routes. There is an 87-km railway between Ankara and Polatlı, and a 168-km railway between Ankara and Eskişehir. In addition, Polatlı is on the route of the E-90-D-200 transit highway. It is possible to reach Polatlı, which is located on the Ankara-Eskişehir highway, from Ankara by public transport available every hour, as well as high-speed train and suburban train.

After reaching Polatlı, the neighbourhood of Yassıhöyük, which lies at 18 km northwest, can be reached from the Polatlı-Beypazarı road. In addition, a northwest turn from the neighbourhood of Üçpınar junction on the Ankara-Eskişehir direction takes you firstly to the neighbourhood of Çekirdeksiz and then to Gordion. What is more, the road that extends along the Eskişehir-Ankara direction to the north from the district of Beyliköprü junction also takes visitors to Gordion.

However, regular vehicles are to be used for access to the museum and archaeological site, which is situated 18 km away from the district centre. This situation makes it possible to reach Gordion only by private vehicles or tour buses. In order to provide more efficient transportation to Gordion, planning can be made for the scheduling of buses to set off from the high-speed train station and bus station in the district of Polatlı centre to Gordion at certain times of the day, the placement of informative signboards on Gordion at the said stations, and the arrangement of a bicycle path to the area along the Phrygian road.

4.2. Accommodation

Visitors to Gordion usually come on a daily basis. Yassıhöyük and the surrounding villages do not offer any accommodation opportunities. The hotels in Polatlı offer the closest accommodation opportunities to Gordion. Considering the relationship of Gordion with its surroundings and its landscape, the construction of any large-scale hotels here would harm the integrity of the area. As a matter of fact, camping areas may be created in suitable places.

4.3. Visiting Route

When visitors arrive in Polatlı, they can reach the neighbourhood of Yassıhöyük with a ride of 18 km from the Gordion sign. The first area they encounter towards the end of the road is

Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM on the opposite site and therefore, the first popular attractions frequented by the visitors are Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM.



Fig.4.1 Tumulus MM and Gordion Museum.

Most of the visitors stop by this Tumulus after their visit to the museum. Visitors access the burial chamber through a 70m tunnel starting from introductory panels. The tomb is partially available to visitors, and there is a barred door at the entrance to the burial chamber. Visitors are not allowed to enter the chamber through this door due to preservation purposes.

Most of the time, the Tumuli in the surrounding area do not go beyond their perceived position of landscaping elements for the visitors and a good connection between Tumulus MM and the other Tumuli could not be established in such a manner as to be perceived well by the visitors. In order to allow the landscape integrity of the area and the Tumuli to be better perceived by the visitors, a watchtower or observation terrace can be built at a strategic point.

The Citadel Mound is located on the plain at the other end of the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük. Only some of the visitors are able to visit the mound due to the unavailability of sufficient guiding signs on the road leading to the Mound from the area where Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM are located. It takes about 20-25 minutes by walk from the museum. However, there is no walking route constructed between these two points.

The parking lot at the entrance of the site is of an adequate size for visitors to park their buses and vehicles. The parking lot has a capacity of approximately 20 vehicles and features information panels right in front. Information boards are updated periodically. Visitors climb to the mound through stone stairs extending to the right and left sides and also encounter

information panels here. The entire excavation site and most of the Tumuli can be viewed from the upper part of the mound.

For visitors reaching the area by car, there is no designated parking area at the base of the mound, although they can park their vehicles in the area extending at the base of the mound towards the gate complex of the Citadel Mound. The architectural elements unearthed in the archaeological excavations in the mound and the Monumental Entrance Gate can be viewed on foot by following 10 descriptive plates in Turkish and English.

The visit to the Citadel Mound is free and the site can be visited at every hour of the day. Since the site can be visited free of charge, it is not possible to determine the exact number of visitors touring the mound. However, visitors are guided by the museum staff on how to reach the mound.

Although a touring route was structured with signs around the mound, it didn't qualify as an adequate touring route for the visitors. The solution of these problems required the redefinition of the touring route, the placement of descriptive signs, and the allocation of an additional guide.

The team from the University of Pennsylvania has already started these actions, resulting in the design of a new touring route, an additional guide, descriptive signs, and shading structures. In this context, the old, rusted barbed wire fences that surrounded the area in 2014 were replaced with a system composed of new galvanized pipes and cables. New stone stairs were set up and the road was levelled to facilitate walking during a visit to the mound and to prevent the falling hazard for visitors. 11 new bilingual information signs have been placed around the touring route along the edge of the main excavation site in the Citadel Mound to allow visitors to learn about all phases of Gordion settlements. The area surrounding the mound does not offer restrooms or any similar facilities.



Fig. 4.2 Plan of the Gordion Visitor's Circuit. The information stations are marked in red. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

The cleaning of the area and collection of garbage are carried out with contributions from the Municipality of Polath.

Polath Centre for Promotion of Historical Sites assigns free guides to all groups who wish to visit Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM. The site visit, carried out in coordination with the Polath Centre for Promotion of Historical Sites, starts with the Citadel Mound and the visitors are taken into the museum after being provided with information on the site in front of the respective signs. Finally, the visit is concluded with the burial chamber in Tumulus MM.

4.4. Exhibition

The first village museum, Gordion Museum, was opened in the village of Yassihöyük on 20th November 1966 for the exhibition of the artifacts unearthed in and around Gordion and this museum reached its present form through the addition of a second hall later in the year 1999. With Tumulus MM and the ancient city of Gordion, the museum offers its visitors a magnificent sight that reflects the Phrygian world in all aspects.



Fig.4.3 Gordion Museum exhibition hall. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

Gordion Museum primarily displays artifacts from the Early Bronze Age, followed by artifacts belonging to the Early Phrygian Period, which ended with King Midas. These works on exhibition include hand-made pottery from the Early Iron Age and iron tools and textile production tools from the Early Phrygian Age. In the recently added exhibition hall of the museum, a typical structure belonging to the tier of destruction is exhibited in a panoramic showcase. The rest of the new exhibition hall exhibits imported old Greek pottery from the 6th Century B.C. to 4th Century A.D. and materials from the Hellenistic and Roman Periods. In the last section, there are samples of seals and coins found in Gordion on display. In addition, the open-air exhibition areas and garden part of the museum are home to an Early Phrygian Mosaic unearthed in Megaron 2, a Roman mosaic transported there from the village of Kayabaşı, a Galatian Tomb excavated from Tumulus O, and a botanical garden of endemic plants.

The museum, established on an area of approximately 120.000 m², features warehouses, a laboratory, a viewing and information hall, and outdoor and indoor exhibition halls, all added in the year 1990. Gordion Museum made it to the finals in the European Museum of the Year competition in the year 2000.

The comprehensive restoration, exhibition arrangement, and archaeological landscaping work completed on 14.12.2014 resulted in the construction of an entrance unit accommodating a cafeteria, a Branch of the Post and Telegraph Corporation, a sales unit, a restroom, masjidi, a more sizeable warehouse, a parking lot, a Museum ticket sales office, and a security room. The table showing the number of visitors to Gordion Museum between 2016 and 2020 is given below:

Number of Visitors to Gordion Museum

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
January	1.052	565	1.167	1.006	994
February	1.010	888	1.440	1.461	1.153
March	1.439	1.710	812	3.028	1.088
April	3.300	4.569	10.120	6.893	-
May	6.179	6.045	7.664	5.005	-
June	3.069	1.644	2.443	3.059	838
July	1.856	2.019	2.375	2.018	1.477
August	1.929	2.615	3.029	2.365	2.063
September	2.130	2.301	2.091	1.594	1.243
October	3.405	3.208	6.570	4.776	1.751
November	1.942	2.256	2.644	3.822	
December	772	1.558	1.287	941	
Total	28.083	29.378	41.642	35.968	

The numerical data above are not complemented with any detailed data on such statistics as the countries of origin, age, sex, travel route, accommodation, and level of satisfaction of visitors.

Among the finds unearthed in Gordion, a significant portion of high-quality ceramic and bronze artifacts are exhibited in Ankara Museum of Anatolian Civilisations, as well as 4 very valuable pieces of large wooden furniture that may perhaps attract the highest level of attention from visitors.



Fig.4.4 Wooden furniture from Gordion in Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum.

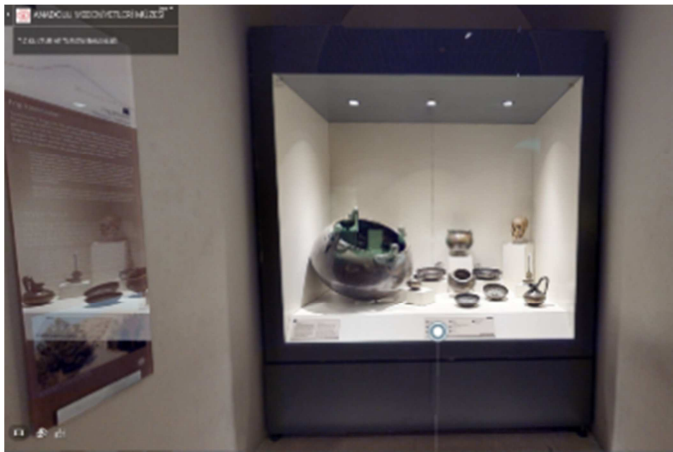


Fig.4.5 Bronze jars from Gordion in Ankara Anatolian Civilizations Museum.

Some of the artifacts from Tumuli T32, T33, T37 and T38 excavated by the Körte Brothers in the 1900s are kept at the Istanbul Directorate of Archaeology Museums, while others are in Berlin Museum.

4.5. Other Tourist Destinations in the Surroundings

Gordion and its surroundings represent an area that has witnessed important historical events in the establishment of the modern Republic of Turkey. On a hill on the outskirts of the town rises the imposing and imaginatively designed Monument of Sakarya Martyrs and Victory, which commemorates the Sakarya War and the Turkish soldiers (most of whom are buried in the town) who gave their lives here in 1921. Closer to Gordion, another interesting area commemorating the same war is the Dua Hill Martyrs' Memorial. The hill is one of the locations where the war raged in the most intense manner. This War constitutes the major military struggle of the Turkish army under the command of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and Fevzi Çakmak during the Turkish War of Independence. The traces of the war spread over a

wide area around and beyond Gordion. These structures are also complemented by the "Headquarters Museum" in the village of Alagöz and "Gazi Hill Memorial" in the village of Inler.

Those who come to visit these monuments should be directed to Gordion in order to understand the Battle of Sakarya and the fronts that witnessed the war, and a more concrete description should be offered with respect to the spatial connections in historical events.

At the same time, Gordion is located on the Phrygian Way route. The Phrygian Way is a bicycle and walking path that was created and marked in line with the hiking trails following the ancient walking routes and the way offers a number of opportunities for the visitors to view Phrygian artifacts in the region surrounded by the provinces of Ankara, Afyonkarahisar, Eskişehir, and Kütahya, where Phrygians ruled in ancient times.

