

**REINFORCING EASTERN LIMES:
FORTIFICATIONS OF LAZICA IN THE AGE OF
JUSTINIAN I**

Natia Natsvlishvili

George Chubinashvili National
Research Centre



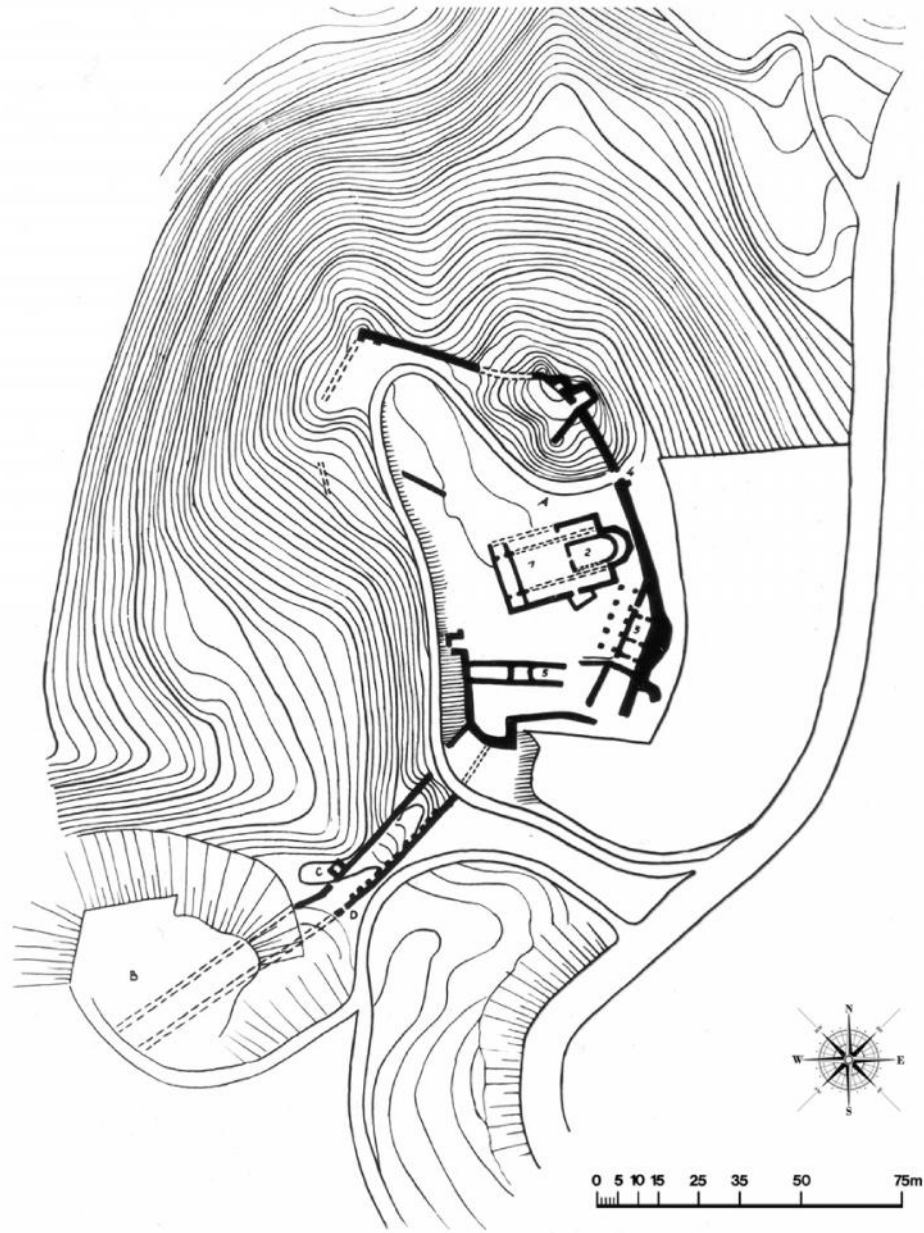
“Lazica is ours, in which is also the city of the Petraeans, which has taken its civic identity and title from us, using the name of our piety and being called Iustiniana. There lie also Archaeopolis and Rhodopolis, very large and ancient forts. With these are also the forts of Scandis and Sarapanis, which we took from the Persians, and Mourisius (Mochiris) and Lysiris (Losorion) and whatever other works we have performed among the Lazi”