The way of 506 km in length features Gordion as one of the stages of the walking path and joins the road to the Phrygian Valleys at Yazılıkaya. In addition to the main tracks of the road, there are connection roads and alternative routes that connect the tracks to each other.

The Phrygian Way Project is supported by the Association for Development and Protection of Phrygian Cultural Heritage (FRIGKUM), which was established under the coordination of regional governorates. In addition, the Culture Routes Society is an important non-governmental organisation with activities on this issue.

However, despite all these, a visitor touring around Gordion cannot find a sufficient number of introductory materials to indicate the position of this site as a stage along the Phrygian Way. Signage and direction signs on the route to Gordion are observed to be either not sufficient or non-existent. The site does not feature a safe bicycle path, either. Nevertheless, Gordion, situated along the Phrygian Way, should be an important destination for visitors. Relevant actions to be undertaken for specific arrangements along the track of the Phrygian Way will contribute to the goal of attracting visitors to Gordion and improving its promotion.

Although Gordion was the capital of the Phrygian Civilisation and witnessed the Pitched Battles of Sakarya along with its immediate surroundings, it has not attained its much-deserved position in terms of tourism. Tourism should be considered as an important factor that contributes to the economy of the local people and of the region. In this context, there is a need for policies that will increase the touristic potential in the region and generate alternative economic activities for local people, especially for young people.

Addressing tourism in Gordion as an element that will contribute to economic development and improving the area on grounds of such position also depend on efforts to secure a proper perception for Gordion and its surroundings and present the site to the audience accordingly.

SECTION 5- EDUCATION AND PROMOTION ACTIVITIES

5.1. Education Activities

Since 2014, the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CHEP) has been carried out under the presidency of Ayşe Gürsan-Salzmänn, the Deputy Head of Excavations in the Gordion Archaeology Project, with contributions from Ankara Museum of Anatolian Civilisations and with the assistance of the palaeobotanist Naomi F. Miller of the Penn Museum.

In 2014 and 2015, the programme focused on educating students on cultural heritage, while in 2016, the focus was on the teachers and administrators working in secondary schools around Gordion. The education programme was based on the main lines of the artifacts from the Phrygian civilisation displayed in Gordion Museum and the contributions of the museum to tourism in Ankara and Polatlı.

In 2017, the goal was to evaluate the effectiveness of the programmes implemented in the three years following the start of the project and to formulate strategic plans for the future. During the 2017 season, three workshops were held with 20 teachers from the region and officials from the administrative organisation of the Municipality of Polatlı, the political and educational centre of the region. The workshops were also attended by the deputy mayor, regional public officials involved in education and culture, the President of Polatlı Chamber of Commerce, and members of various civil associations.



Fig.5.The participants in the Cultural Heritage Education Program (CHEP) in front of the so-called “Tomb of Solon” at Kümbet, in the Phrygian Highlands. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

The aim of the series of workshops was to partner with the relevant authorities to preserve Gordion and its cultural landscape through programmes for students, teachers, and the general public. Among the topics discussed were social/cultural activities for local people at Gordion Museum; educational programmes for local students to guide tourists in and around Gordion; and how the promotion of the archaeological site might be linked to the promotion of local agricultural products and women's handicrafts.

Generally speaking, the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CHEP) aims to transform local people into more active interest groups in terms of efforts to preserve the cultural heritage of the region. With the Gordion Archaeological Project, a unanimous agreement was reached on the establishment of a partnership based on cooperation and mutual interaction between the municipal and civil institutes in Polatlı.

There was general consensus that the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CHEP) should be included in the regional high school curriculum. The project team, in partnership with the members of the Gordion Archaeological Project and the Municipality of Polatlı, also plans to present an official proposal to the Ministry of National Education to integrate the programme into the secondary school curriculum.

Apart from the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CHEP), educational activities for Gordion and its surroundings were also carried out through initiatives of the "World Heritage Travelers Association" and "Association of Polatlı Historical and Cultural Studies", and the efforts that had begun in 2013 gained momentum after 2017.

2017 was marked by the establishment of the World Heritage Gordion platform gathering together Ankara Branch of the Women's Council of Turkey, Soroptimist Clubs of Ankara, Volunteers of Polatlı, and Polatlı Association of Bureaucrats and Businessmen.

Training for trainers was organized by Ülkü Atabey, the President of the World Heritage Travelers Association, within the Polatlı Municipality on 24th – 25th November 2018, and the participants, represented mostly by teachers, were granted certificates in the end.

Training activities also include courses on handicrafts. For the development of handicrafts unique to Gordion, courses were launched in Polatlı Municipality Centre for Promotion of Historical Sites and Association of Polatlı Historical and Cultural Research and Public Education Centre, where participants created a large number of handicrafts during ceramics, weaving, and mould making courses.

As an addition, the following table offers the number of participants in the training programmes implemented during the excavation by the Gordion Archaeological Project Excavation Team, Municipality of Polatlı, and Polatlı District Directorate of National Education.

Training Venue	Teachers - Adults			Students			TOTAL
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	
POLATLI	40	45	15	500	869	200	1669
ANKARA	30	165	20	800	348	115	1478
EXCAVATION SITE	15	10		25	15		65
TOTAL	85	220	35	1325	1232	315	3212

The training programme employed the on-site narration method, taking adults or students for a tour of the ancient city of Gordion by public transportation vehicles allocated by the Municipality of Polatlı as far as such possibility was allowed by the means available.

The adults trained through this process volunteered for future efforts, which both improved the efficiency of the training and paved the way for a variety of further efforts in terms of productivity. Such efficiency was secured through preliminary cooperation with field teachers on certain matters in advance to secure active student participation in presentation sessions. The “Patrimonito” cartoon by UNESCO was the feature that attracted the most attention from the students. After the delivery of the training programme, fourth graders of elementary schools were observed to show the highest level of interest in the programme. For the purpose of future planning for training activities, there is a perceived utility in specifically choosing fourth graders as the target audience and shaping their training around cartoons or comics on Phrygian Legends.

5.2. Promotion of the Site / Cultural and Sportive Activities

Numerous documentaries have been produced to promote Gordion, including Gordion’s Knot-Pitched Battle of Sakarya, Gordion: A Place of Legends, and Gordion: The Mysterious Civilisation of the Phrygians. The **International King Midas Theatre Days** were held with the participation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Municipality of Polatlı, Eurasian Union of Theatres, Union of Theatres of Turkey, Aegean Union of Theatres, Black Sea Union of Theatres, and Association of Playwrights and Translators (OYÇED), as well as a large number of non-governmental organisations and municipal theatre companies from Turkey and abroad.

The Polatlı Centre for Promotion of Historical Sites, which was established within the Polatlı Municipality in 2014, organises continuous training activities to promote the historical richness of the region, including that of Gordion, as well as to preserve the cultural heritage and raise awareness thereon.

The Gordion Half Marathon, which was first organized in 2018 as a product of the initiatives put forth by the Municipality of Polatlı, represents an important sporting event. The marathon managed to be featured in the calendar maintained by the Athletic Federation of Turkey and to attain the position of a traditional event in the same year. The marathon could not be held in the year 2020, a period characterised by the pandemic affecting the entire world and is planned to be resumed in 2021. The Municipality of Polatlı spent 800,000 TL in 2018 and 900,000 TL in 2019 for the Gordion Half Marathon. The estimated budget for 2021 is 1000,000 TL.

The area accommodating the settlement in the Gordion site can be grasped more conveniently when viewed from the air as can be watched in the short youtube video prepared by Lucas Stephens, a graduate student at Penn University

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eA_ITWwkDNc)

For this reason, the Municipality of Polatlı has launched weekly tours with hot air balloons tours that will circulate above Gordion and the Tumuli in its surroundings in order to introduce the archaeological site to local residents and visitors to the region. This organisation is lined with the establishment of the Phrygian Way, a walking and cycling path.

Another important event contributing to the international promotion of Gordion was the exhibition titled “The Golden Age of King Midas”. The exhibition prepared by the Directorate-General of Cultural Heritage and Museums under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology of the University of Pennsylvania, was opened on 13th February 2016. Considered to represent a potential to contribute to the promotion of Turkey in general, this exhibition featured 123 artifacts selected from Istanbul Archaeological Museums, Antalya Museum, and Ankara Museum of Anatolian Civilisations. Among the artifacts were various objects such as jewellery, spearheads, fragments of human figures, and the Tyrant's head found in the Gordion excavation, and the said exhibition also constituted an archaeological documentary depicting the Phrygian Region under the rule of King Midas. The exhibition stayed open until 27th November 2016.

SECTION 6- RURAL LIFE

6.1. Ethnoarchaeology

In 1995 Dr. Ayşe Gürsan-Salzmänn initiated the Gordion Ethnoarchaeology Project as a component of the Gordion Excavations, with the aim of explaining/interpreting the distant past by drawing analogies/comparisons with living communities. She selected as her primary focus the contemporary village of Yassihöyük, and she expanded the field study to include the larger region in the Sakarya-Porsuk river valleys, encompassing 14 villages within a distance of 18–40 km from Yassihöyük.

At the core of ethnoarchaeology is ethnographic observation of contemporary cultures, which can provide rich information regarding material culture (attributes and use of artifacts) as well as their sociocultural context. This is crucial for understanding past human behavior, which is largely missing from the archaeological record. While it would be wrong to assume one-to-one comparisons between the distant past and the present, ethnographic analogies can nevertheless provide suggestive examples to explain the past for further testing against the archaeological data.

Using traditional ethnographic methods of participant observation and interviewing, Dr. Gürsan-Salzmänn collected four types of ethnographic data related to changing strategies of traditional lifestyles practiced from the pre-1950s to the present. Specifically, she concentrated on the transition from a strong pastoral economy and non-mechanized agriculture, with oxen and plough, to intensive irrigation agriculture; traditional household tools and their past and present uses; food preparation and discard patterns; and vernacular versus modern architectural styles as they reflect changing household organization.

One example of analogical reasoning from Dr. Gürsan-Salzmänn's work deals with the Phrygian pastoral economy of Gordion. Large numbers of archaeological artifacts related to pastoral economy have been retrieved in Phrygian workshops (e.g., weaving tools, spindle whorls, and loom weights). To what extent and under what conditions could a pastoral economy exist, flourish, and finally decline? She investigated ethnographic conditions relevant to these questions on a regional level.



Fig.6. Local people (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

Until the 1950s, pastoralism was the main component of the mixed economy in the region; it subsequently declined by 50%, yielding to intensive wheat agriculture. Two approaches were used to understand the change: 1) land-use survey to document old pastoral sites (50 years and earlier), focusing on their size and location in both upland areas and plains, and 2) interviewing old shepherds to understand their pastoral strategies in the past.



Fig. 6.1 A shepherd and flock, (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

Study of the changing pastoral economy during the recent past revealed a complex set of interconnected factors, environmentally determined and culturally selected by the community of modern pastoralists. While it is not feasible to make direct analogies between the pastoral economy of the recent past and that of 3,000 years earlier, in this case study she

has used a set of interrelated economic principles as analogy between modern and ancient Gordion.

Assuming that archaeological artifacts are residues of human behaviour, the ethnographic model would suggest a broad socio-economic context and household-based organization for interpretation of the excavated artifacts. Her information collection focused on traditional subsistence methods as well as changing agricultural and pastoral strategies, from oxen-and-plough to highly efficient harvester-combine machinery. These day-to-day activities reflect the social fabric of the village community.

6.2. Socio-Economic Structure

With the Law No. 6360 on the "Establishment of Metropolitan Municipalities and Twenty-Six Districts in Thirteen Provinces and Making Amendments to Certain Laws and Decree Laws", town municipalities were closed down and were organised into neighbourhoods under their respective districts and the status of villages was changed and they were also turned into neighbourhoods. The villages of Beyliköprü, Çekirdeksiz, Kıranharmanı, Sazılar, and Şabanözü, and especially the village of Yassihöyük characterised by a wide distribution of the Tumuli in the ancient city of Gordion and the necropolis, were redesignated as neighbourhoods within the scope of the provisions of the above-mentioned Law.

The population of the district of Yassihöyük, where the ancient city of Gordion is located, is 214 according to 2019 data. In the censuses conducted in 1990, 1997, 2000, and 2009, the population of the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük is recorded as 398, 396, 321, and 302, respectively. The population data for 2019 indicates a significant decrease in the population of the neighbourhood.

The two main characteristics that determine the social structure in the district of Polatlı are its agrarian economy and the traditional societal understanding based on blood ties. Recently, there has been a transformation from the traditional agrarian society to an urban life dominated by multi-faceted relations. The district centre (Polatlı) has achieved a cosmopolitan urban life represented by individuals from various parts of the country. There is a difference between rural areas and the district centre in terms of social mobility. While social mobility in the villages consists of basic social events such as weddings, funerals, and so on, the district centre is characterised more by urban social relations. There, the public are organised around various professions and purposes. The city offers various opportunities with cinemas, theatres, conferences, panels, sports activities, banquets, and similar social activities. The district is located on the E-90 highway and is in close proximity to the capital, Ankara, which is also influential on the social life. Business and working life are based

primarily on agricultural activities, followed by industry, civil service, craftsmanship, and tradesmanship in that order.

The education level of the people in the district of Polatlı centre is above the country average. The district is also advanced in terms of the number and variety of available schools. However, Yassihöyük is at a more developed level with respect to the literacy rate and number of university graduates compared to the surrounding settlements. The majority of Yassihöyük residents migrate to the district settlement to spend their educational years due to the proximity of the neighbourhood to the district of Polatlı. There is an elementary school with three classrooms in the Yassihöyük. The school building of reinforced concrete is situated on an area of 5 decars.

The neighbourhood of Yassihöyük is serviced by Yassihöyük District Health Centre affiliated with the Ministry of Health. The single-storey health centre, which was put into service in 1988, is situated on an area of 400 m². There is also a gendarmerie station in the locality. There are military areas on the other side of the Sakarya River, located on the road that connects the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük with the Eskişehir road.

Agriculture occupies an important place among the general economic incomes of the district of Polatlı. The development of urban economic activities and consequently of the industry and services sector in the centre started with the construction of the Ankara-Istanbul railway in 1892 passing through Polatlı. The economy of Polatlı is largely based on gradually decreasing agriculture and animal husbandry activities, as well as industrial activities, trade, civil service, and menial labour.

In the Yassihöyük, the economy is based on agriculture and animal husbandry; however, livestock here has lost strength in recent years. Irrigated agriculture has gained importance with the water supplied from the Sakarya River located near the settlement. Wheat is the prominent crop in the technologically assisted agricultural activities of the neighbourhood. Average wheat production reaches 4,000 tons/year on 8,000–10,000 decars annually. Sugar beet production, which ranks second after wheat agriculture, is at an average of 10,000–12,000 tons/year per year on 2,000–2,500 decars annually. Dried onion cultivation is undertaken on 1,500–2,000 hectares per year, with production averaging at 7,000–10,000 tons/year, and melon-watermelon cultivation occupies 1,000–1,500 hectares annually with production averaging at 4,000–6,000 tons/year. In addition, fresh vegetables (especially long green peppers and table tomatoes) are grown in small fields in the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük.

In Yassihöyük, animal husbandry is most notably focused on dairying. Accordingly, the neighbourhood features a sanitary milk collection tank. This activity is followed by sheep kept for breeding (there are about 1,000 merino sheep in the neighbourhood). Moreover, there are two meat and poultry plants accommodating 5.000 heads each in the village.

Some of the people of the neighbourhood work as wage-labourer for the archaeological excavations in the region during the summer season. There are also seasonal workers who migrate to the village from Şanlıurfa and its surroundings during the summer months. These workers are employed seasonally in agricultural lands.

6.3. Rural Architecture

6.3.1. Neighbourhood of Yassihöyük

There are approximately 80 households in the district of Yassihöyük, and most of the houses are single-storey mudbrick buildings with courtyards. In addition to this, there are also two-storey houses (about 10) built after the 1920s in the settlement. Every building group features functional sections such as warehouses, barns, and pens. There is also a residential building that remains idle or used as a warehouse. The houses are roofed mostly with a hipped roof constructed with French tiles. The neighbourhood of Yassihöyük has remained in its current location since the 1920s. It was previously located on the banks of the Sakarya River but moved to its current location due to the overflow of the river waters.



Fig.6.2 Yassihöyük. (Image: Penn Museum Gordion Project Archives)

Some parts of the settlement in the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük lie within 1st Degree and 3rd Degree Archaeological Sites. In addition to privately owned building groups, there is an old and a new mosque, two old, currently idle schools, a health centre, a fountain, old coffee houses, a gendarmerie station, a mukhtar's office, a grocery store, a museum, and a cafeteria in the village.

The Site Conservation Management Plan Project for Gordion and its environs, which was initiated in partnership with the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Penn Museum) and Ankara Middle East Technical University Faculty of Architecture and implemented with the subsequent involvement of TUBITAK, provided for the examination and documentation of the building groups in the villages.

Although new construction is not common in the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük, the examples of new buildings seen especially on the main road are of apartment buildings of reinforced concrete and are in contradiction with the rural architecture of the settlement in terms of both mass ratios and floor heights, as well as the use of materials and colours. These buildings are constructed in 2 floors above high ground floors, which are mostly employed as garages for tractors.

6.3.2. Other Settlements

The surroundings of the site are home to the neighbourhoods of Çekirdeksiz, Kıranharmanı, and Sazılar and the more remote neighbourhoods of Şabanözü and Beylikköprü, all of which also feature parts of the distribution of Tumuli.

The neighbourhood of Çekirdeksiz was founded by Balkan immigrants at the foot of Dua Hill at the end of the 19th Century and is striking with its natural beauty. The building groups here are constructed of mud brick and positioned organically on the land. Local people take pride in the fact that the monument built to commemorate the Battle of Sakarya is situated in the vicinity of the village. The neighbourhood features the public spaces and structures of a mukhtar's office, a mosque, fountains, an old school, and a cemetery.

The neighbourhood of Kıranharmanı is located on a flat land on the east bank of the Porsuk Stream, northwest of Yassihöyük. It was similarly founded by Balkan immigrants in the late 19th Century. Building groups are constructed of mudbrick, while the layout plan is arranged in a grid system and boasts a planned structure unlike the other settlements. Local architecture employs the masonry system. Although new buildings are observed in the northeast of the settlement, the said buildings are generally not dominant. There is a mosque, a fountain, and cemeteries in the neighbourhood.

The **neighbourhood of Sazılar** witnessed the first settlement before the 1840s. There are double-storey mudbrick houses close to the centre, as well as single-storey mudbrick building groups, as in other settlements. There is a mukhtar's office, an old general store, a mosque, a fountain, a cemetery, and a tomb. Unlike the other neighbourhoods, there are examples of civil buildings reflecting a more advanced architectural technique in this settlement. Factors such as the use of stone as well as mudbrick materials and the architecture becoming more ornamental distinguish the residential architecture from that in the other settlements.

The **neighbourhood of Şabanözü** is a village established in the Ottoman Period, in the north of Yassihöyük, on the mountain slopes. There are two-storey mudbrick buildings as well as double-covered mudbrick houses in the neighbourhood. This neighbourhood similarly feature a mosque, old and new schools, an old post office, general stores, a coffee house, a cemetery, and a tomb.

The **neighbourhood of Beylikköprü** is a settlement in the south of Yassihöyük near to the train station and a stop along the route of the Baghdad-Istanbul railway. It was established in the Ottoman Period. In addition to double-storey mudbrick houses, there are large-scale warehouses and single-storey mudbrick building groups in the neighbourhood. There is a mosque, a coffee shop, a general store, a new school, and old cooperatives in the neighbourhood.

SECTION 7- CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF THE SITE

7.1. Legal Status

A management system should be established specifically for a cultural heritage site with due consideration for a series of management parameters which include the existing (national, regional, and local) legal and political framework, the institutional framework and the resources allocated for the management of the site, as well as the stakeholders of relevance for the site and their interests.

The legal framework applicable to Gordion and its surroundings determines the status of the site as a cultural heritage and prescribes the criteria for its preservation and conservation. At the same time, the legislation authorises the relevant individuals and institutions for the preservation and management of the site. The Law No. 2863 on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Properties is the fundamental law concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage in Turkey. The law in question defines the movable and immovable cultural and natural properties and prescribes the procedures, activities, responsibilities, and responsible institutions for the management.

The High Council for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Properties formulated the legal preservation system and conditions of preservation and use for archaeological sites through its Resolution dated 05.11.1999 and Np. 658. Archaeological sites are safeguarded with legal protection in line with a grading system. According to this system, archaeological sites to be protected are divided into degrees as first-, second-, and third-degree archaeological sites, with the first entailing the highest degree of protection. Accordingly, the 1st- and 3rd-Degree Archaeological Site of Gordion was designated by the decision dated 06.02.1990 and No. 1096 of Ankara Regional Council for Conservation Cultural Properties to include the Citadel Mound, Lower and Outer Town, Kuştepe, Küçükhöyük and 73 Tumuli notably including Tumulus MM. Moreover, the Tumuli situated within the boundaries of the neighbourhood of Yassihöyük and the villages of Beylikköprü, Çekirdeksiz, Kıranharmanı, Ömerler, Sazılar, and Şabanözü in the district of Polatlı, but outside the aforementioned boundaries of the site were registered as “immovable cultural asset under protection” through the decisions dated 06.02.1990 and No. 1096 and dated 10.06.2015 and No. 2346 of Ankara Regional Council for Conservation Cultural Properties in line with the Resolution dated 05.11.1999 and No. 658 of the High Council for the Conservation of Cultural Properties.