Justinian's Novella 28



Petra. General view of the fortress looking south

PETRA - TSIKHISDZIRI

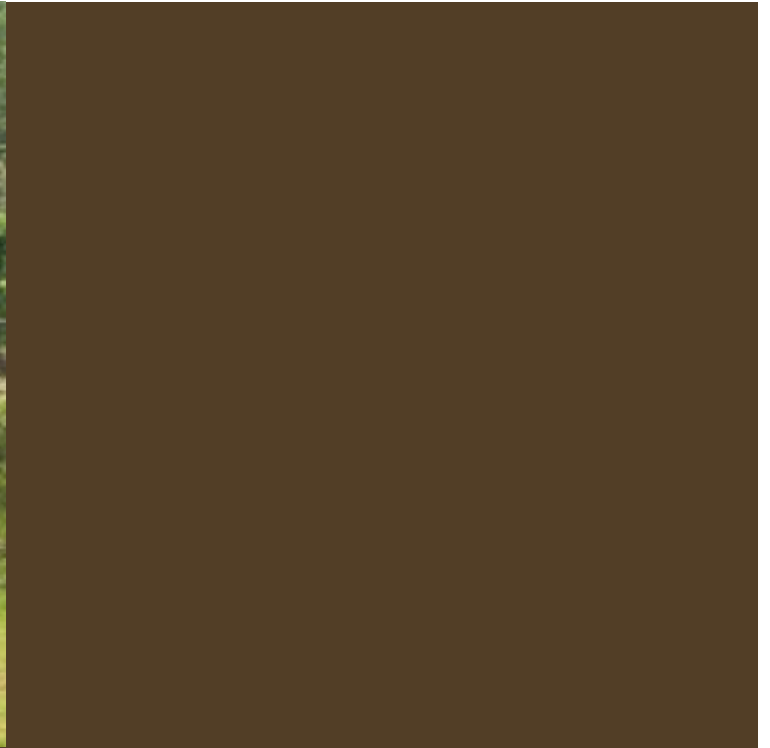




Proteichisma



Round tower



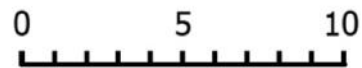
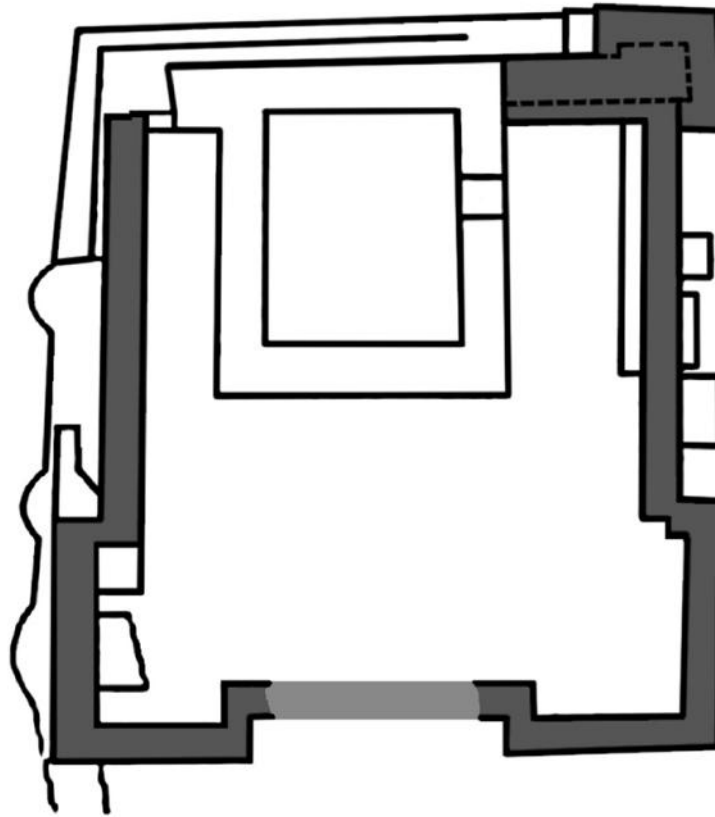
Baths and
cistern