No construction is allowed within the first-degree archaeological site. These areas are designated as protected sites in the master plans. No excavations may be carried out except for excavations undertaken for scientific purposes. These sites cannot be employed for agricultural activities or afforestation and only the existing trees may be used for the harvesting of crops. Any infrastructure construction to be undertaken by public or private bodies as a matter of necessity may only be carried out upon the approval of the relevant Regional Council for the Conservation of Cultural Properties on the basis of scientific reports secured from the relevant museum directorate and, if any, the head of the excavation. The construction of such units as touring routes, squares, open car parks, restrooms, ticket offices, and security buildings is possible with the permission of the relevant Regional Conservation Council.

Within the third-degree site, new buildings and construction activities are allowed, provided that approval be secured from the relevant Regional Conservation Council and that a balance be established between protection and construction. The definition of the terms and conditions for construction in these regions should ensure compliance therewith in the current and proposed densities and functions, as well as construction materials to be used and techniques to be applied. Before any construction project is granted permission in these areas, experts from the relevant museum directorate carry out a drilling excavation and if such excavation results in the unearthing of a cultural property, the results of such drilling are compiled with the opinions of the head of the excavation, if any, and submitted to the Regional Council by the museum directorate. The construction may be launched upon the favourable decision of the Council with due consideration for these inputs.

In both categories of sites, consolidation (unification) and separation (allotment) are possible provided that permission is obtained from the relevant Regional Conservation Council so as not to affect the nature of cultural property. No stone, soil, or sand, etc. may be collected from the site. The area may not be employed for the construction of pits for the mining of lime, stone, brick, marble, sand, or mineral, etc., nor for the dumping of soil, slag, garbage, industrial waste, or similar materials.

7.2. Current Physical Plans

7.2.1. 1/100.000 Scale Ankara Environmental Plan

Polatlı is the richest district of Ankara in terms of fertile agricultural lands, and the industrial sector has also developed in the district located on the Ankara-Eskişehir Highway. Ankara Environmental Plan, prepared based on the 2038 projection year by Ankara Metropolitan Municipality aims to develop in a controlled manner urbanization and industrialization

which experience parallel development with rapid growth in urban population; to harmonize the developments with livable environment without negatively affecting the sustainable and ecological balance, to protect and utilize the historical, cultural and natural values by taking into consideration the delicate balance, to grow in a planned manner in accordance with the development objectives defined for country in all sectors.

It is predicted that the population of Polatlı District will increase from 121.858 to 190.406 in 2038. Since it was determined that the existing planned areas are at a sufficient level for the projection population and enough housing areas were allocated in the development plans, development housing areas were not created for Polatlı with the environmental plan. The area where Yassihöyük Neighbourhood is located has been shown as a rural settlement area within the plan and it has been stated that the approved development plans are valid for the planned rural settlement areas. In addition, it was stated that rural settlements have important potentials in terms of agricultural production as well as tourism. In this context, it was planned that alternative tourism (balloon tourism), historical and cultural tourism will be developed in the region and the area will be presented as archaeological excursion area.

In parallel, the "Feasibility Study for Gordion Archaeological Park Site Management" was carried out by the District Governorate of Polatlı (District Directorate of National Education) in partnership with Mersin University and the Museum of Anatolian Civilisations and supported directly by Ankara Development Agency within the scope of the 2015 Activity Support Programme.

Since the scale of the Environmental Plan is quite small, the conservation sites are schematically marked on the plan. It is stated that the provisions of the relevant Laws are valid for the conservation sites in the plan provisions. In this context, the decisions taken by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and by the Higher Council for the Conservation of Cultural Properties affiliated to the Ministry, for the protected sites and cultural properties that are within the management area and also the existing conservation plans were deemed valid.

The area surrounding the components of the property and the buffer zone was determined as agricultural land and plain. With the Environmental Plan, it has been stipulated that agricultural areas will be protected in line with the Law No. 5403 on "Soil Conservation and Land Use" and the relevant legislation. In addition, the Polatlı Plain, where the property is located, was designated as "Great Plain" in accordance with Article 14 of the Law No.5403 titled as "Determination and Protection of Great Plains with High Agricultural Potential" with the decision of the Ankara Soil Protection Board on 05.08.2016 and numbered 2016/7.

In line with the relevant article, the agricultural lands in the great plains cannot be used for any other purpose.

In this context, based on the plans decision the conservation of protected sites and cultural assets is essential, and implementation can be made within the scope of the current conservation legislation. In addition, strict planning decisions have been developed for the protection of agricultural lands around the property.

7.2.2. 1/5000 scaled Yassihöyük Master Plan and 1/5000 scaled Gordion Conservation Master Plan -1/1000 scaled Yassihöyük Development Plan and 1/1000 scaled Gordion Conservation Plan

1/5000 scaled Yassihöyük Master Plan and 1/5000 scaled Gordion Conservation Master Plan were prepared together in order to evaluate the Yassihöyük Neighbourhood and the conservation sites in its vicinity as a whole.

1/5000 scaled Yassihöyük Master Plan includes areas within the buffer zone but outside the 3rd Degree Archaeological Site; 1/5000 scaled Gordion Conservation Master Plan includes the 3rd Degree Archaeological Site within the buffer zone and the 1st Degree Archaeological Site, which is the part of the nominated property in the south of the settlement.

1/1000 scaled Yassihöyük Development Plan was prepared on the basis of the 1/5000 scaled Master Plan. 1/1000 scaled Gordion Conservation Plan has been prepared for the area comprising the 3rd degree archaeological site and the part defined as “the area to be landscaped” within the 1/5000 scaled conservation master plan.

General usage of land plots, population densities of housing areas be developed; urban, social and technical infrastructure areas, transportation system are shown in 1/5.000 scaled plans. In 1/1.000 scaled plans, decisions regarding construction and implementation such as building blocks, usage, building heights, floor area ratios etc. were shown in accordance with the plan hierarchy

The main aim of the plans are to protect the cultural values located within the planning area, to ensure the development of the area by considering the balance between conservation and use, to transform the planning area into a respectable living place by ensuring the social, economic and physical development of the area.

Within the scope of the Conservation Legislation, the maintenance and repair of the buildings except registered ones and no new constructions within the 1st Degree Archaeological Site are allowed. Hence plan decisions have been adopted to develop residential area on the north of Yassihöyük Neighborhood. Considering the compatibility of

the new development areas with the existing residential ones and the rural characteristics of the site, the new buildings were limited to a height of 6.50 meters, a building footprint of 150 m, and a building footprint ratio of 0.50. In line with the rural nature of the area, the conditions regarding the annexes to be located within the lots are also defined. The existing settlement area within the 3rd degree archaeological site is defined as the “preferential usage areas”. These areas can be used for residence, hostel or hotel with different construction conditions which are defined in details in plan notes. The heights of all these buildings are limited to 6.50 meters

An "Agricultural Business Area" was planned in the northeast of the settlement in order to meet the agricultural needs of the locals engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry. The structures such as agricultural storage, barn... etc. can be built within this area with a height limit of 6.50 meters. In addition, necessary commercial, social and cultural areas are allocated within the settlement area in order to meet the needs of the residents. The construction conditions have been determined for the areas mentioned, in accordance with the characteristics of the existing rural settlement.

An area of 30.24 hectares in the west of the settlement was defined as a "Special Project Area". This area will be integrated using the characteristics of the existing fabric. The pedestrian paths, small squares, parks, recreation zones containing seating and resting units, accommodation facilities which will serve daily and thermal tourism will be arranged within this area, for locals as well as for the tourists. Architectural arrangements including workshops and sales units that will allow for cultural activities and the production and sale of traditional small handicrafts will also be realized in this area. Urban design and landscape projects related to the special project areas will be prepared by Polatlı Municipality in accordance with the general approaches of the Gordion Conservation Plan. The projects consisting of sections, views, perspectives, 3D studies etc. at the required level of detail, and at appropriate scales will be prepared by taking into account the characteristic of the region.

The plan decisions were developed based on the Principle Decision of the High Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties for 1st degree archaeological sites. The axis between the settlement center and the existing museum has been identified as the area where the landscaping project will be implemented. Since the lot numbered 648 adjacent to the Gordion Museum has been allocated to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, an Open Air Museum of 1.16 hectares has been proposed within this area in order to exhibit the remains of the ancient city of Gordion. The decisions regarding the existing museum and other structures, as well as the necessary implementations on the footpath, and the archaeological site, etc. will be determined by the Landscaping Projects.

Other Plans

The 1/5000 and 1/1000 scaled plans which determine rural settlement and development areas in low density for Çekirdeksiz, Beyceğiz, Yağmurbaba, Gençali, Müslüm, Sazılar, and Beylikköprü Districts were developed in order to enhance life quality within these settlements.

7.3. Current Strategic Plans

A review of the strategic plans that may affect the management area of Gordion and its Environs indicated that priority is given to ensuring the sustainable utilisation of cultural and natural resources through conservation, as well as to implementing promotional activities to share the assets situated in the said areas with a wider audience. In addition, the strategic plans were identified to formulate the necessary actions to maintain the agricultural quality of the fertile Polatlı Plain, which is home to the Ancient City of Gordion.

7.3.1. Turkey's Tourism Strategy - 2023

"Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023 and Action Plan 2013" aims to protect and promote sustainable use of the natural, cultural, historical and geographical values of the country and to develop alternatives in tourism in order to increase the country's share. Instead of planning tourism resources on a small scale, evaluation has indicated that an appropriate approach is to develop tourism corridors, tourism regions, tourism cities and eco-tourism regions along the development axes of these resources and to determine the promotion and utilization criteria of these values. The aim is to channel public and private sector resources primarily into tourism development regions, and in this context, nine tourism development regions have been proposed, one of which is the "Phrygian Culture and Thermal Tourism Development Zone", with seven thematic corridors, ten tourism cities and five eco tourism regions.

With regard to the "Phrygian Culture and Thermal Tourism Development Zone", the "Tourism Strategy and Action Plan of Turkey" states that: after identification of the regions that will specialize in tourism, those regions will be announced as "Culture and Tourism Conservation and Development Areas", and in order to effect a planned development in the specified regions, the physical plans will be completed and arrangements will be made for infrastructural development.



Fig.7 Map showing Culture and Tourism Conservation and Development Areas

7.3.2. Regional Plan of Ankara 2014-2023

"Ankara Regional Plan 2014-2023", prepared under the coordination of Ankara Development Agency, is a strategy, coordination and steering document that determines the strategies required for the development of Ankara. With this plan, it is aimed to diversify agricultural production in districts where the share of agriculture in the economy is predominant, and –by taking into consideration the land and climatic features- to conduct research and development studies on high value-added agricultural products that can be produced in these regions. In this context, the agricultural characteristics of Polatlı District, which contributes significantly to the agricultural production of Ankara will be maintained. The aforementioned plan recommends; giving incentives for the promotion of ancient cities in Ankara, especially Gordion; integrating the Phrygian Valley -which has significant potential- with cultural and natural tourism activities; and developing the Phrygian Way, by determining and associating the ancient routes along the line Seydiler (Afyonkarahisar)-Yazılıkaya (Eskişehir)- İncik (Kütahya) - Gordion (Ankara). Furthermore, it has been stated that Polatlı District, with its very rich thermal resources, is located in “Phrygian Region” which is one of the four regions determined by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism as being primary areas for development in the field of thermal tourism. The plan determines the strategic works regarding conservation, sustainable use and the promotion of the settlements’ cultural and natural resources.

7.4. Projects Developed for Gordion (Yassıhöyük) and its Immediate Environs

7.4.1 Site Conservation Management Project for Gordion and its Environs (2013)

This project was launched through a partnership between Penn Design - University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (Penn Museum) and Ankara Middle East Technical University Faculty of Architecture in 2007. TÜBİTAK joined these institutions to support and partially sponsor the programme.

The general purpose of the project was to protect and promote the extraordinary archaeological and cultural resources in Gordion and its old and new environs, and a team of experts from numerous fields worked to achieve this purpose. This team was composed of Dr. Evin Erder and Dr. Nimet Özgönül from METU Department of Restoration Graduate Programme; archaeologist and ethnographer Dr. Ayşe Gürsan-Salzman from Penn Museum, who is also the Deputy Director of Gordion Archaeology Project; archaeobotanical expert Dr. Naomi Miller from Penn Museum; cartographic engineer Yaşar Irak from Irak Engineering active in the Polatlı Region; Mecit Vural from Ankara Gazi University Department of Biology; students from METU and Penn Design; and members of Gordion Archaeology Project.

The geographical scope of the Conservation Management Plan Project for Gordion and its Environs covers a radius of 30 km starting with Yassihöyük. In the period between 2007 and 2010, the project team documented and mapped the cultural heritage in the survey area including Tumuli, mounds of the old settlements, villages, cemeteries, old and new trade routes, natural caves frequented by local people and shepherds, a centuries-old mosque, mudbrick and timber architectural elements, and inscribed late-Roman tombstones. The project also recharted and documented the buildings and outdoor areas in the six villages mentioned before. In addition, standard questionnaires were distributed among the people in each village to determine their socio-economic status, as well as their intellectual and emotional bond with Gordion.

The priorities of the project were the conservation of the Tumuli in Gordion and their environs and especially their protection from the destruction caused by modern agricultural activities, specifically arising from ploughing and irrigation in the nearby fields. The efforts undertaken in line with these priorities resulted in plans;

- To enable mukhtar's offices and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to put forth initiatives to provide the relevant landowners with a new source of land or income in appropriate areas;
- To survey, document, and evaluate the architecture in Yassihöyük;
- To conduct socio-economic, historical, socio-cultural, and ecological evaluations among the residents of the locality (the other villages in the project area are Çekirdeksiz, Kıranharmanı, Sazılar, Şabanözü, and Beylikköprü); and
- To develop training programmes to raise local awareness and providing them with information so as to allow them to assume individual roles in the promotion of the settlement.

Within the scope of the project, the old village school on the road connecting Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM to the Citadel Mound, a part of the touring route, is designated as a place where women living in the settlement can exhibit their handicrafts and homemade food. However, the plan created within the scope of the mentioned project indicates that awareness should be raised among the local people on the economic value of their products in order to ensure that they can also benefit from tourism activities. For example, it is stated there that home-made and agricultural products can be put on sale through an eco-tourism project with a specific focus on the products of women's labour (handicrafts, etc.) which may be marketed under the umbrella of a cooperative. However, the plan calls for support from the Municipality of Polatlı for the realisation of such initiatives and for the conservation and promotion of Gordion and its environs as a "steppe park".

Nevertheless, the Site Conservation Management Project for Gordion and its Environs constitutes an important instrument that presents the results of a comprehensive study, rather than an approved Management Plan, and has been one of the main resources employed in the preparation of the present Management Plan.

7.4.2. "3-Dimensional Modelling of Archaeological Structures with High-Resolution Stereo Optical Satellite Images: Gordion Example" Project:

The project is carried out by Mehmet DOĞRULUK on behalf of Hacettepe University. In Gordion and its Environs, 3-dimensional models (reference models) are generated with the help of images collected by an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in a 12-km² testing area. The project completed the testing of geometric accuracy in these models, resulting in an average geometric accuracy of 10 cm (very high). Since it is not practical to create 3-D models of the Tumuli for the entire Gordion region using UAVs, the project tested the accuracy of high-resolution stereo satellite images used as an alternative to modelling larger areas.



Fig.7.1 The boundaries of the Project.

Initial results were tested on 10 Tumuli and the Tumuli were modelled in 3-D with a geometric accuracy of approximately 0.30 m. The currently on-going project is planned to be completed in February 2021.

The data obtained as a result of the production of 3-D models of the Tumuli of various sizes in the study area can be used for the documentation of the Tumuli in the Gordion region. In addition, the DEM, which is one of the final products and is expected to be produced with high geometric accuracy ($50\text{cm} \leq$), will also contribute to the execution of the archaeological excavations conducted annually in the ancient city of Gordion situated within the study area. The digital presentation of this produced DEM with the cooperation of authorised institutions (Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Municipality of Polath, etc.) will also contribute to the improved recognition of Gordion region. This work will allow local and foreign tourists who cannot visit the district of Polath physically to view/navigate around the ancient city of Gordion and the Tumuli in the digital environment. The findings to be obtained within the scope of the project will contribute to the determination of the physical structures of the Tumuli.

SECTION 8- SWOT ANALYSIS

The primary purpose of the Management Plan is to ensure the formulation and implementation of a framework for a sustainable Site Management system that will guarantee the conservation of the cultural importance and assets of Gordion and its environs and its long-term and sustainable development and utilisation.

The conduct of an analysis on the strengths and weaknesses of and opportunities and threats within Gordion and its environs is extremely important for the evaluation of the information required for the Management Plan. In order for the decisions regarding the future of Gordion and its Environs to be taken in a "realistic" manner, the problems and possibilities of the field should be determined comprehensively, and the opportunities and threats awaiting the site should be determined in all aspects. For this reason, the next chapter offers a general evaluation of the field within the framework of the definitions mentioned above.

8.1. Strengths of the Site

Archaeology - Research - Documentation

- Historical importance of the site
- International academic recognition of the site
- Scientific and systematic excavation and research undertaken since 1950
- Geophysical studies implemented in and around the site
- Floristic studies implemented in and around the site
- Availability of “Digital Gordion” and “Gordion Digital Mapping Studies” for the site and its environs
- Implementation of a project for the three-dimensional modelling of the site and the Tumuli situated in its environs
- Inventory and registration of artifacts identified in the site
- Maintenance of a Website under the Gordion Archaeological Project

Protection and Safety

- The legal protected status of the mounds and Tumuli situated in the management site
- Substantial conservation of the authenticity and integrity of the site
- Implementation of close conservation and monitoring measures in the site owing to years of scientific excavations
- The site and its environs being situated away from the pressures of construction and development
- Preserved landscaping silhouette of the site and its environs

Presentation, Promotion, and Tourism

- Availability of a basic and good-quality exhibition infrastructure in the site
- Gordion Museum providing for the exhibition of movable finds collected from the settlements and Tumuli in and around the site
- Availability of an airport offering domestic and international services in Ankara, the province administratively connected to the site
- Well-developed transportation network of roads and railways available in the district of Polatlı, the district administratively connected to the site
- The position of Gordion and its environs as a witness of historical events of importance for the establishment of the modern Republic of Turkey
- The position of Gordion along the route of the Phrygian Way situated in the region surrounded by the provinces of Ankara, Afyonkarahisar, Eskişehir, and Kütahya
- Organisation of national and international cultural and sports events for the promotion of the site

Socio-Economic Development

- Agrarian economy dominating the rural settlements in and around Yassıhöyük
- Insured employment of local people in excavations
- Protection of the site and endorsement of tourism activities by local people
- Availability of various possibilities for economic activities in the district centre of Polatlı and the province of Ankara

Land Use and Spatial Planning

- Population growth in the locality remaining at a level not to cause expansion in the built environment

Education

- Cultural Heritage Education Programme (**CheP**) implemented by Gordion Archaeology Project and the Museum of Anatolian Civilisations
- Local ownership of Gordion
- Active participation of local people in on-going archaeological activities
- Ownership of the site and maintenance of educational activities by the Gordion platform composed of various non-governmental organisations

8.2. Weaknesses of the Site

Archaeology - Research - Documentation

- Absence of a local archive of scientific publications
- Lack of regular updates on the Website

Protection and Safety

- Insufficient number of security staff
- Absence of a closed-circuit camera system and adequate lighting in the Citadel - Citadel Mound
- Agricultural activities around the Tumuli causing destruction
- Absence of a Disaster Management and Contingency Plan

Presentation, Promotion, and Tourism

- Absence of any arrangements to guide visitors from Tumulus MM and Gordion Museum to the Citadel
- Absence of a secured access system to the Citadel (Citadel Mound) and lack of regular recordkeeping on visitors
- Absence of units to meet the basic needs of visitors in the Citadel (Citadel Mound)
- Absence of a promotional arrangement to allow visitors to perceive all areas constituting Gordion and its environs as a whole
- Limited means of public transport from the district centre of Polatlı to the site

Socio-Economic Development

- Changes in the demographic structure of the local population and the local population moving away from the site owing to increased immigration
- Unavailability of qualified labour to be employed in the tourism-based service sector in the site
- Seasonal and short-term employment in excavations

Land Use and Spatial Planning

- Absence of an expropriation programme for privately owned Mounds and Tumuli
- Absence of inventories and emergency response programmes for examples of civil architecture in the rural settlement in and around the site

Education

- Lack of fundamental knowledge on the site among local people
- Lack of transfer of experience gained through archaeological excavations in the mound to local experts

8.3. Opportunities for the Site

Archaeology - Research - Documentation

- High level of interest in the site among national and international academia and civil society
- On-going archaeological excavations, scientific research, and restorations

- Close dialogue between excavation teams and local people
- Endorsement of the site by both national and international sponsors
- Potential of the site for use in educational activities

Protection and Safety

- Opportunities for improved cooperation in the maintenance and monitoring of the nomination of the site for the World Heritage List

Presentation, Promotion, and Tourism

- Increased interest in cultural tourism rather than mass tourism
- Possibilities for the promotion of the site together with the other tourist destinations in its surroundings
- Eco-tourism potential in the site
- Possibilities for improved recognition and thus, increased number of visitors, owing to the nomination of the site for the World Heritage List
- Potential of the site to find sponsors for the financial support required its promotion and rectification owing to the recognition of the importance of the site

Socio-Economic Development

- Possibility of tourism activities in the site to create an alternative source of income for local people
- High capacity for sustainable development

Land Use and Spatial Planning

- Substantial conservation of the landscape in the site owing to the mostly agrarian and sparsely populated nature of the land
- Absence of any settlements in the surroundings that threaten the mound
- Absence of a risk of dense housing in the site owing to the designation of its surroundings as an agricultural area and a Great Plain in upper-scale plans

Education

- Availability of universities offering education in the relevant departments in Ankara and Eskişehir, both situated at a close distance to the site
- Organisation of educational tours in and around the site by elementary schools around the province

8.4. Threats to the Site

Protection and Safety

- Vulnerability of mudbrick buildings in the site to environmental conditions (heavy snowfall or strong winds, etc.)

- Erosion risk in the locality surrounding the site
- Agricultural activities around the Tumuli causing destruction
- Vibration created by heavy-tonnage vehicles passing by Tumulus MM
- Certain tumuli in the locality being crossed by field roads
- Effects of agricultural activities in the locality on underground waters (Loss of organic materials previously preserved under waterlogged conditions)

Presentation, Promotion, and Tourism

- Absence of a visitor Management Plan for the management of any increases in the number of visitors following the addition of the site to the World Heritage List
- Possibility of increased environmental pollution due to possible increases in the number of visitors

Socio-Economic Development

- Underdeveloped local awareness of sustainable development
- Interest in economic gains dominating the interest of local people in the site

SECTION 9- VISION, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

9.1. Stakeholders of the Management Plan

For any Management Plan, it is of great importance to identify the relevant stakeholders and to involve these stakeholders in the processes of management and conservation. In general, stakeholders are individuals and entities that may affect or be affected by the Management Plan, and these individuals and entities have a legal responsibility for or influence over the success of the plan. Inclusive spatial management creates a basis for a holistic understanding of the importance of the space and for the creation of a sense of ownership and collective responsibility among all involved stakeholders.

Stakeholders with decision-making authorities over the Management Planning process at national, regional, provincial, and local levels are listed below.

National Stakeholders:

Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Directorate-General of Cultural Heritage and Museums

Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Directorate-General of Research and Education

Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Directorate-General of Promotion

Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Central Directorate of Circulating Capital

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Ministry of Transport

Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation

Ministry of National Education

Regional Stakeholders:

Ankara Regional Board for the Protection of Cultural Assets

Ankara Directorate of Surveying and Monuments

Ankara Development Agency

Directorate-General of State Hydraulic Works, 5th Regional Directorate-Ankara

Directorate-General of State Hydraulic Works, 3rd Regional Directorate-Eskişehir

4th Regional Directorate of Highways

Provincial Stakeholders:

Governorate of Ankara

(Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism)

(Provincial Directorate of National Education)

(Provincial Directorate of Environment and Urbanisation)

(Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry)
Ankara Metropolitan Municipality
Ankara Museum of Anatolian Civilisations

Local Stakeholders:

District Governorate of Polatlı
District Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry
District Directorate of National Education
Municipality of Polatlı
Polatlı Museum
Mukhtar's Office of Yassıhöyük Neighbourhood
Mukhtar's Office of Basri Village
Mukhtar's Office of Beylikköprü Village
Mukhtar's Office of Çekirdeksiz Village
Mukhtar's Office of Kıranharmanı Village
Mukhtar's Office of Ömerler Village
Mukhtar's Office of Sazılar Village
Mukhtar's Office of Şabanözü Village

Research Groups and Field Staff:

Gordion Excavation Team - Pennsylvania University
Hacettepe University
Middle East Technical University

Non-Governmental Organisations/Associations:

TMMOB Chamber of Architects, Ankara Branch
TMMOB Chamber of City Planners, Ankara Branch
Polatlı Chamber of Commerce
Polatlı Chamber of Agriculture
Association of Polatlı Historical and Cultural Research
World Heritage Travelers Association

9. 2. Vision of the Management Plan

A Management Plan must define a strategic vision that ensures the conservation of the site through maintaining its cultural continuity. The aim of such a vision is to allow administrators and local people to share a common perspective on long-term and sustainable conservation. This section defines a vision on the basis of the importance and assets of the site the description and evaluation of its current status as defined in previous chapters. This

vision is underlined by the basic need to protect, preserve, improve, and interpret Gordion and its environs for current and future generations. Accordingly, the vision statement developed thusly is as given below:

“A heritage site that allows for the conservation and utilisation of its landscape and tangible and intangible cultural heritage, as well as their transfer to the future generations, in the most comprehensive manner and with the widest inclusion possible; that is researched through multidisciplinary and contemporary scientific methodologies; that has been complemented with the infrastructure necessary to allow all segments of the society to access the exceptional qualities of the Phrygian Civilisation; and that makes room for efforts to support the development of local people: Gordion”

9.3. Objectives of the Management Plan

This Management Plan, which is in line with the vision set for Gordion and its Environs and prepared to address the management-related issues specified in the sections related to the current status of the area, sets its priority objective as developing recommendations and actions to ensure the physical, natural, cultural, historical, social, and economic sustainability of Gordion and its environs. The main objectives determined within the framework of the basic principles of sustainability and accessibility are:

Objective 1: to manage all the attributes—those carry the Outstanding Value of the archaeological site of Gordion (Yassıhöyük) and of its setting;

Objective 2: to identify and preserve all the attributes that contributes to the cultural significance of the Site;

Objective 3: to identify the current, other values, needs and interests of the Site;

Objective 4: to outline a sustainable approach to the future management of the whole Site which aims to balance all values and needs, such as: research, culture and nature conservation, visitor access and farming;

Objective 5: to set out ways whereby stakeholders can optimize the benefits of the values, without compromising the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site;

Objective 6: to provide better access to information to all interested parties about the Site and its environs;

Objective 7: to increase public awareness of and interest in the Site, and to promote the educational and cultural values of the Site and its environs;

Objective 8: to encourage involvement of the local communities in conservation and further improvement of the Site;

Objective 9: to identify a prioritized programme of action that will contribute to the conservation, understanding of Outstanding Universal Value, and the improvement of the Site for all those who visit Gordion and live or work in the area.

9.4. Management Policies

To address the key issues, sustain the significance of the Site and achieve the Vision, the Management Plan sets out the following 17 policies. The following Section 10 of the Plan sets out the actions agreed by partners/ the stakeholders to achieve the Vision and implement the policies.

Archaeology, Research, and Documentation

Policy 1: Research on and documentation of Gordion and its Environs in their entirety

Conservation, Protection and Safety

Policy 2: Improved security measures at the Citadel Mound

Policy 3: Conservation of the ruins in and around the Citadel Mound through appropriate techniques

Policy 4: Restraint of agricultural activities in and around Tumuli

Policy 5: Planning of transportation lines in such a way as to preserve the Tumuli

Policy 6: Elimination of risk factors in and around the site (fire, flood, and erosion, etc.)

Presentation, Promotion, and Tourism

Policy 7: Strengthening of the visitor transportation infrastructure

Policy 8: Improving the perception of Gordion and its environs and the educational experience of visitors

Policy 9: Creation opportunities for cultural and sports activities for the site

Policy 10: Development of accommodation possibilities compatible with the landscape and rural settlement

Policy 11: Promotion of Gordion for wider audiences

Socio-Economic Development

Policy 12: Creation of economic benefits for local people through activities and tourism in Gordion

Land Use and Spatial Planning

Policy 13: Conservation of the natural environment and silhouette

Policy 14: Conservation of the rural architecture and their surroundings

Education

Policy 15: Organisation of training and events on the importance of Gordion and its environs for local students

Policy 16: Provision of international educational opportunities to local students

Policy 17: Delivery of regular training to local people to secure their ownership

SECTION 10- IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SITE MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.1. Action Plan

The Management Plan policies set out in the previous section will be achieved through a wide range of actions (see Table 10.1), to be undertaken by a variety of organizations/stakeholders involved in the Site.

The following Action Plan identifies for each action the lead organization and the partners that need to be involved along with the time scale/frame for implementation. The timeframe for implementation is noted as: continuous; at regular intervals; urgent (0- 12 months); short (2-3 years), medium (up to 5 years) and long-term (up to 10 years). It covers the period 2021 – 2025.

ARCHAEOLOGY, RESEARCH, AND DOCUMENTATION

Policy	Action	Responsible Body/Individual	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 1 –Research on and documentation of Gordion and its Environs in their entirety	Action 1.1. Identification of the Tumuli requiring priority excavation and research and those not to require and planning research and excavation program accordingly	GAP, AAMM	MoCT-KVMGM	MoCT--KVMGM	Short-Medium-Long
	Action 1.2. Continuing geophysical research in and around Gordion and sharing the relevant results with MoCT-KVMGM	GAP	MoCT--KVMGM, AAMM	GAP	Medium
	Action 1.3. Formulating a 5-year plan for the excavations on-going in the Citadel Mound and sharing the same with MoCT/KVMGM	GAP		GAP	Urgent
	Action 1.4. Registering all artifacts originating from Gordion and displayed in our museums on the MUES database	AAMM, GM, IAM	MoCT--KVMGM	MoCT	Medium
	Action 1.5. Supporting the Project currently implemented by academician Mr. Mehmet Doğruluk	Mr. Mehmet Doğruluk, Hacettepe University, Anatolia Organized Industrial Zone Vocational School.	MoCT/KVMGM, GAP, Polatlı Municipality	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 1.6. Undertaking a comparative study on the flora and fauna of the Ancient Period and the Present Day	GAP	Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation	GAP	Medium

CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND SAFETY					
Policy	Action	Responsible Body	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 2- Improved security measures at the Citadel	Action 2.1. Employing security staff for the Citadel Mound	DOSIMM	GAP, MoCT/KVMGM	DOSIMM	Urgent
	Action 2.2. Placing infrared surveillance cameras at suitable locations in the Citadel Mound	Ankara Dir. of Surveying and Monuments	GAP, GM, MoCT/KVMGM,	Polatlı Municipality, MoCT/KVMGM,	Short
Policy -3 Conservation of the ruins in and around the Citadel through appropriate techniques	Action 3.1. Completing the maintenance, repairs, and restoration of monumental buildings from the Early Phrygian Period	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Medium-Long
	Action 3.2. Completing the conservation of Terrace Buildings	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Short
	Action 3.3. Completing the conservation of Pebble Mosaic Pavement	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Short
	Action 3.4. Restoring the upper elements of the South Gate in their original position	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Medium
	Action 3.5. Monitoring of the dry-laid masonry walls in the Citadel Gate	GAP		GAP	Continuous
Policy-4 Restraint of agricultural activities in and around Tumuli	Action 4.1. Informing the local public to stop agricultural activities immediately	Polatlı Municipality	GM, GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Urgent
	Action 4.2. Placing warning sign boards at suitable locations for the Tumuli and Mounds subject to intensive agricultural activities	Polatlı Municipality	AAMM, GM, GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Short

	Action 4.3. Fencing the already expropriated Tumuli	Polatlı Municipality AAMM, GM	GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 4.4. Preparing landscaping projects to design and build barriers to prevent the passage of bovine animals and agricultural machinery, but to allow the passage of ovine animals around Tumuli and Mounds	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 4.5. Undertaking construction efforts for the building of drainage canals to prevent any damage to the Tumuli on privately registered immovable properties surrounding the Tumuli	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Agriculture/ Polatlı District Directorate of Agriculture	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Agriculture/ Polatlı District Directorate of Agriculture	Short
Policy-5 Planning of transportation lines in such a way as to preserve Tumuli	Action 5.1. cancellation of the cadastral road to preserve Tumulus T6	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 5.2. Rerouting field roads running through certain Tumuli in the region	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short-Medium
	Action 5.3. Preparing a new transportation master plan to designate the primary, secondary, and field roads in the region to relieve the region of the vibration created by heavy-tonnage vehicles passing by Tumulus MM	Polatlı Municipality	Directorate-General of Highways, Governorate of Ankara, Ankara BBB.	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
Policy 6- Elimination of risk factors in and around the area	Action 6.1. Providing a mudbrick drainage system to the Tumuli affected by erosion and allowing for the growth of endemic plants (thyme and absinthe, etc.) on Tumuli	GAP, AAMM	Polatlı Municipality Ankara Directorate of Agriculture and Livestock		Medium
	Action 6.2. Implementing “Sakarya River Basin Management” and containing excessive irrigation along Sakarya River	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry/Directorate- General of Water Management	Polatlı Municipality	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry/Directorate- General of Water Management	Medium-Long

	Action 6.3. Monitoring the movements of Sakarya River	3 rd Regional Directorate of DSI		3 rd Regional Directorate of DSI	Regular-Every year
	Action 6.4. Removing dry weeds in and around the Citadel Mound to counteract fire hazard	GM GAP	Polatlı Municipality	GAP Polatlı Municipality	Continuous
	Action 6.5. Placing suitable extinguishants (C12 dry chemical powder) at suitably designated areas within the Citadel Mound to counteract fire hazard	Polatlı Municipality GM	GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 6.6. Keeping an adequate number of fire extinguishers in Gordion Museum and informing security staff on emergency fire responses to counteract fire hazard	AAMM, GM	MoCT/KVMGM, DÖSIMM	DOSIMM, Governorate of Ankara	Short
	Action 6.7. Preparing an emergency action plan to counteract fire hazard in and around Tumuli and in the general area	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 6.8. Formulating plans of suitable protective responses to protect excavated sites specifically against such negative effects as seasonal (rain, snow, and changes in temperature, etc.) erosion	GAP		GAP	Short-Medium-Long
	Action 6.9. Undertaking an emergency salvage excavation in Tumulus T1	AAMM, GM		MoCT	Short
	Action 6.10. Continuing with the structural stability monitoring of the area surrounding the burial chamber in Tumulus MM	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Continuous
	Action 6.11. Continuing with the monitoring of temperature and humidity with electronic data recording devices around the year in Tumulus MM	GAP	AAMM	GAP	Continuous

PRESENTATION, PROMOTION, AND VISITOR MANAGEMENT					
Policy	Action	Responsible Body	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 7- Strengthening of the visitor transportation infrastructure	Action 7.1. Constructing a car park at a suitable location for visitors to the Citadel Mound	Polatlı Municipality	AAMM, GM, GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 7.2. Improving the footway on the Citadel Mound	GAP	Governorate of Ankara, Polatlı Municipality	GAP	Medium
	Action 7.3. Defining the visitor path extending from Tumulus MM to the Citadel Mound, creating a pedestrian path, landscape design and placing relevant guiding signs	MoCT/KVMGM AAMM, GM	GAP	MoCT/KVMGM	Medium
	Action 7.4. Defining, and completing the infrastructure for a cycling path reaching Gordion along the Phrygian Way with consideration for the conservation areas of the Tumuli	Polatlı Municipality	FRIGKUM/Ankara BB	Ankara BB	Medium
	Action 7.5. Placing direction signs and markings showing the way to Gordion along the route of the Phrygian Way	Polatlı Municipality ABB	FRIGKUM	Polatlı Municipality ABB	Medium
	Action 7.6 Arranging routes and constructing cycling paths, etc., to encourage visitors to walk or cycle around the area after parking their vehicles to the extent possible Developing, to this end, urban design projects in the settlements of Yassihöyük, Kıranharmanı, and Sazılar such as one-way routing in traffic, public transport stops, parking spaces, arrangements to slow down traffic, restricting the entry of large vehicles to rural settlements, and designation of walking or cycling paths	Polatlı Municipality ABB		Polatlı Municipality ABB	Medium

	Action 7.7. Offering and promoting free-of-charge shuttle service from Polatlı Rapid Train (YHT) Station to the site in peak months	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short/Continuous
Policy 8- Improving the perception of Gordion and its environs and the educational experience of visitors	Action 8.1. Increasing the number of “audio guides” available at Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM	MoCT-KVMGM		MoCT-KVMGM DOSIMM	Medium
	Action 8.2 Constructing an environmentally compatible watch tower and observation terrace at a suitable location to allow visitors to perceive Tumuli and the local landscape as a whole	Polatlı Municipality	GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 8.3. Informing visitors on the importance and spatial connection of Gordion and its environs for the Pitched Battle of Sakarya and the war fronts	Polatlı Municipality POTA	AAMM, GM, GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 8.4. Increasing the number of exhibition opportunities in Gordion Museum and exhibiting the Phrygian Life to visitors with the use of digital technologies	MoCT/KVMGM GAP	AAMM, GM Ankara Development Agency	MoCT/KVMGM Ankara Development Agency	Medium
Policy 9- Creation opportunities for cultural and sports activities for the site	Action 9.1. Constructing trekking routes between Tumuli for visitors with consideration for the conservation areas of the Tumuli	Mun. of Polatlı	GAP, AAMM, GM	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 9.2. Developing events for outdoor sports along routes to be designated between the Tumuli and the Mounds (“Royal Road” orienteering and bicycle races, etc.)	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Ankara Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports District Gov. of Polatlı Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Development Agency	Polatlı Municipality Ankara Development Agency	Medium

	Action 9.3. Ensuring that POTA completes the feasibility studies and acquires the necessary permissions for hot air balloon tours in the area	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 9.4. Organising “Gordion” photography competitions in cooperation with Ankara Association of Photography Artists	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Ankara Association of Photography Artists Mun. of Polatlı	Short
	Action 9.5. Maintaining the organisation of the International King Midas Theatre Days	Polatlı Municipality	MoCT— Directorate-General of State Theatres Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Polatlı Municipality	Every year
	Action 9.6. Maintaining the organisation of Gordion Half Marathon	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Ankara Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports	Polatlı Municipality	Every year
	Action 9.7. Organising a “Gordion Festival” regularly and sustainably and making it an annually organised traditional event	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Polatlı Municipality	Every year
Policy 10- Development of accommodation possibilities compatible with the landscape and rural settlement	Action 10.1. Designating suitable areas for visitors wishing to stay in tents	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
Policy 11- Promotion of Gordion for wider audiences	Action 11.1. Placing promotional and guiding plates of information on Gordion in the tourism destinations located in the surroundings	Polatlı Municipality Ankara BB.	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism AAMM GM GAP	Polatlı Municipality Ankara BB.	Medium

	Action 11.2. Preparing short promotional videos to be posted on social media outlets	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Mun. of Polatlı	MoCT/KVMGM, GM AAMM ,GAP Ankara Development Agency, Directorate-General of Promotion	Polatlı Municipality Ankara Development Agency	Short
	Action 11.3. Converting the currently idle library building, constructed by METU, in Yassihöyük into a promotion office	Polatlı Municipality	AAMM, GM, GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 11.4. Opening and actively using a social media account to promote Gordion and share updated on its Nomination for UNESCO with wider audiences	Polatlı Municipality / District Gov. of Polatlı	Site Management Unit	Polatlı Municipality / District Gov. of Polatlı	Short
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT					
Policy	Action	Responsible Body	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 12- Creation of economic benefits for local people through activities and tourism in Gordion	Action 12.1. Raising local awareness on the economic value of their products in order to allow them to benefit from the economic gains arising from local tourism	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Polatlı District Directorate of Agriculture and Livestock	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 12.2. Choosing a suitable location for sales units to be employed for the sale of agricultural produce by local people	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 12.3. Allocating the old village school on the road connecting Tumulus MM to the Citadel Mound to the Yassihöyük women so that they can exhibit their handicrafts and home-made food	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Medium

	Action 12.4. Establishing a Rural Cooperative to manage product sales in the settlement	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara Development Agency	Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 12.5. Organising educational courses on the production of handicrafts	Polatlı District Public Education Centre	Polatlı Municipality	Polatlı Municipality Polatlı District Public Education Centre	Medium
	Action 12.6. Establishing thematic production workshops (wood or metal work, etc.) where local people can work, and visitors can watch work in progress with the aim of developing souvenirs recounting the Phrygian culture and produced with ancient technologies of production	Polatlı Municipality	AAMM GM Ankara Development Agency	Polatlı Municipality Ankara Development Agency	Medium
	Action 12.7. Implementing entrepreneurship courses and KOSGEB training programmes for young individuals, women, and family members in line with their areas of interest	Polatlı Municipality	KOSGEB	Polatlı Municipality KOSGEB	Medium
LAND USE AND SPATIAL PLANNING					
Policy	Action	Responsible Body	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 13- Conservation of the natural environment and silhouette	Action 13.1. Considering the presentation of the site and its compatibility with the landscape in the planning of the steppe park or touring route in the archaeological site	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Medium
	Action 13.2. Ensuring the conservation of the steppe landscape as a whole with its ecological elements	Polatlı Municipality	Polatlı Directorate of Environment and Urbanisation GAP	Polatlı Municipality	Continuous
	Action 13.3. Formulating an expropriation programmes for privately owned Tumuli and mounds	GAP, MoCT/KVMGM	Polatlı Municipality	GAP, MoCT/KVMGM	Long Term

	Action 13.4. Developing proposals to prevent pollution induced by waste in Porsuk and Sakarya Rivers	Polatlı Municipality Ankara BB	Ankara II Directorate of Environment and Urbanisation	Polatlı Municipality	Long
Policy 14- Conservation of the rural architecture and their surroundings	Action 14.1. Protecting (via registration) important examples of traditional civil architecture in the rural settlements in the locality and preparing emergency restoration projects for damaged examples	Ankara KVKBKM	MoCT/KVMGM Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	MoCT/KVMGM	Medium
	Action 14.2. Preparing a simple maintenance and repairs manual for the users to protect examples of traditional architecture in the locality and stimulating users to use the same through exemplary pilot applications	ABB (KUDEB)	MoCT/KVMGM Ankara KVKBKM Ankara Development Agency	ABB Polatlı Municipality Ankara Development Agency	Medium
	Action 14.3. Preparing “design manuals” on the basis of the fabric and architectural characteristics of the settlements in the villages to eliminate problems arising from new buildings that are incompatible with the traditional rural fabric	ABB (KUDEB)	MoCT/KVMGM Ankara KVKBKM Ankara Development Agency	ABB Polatlı Municipality Ankara Development Agency	Medium
	Action 14.4. Completing infrastructure works and developing alternative projects for waste management	Polatlı Municipality	Ankara II Directorate of Environment and Urbanisation	Polatlı Municipality	
	Action 14.5. Preparing a Landscaping Plan covering arrangements for the tourism infrastructure including car parks, cycling paths, camping areas, and trekking routes and amending Yassihöyük Conservation Development Plan accordingly	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Short
	Action 14.6. Revising Yassihöyük Conservation Development Plan	Polatlı Municipality		Polatlı Municipality	Medium

EDUCATION					
Policy	Action	Responsible Body	Supporting Body	Resources	Term
Policy 15- Organisation of training and events on the importance of Gordion and its environs for local students	Action 15.1. Starting “Gordion School Clubs” in local schools and employing these groups during events to be organised for the site	Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	GAP, GM, AAMM, POTA	POTA	Short/Continuous
	Action 15.2. Incorporating game-based educational activities in the relevant parts of the curriculum at the elementary school level (matching cards, puzzles, colouring books, and model making, etc.)	Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	GAP, GM, AAMM, POTA	Polatlı District Directorate of National Education, POTA	Short/Continuous
	Action 15.3. Maintaining the organisation of training activities implemented by AAMM and GAP	GAP, AAMM		GAP	Continuous
	Action 15.4. Ensuring that local youth contribute to the project activities on Gordion as local stakeholders and forming local history groups	Polatlı Municipality GAP, AAMM, GM	POTA	POTA	Short
	Action 15.5 Organising training programmes to allow local students to act as tour guides in and around Gordion under the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CheP)	GAP	Polatlı Municipality Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	Ankara Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	Short-Medium
	Action 15.6. Incorporating the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CheP) in the curricula of local high schools and secondary schools	GAP Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	Ministry of National Education	POTA	Short-Medium

Policy 16- Provision of international educational opportunities to local students	Action 16.1. Developing international cultural exchange programmes and cooperation (with European Union Youth Exchange Programmes, etc.) to encourage accomplished young individuals in the locality	Polatlı District Directorate of National Education	Ministry of National Education		Continuous
Policy 17- Delivery of regular training to local people to secure their ownership	Action 17.1. Organising seminars titled “Days of Gordion” accompanied by promotional documentaries, brochures, and booklets to inform local people of the importance of the site in cooperation with mukhtars twice a year	Polatlı Municipality	GAP, GM, AAMM, KVMGM	Polatlı Municipality	Continuous

10.2. Monitoring Indicators

The efforts to ensure harmonisation between the mandated stakeholders and contributing stakeholders defined in the plan during the implementation of the Management Plan for Gordion and its Environs and to monitor the implementation of the designated actions will be coordinated by the Site Manager. The project activities defined in the action plan will be launched along with the enactment of the plan upon the approval thereof by the Coordination and Supervision Board.

The performance of the projects implemented within the scope of the Management Plan is evaluated annually. Once such performance has been evaluated through the determination of the current status of the actions defined in the action plan, the Site Manager prepare the relevant reports, which are reviewed by the Coordination and Supervision Board. The Board then updates the Management Plan accordingly and approves the work programme for the next year. The vision and main goals and policies of the plan will be re-evaluated through participatory processes in 2025, and the revised Management Plan will be submitted once again to the Advisory Board and the Coordination and Supervision Board for consideration.

On the other hand, monitoring indicators represent the most important tool to review whether an action plan is realistic and applicable. Monitoring indicators have been determined to evaluate the implementation status and performance of the Management Plan of Gordion and its Environs, and in turn, these indicators will make it possible to measure the extent to which the actions have been realized and the number of targets that have been achieved. With such monitoring to be carried out at the end of each implementation year, a feasible and realistic action plan will be achieved in line with the national legal and administrative framework.

The following table lists the activities to be carried out with respect to the regular monitoring of the works to be carried out in line with the objectives determined within the scope of the Management Plan.

Monitoring Indicators for Gordion Management Plan (for 5 Years)

ARCHAEOLOGY, RESEARCH, AND DOCUMENTATION	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Formulating a 5-year plan for excavations in the Citadel Mound	Supporting and ensuring the completion of the Project currently implemented by Hacettepe University		Registering all artifacts originating from Gordion and displayed in our museums on the MUES database	
PROTECTION AND SAFETY	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Employing security staff for the Citadel Mound	Placing infrared surveillance cameras at suitable locations in the Citadel Mound	Completing the conservation of Terrace Buildings	Preparing landscaping projects for the Tumuli and Mounds	Completing the maintenance, repairs, and restoration of monumental buildings from the Early Phrygian Period
	Informing the local public to stop agricultural activities immediately		Completing the conservation of Pebble Mosaic Pavement	Providing a mudbrick drainage system to the Tumuli affected by erosion and allowing for the growth of endemic plants on Tumuli	Restoring the upper elements of the South Gate in their original position
	Placing suitable extinguishants at suitably designated areas within the Citadel Mound to counteract fire hazard	Placing warning sign boards at suitable locations for the Tumuli and Mounds subject to intensive agricultural activities	Rerouting field roads running through certain Tumuli in the region		Preparing a new transportation master plan for the area passing by Tumulus MM
	Keeping an adequate number of fire	Identifying the Tumuli in need of priority fencing	Cancellation of the cadastral road to preserve		Implementing "Sakarya River Basin

	extinguishers in Gordion Museum and informing security staff on emergency fire responses to counteract fire hazard	and starting the fencing operation	Tumulus T6		Management”
	Preparing an emergency action plan to counteract fire hazard in and around Tumuli and in the general area	Undertaking an emergency salvage excavation in Tumulus T1			
PRESENTATION, PROMOTION, AND TOURISM	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Completing the feasibility studies and acquiring the necessary permissions for hot air balloon tours in the area	Constructing a car park at a suitable location for visitors to the Citadel Mound	Increasing the number of “audio guides” available at Gordion Museum and Tumulus MM	Delimiting, and completing the infrastructure for, a cycling path reaching Gordion along the Phrygian Way	Developing urban design projects in the settlements of Yassihöyük, Kıranharmanı, and Sazılar
	Organising a “Gordion” photography competition	Improving the footway on the Citadel Mound	Constructing an environmentally compatible watch tower and observation terrace at a suitable location to allow visitors to perceive Tumuli and the local landscape as a whole	Placing direction signs and markings showing the way to Gordion along the route of the Phrygian Way	Increasing the number of exhibition opportunities in Gordion Museum and exhibiting the Phrygian Life to visitors with the use of digital technologies
	Preparing short promotional videos to be posted on social media outlets	Delimiting the touring route extending from Tumulus MM to the Citadel Mound, constructing and	Informing visitors on the importance and spatial connection of Gordion and its environs for the Pitched Battle of Sakarya	Constructing trekking routes between Tumuli for visitors with consideration for the conservation areas of the	Promoting the availability of hostels for overnight stays

		landscaping a pedestrian road, and placing relevant direction signs	and the war fronts	Tumuli	
	Offering and promoting free-of-charge shuttle service from Polatlı Rapid Train (YHT) Station to the site in peak months	Converting the currently idle library building, constructed by METU, in Yassihöyük into a promotion office	Placing promotional and guiding plates of information on Gordion in the tourism destinations located in the surroundings	Developing events for outdoor sports along routes to be designated between the Tumuli and the Mounds	Organising a “Gordion Festival” regularly and sustainably and making it an annually organised traditional event
				Designating suitable areas for visitors wishing to stay in tents	
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
			Raising local awareness on the economic value of their products in order to allow them to benefit from the economic gains arising from local tourism	Choosing a suitable location for sales units to be employed for the sale of agricultural produce by local people	Establishing a Rural Cooperative to manage product sales in the settlement
			Organising educational courses on the production of handicrafts	Designating the old village school on the road connecting Tumuli GM and MM to the Citadel Mound as an area for the woman of the village to exhibit their handicrafts and home-made food	Establishing thematic production workshops where local people can work, and visitors can watch work in progress with the aim of developing souvenirs recounting the Phrygian culture and produced with ancient

					technologies of production
			Implementing entrepreneurship courses and KOSGEB training programmes for young individuals, women, and family members in line with their areas of interest		
LAND USE AND SPATIAL PLANNING	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
		Protecting (via registration) important examples of traditional civil architecture in the rural settlements in the locality and preparing emergency restoration projects for damaged examples	Preparing a simple maintenance and repairs manual for the users to protect examples of traditional architecture in the locality	Considering the presentation of the site and its compatibility with the landscape in the planning of the steppe park or touring route in the archaeological site	Formulating an expropriation programmes for privately owned Tumuli and mounds
			Preparing “design manuals” on the basis of the fabric and architectural characteristics of the settlements in the villages		Developing proposals to prevent pollution induced by waste in Porsuk and Sakarya Rivers
					Revising Yassıhöyük Conservation Development Plan

EDUCATION	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Ensuring that local youth contribute to the project activities on Gordion as local stakeholders and forming local history groups		Organising training programmes to allow local students to act as tour guides in and around Gordion under the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CheP)		Incorporating the Cultural Heritage Education Programme (CheP) in the curricula of local high schools and secondary schools
	Starting “Gordion School Clubs” in local schools and employing these groups during events to be organised for the site				

Continuous/Regular Monitoring Indicators for Gordion Management Plan

ARCHAEOLOGY, RESEARCH, AND DOCUMENTATION	Identification of areas to be preserved as is and areas requiring priority excavation and research with respect to the Tumuli and Mounds in the region and planning of research and excavations accordingly	Continuing geophysical research in and around Gordion			
PROTECTION AND SAFETY	Monitoring the movements of Sakarya River monitoring the dry-laid masonry walls in the Citadel Gate	Removing dry weeds in and around the Citadel Mound to counteract fire hazard	Formulating plans of suitable protective responses to protect excavated sites specifically against such negative effects as seasonal (rain, snow, and changes in temperature, etc.) erosion	Continuing with the structural stability monitoring of the area surrounding the burial chamber in Tumulus MM	Continuing with the monitoring of temperature and humidity with electronic data recording devices around the year in Tumulus MM
PRESENTATION, PROMOTION, AND TOURISM	Offering and promoting free-of-charge shuttle service from Polatlı Rapid Train (YHT) Station to the site in peak months	Maintaining the organisation of the International King Midas Theatre Days	Maintaining the organisation of Gordion Half Marathon		
LAND USE AND SPATIAL PLANNING	Ensuring the conservation of the steppe landscape as a whole with its ecological elements				
EDUCATION	Maintaining the organisation of training activities implemented by AAMM and GAP	Developing international cultural exchange programmes and cooperation (with European Union Youth Exchange Programmes, etc.) to encourage accomplished young individuals in the locality	Developing international cultural exchange programmes and cooperation (with European Union Youth Exchange Programmes, etc.) to encourage accomplished young individuals in the locality	Developing international cultural exchange programmes and cooperation (with European Union Youth Exchange Programmes, etc.) to encourage accomplished young individuals in the locality	

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