Basilica at the Petra fortress

LOSORION - TAMARIS TSIKHE





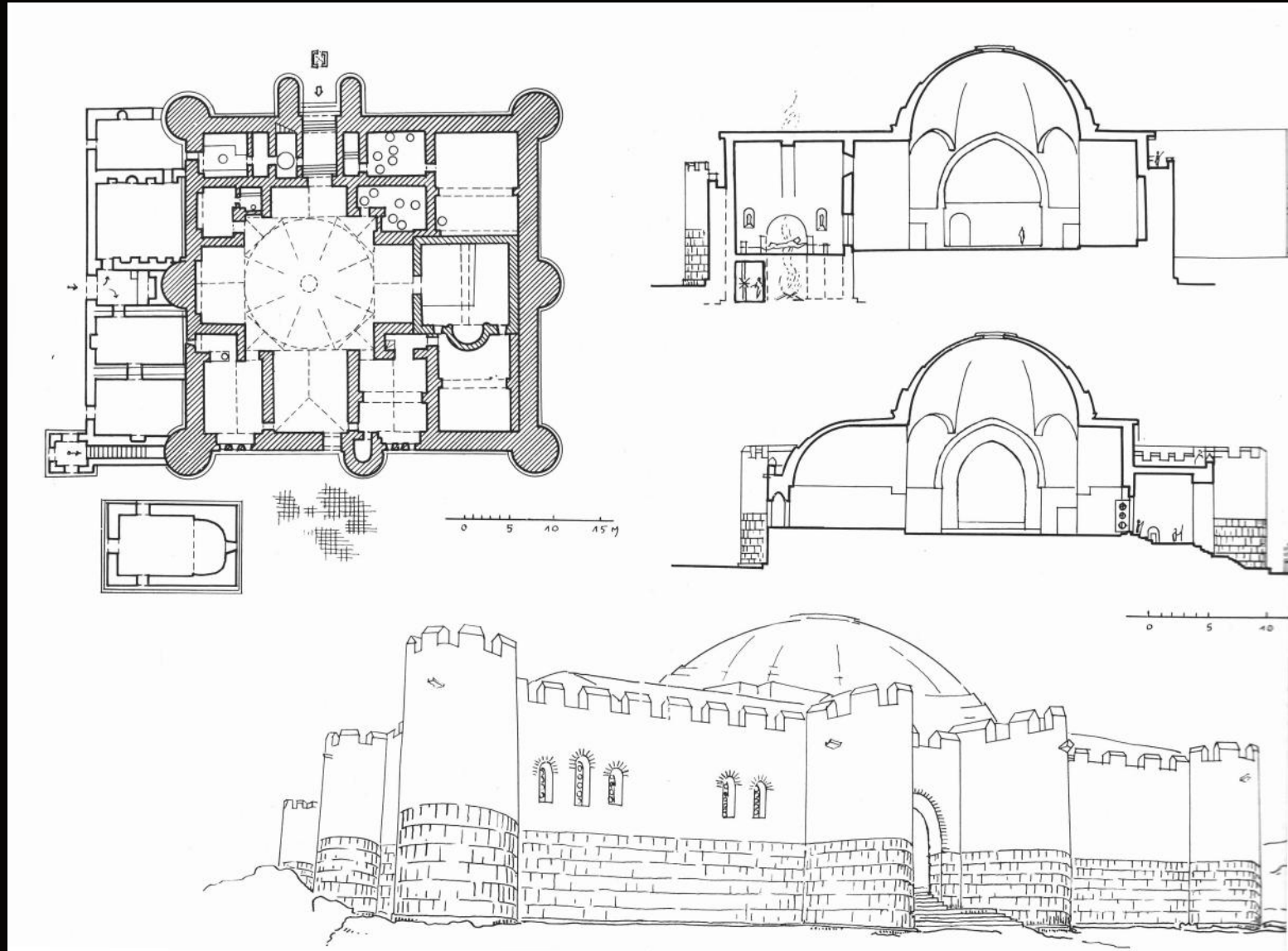
Losorion. Southeastern corner of the fortress



Geguti Castle. 12th century



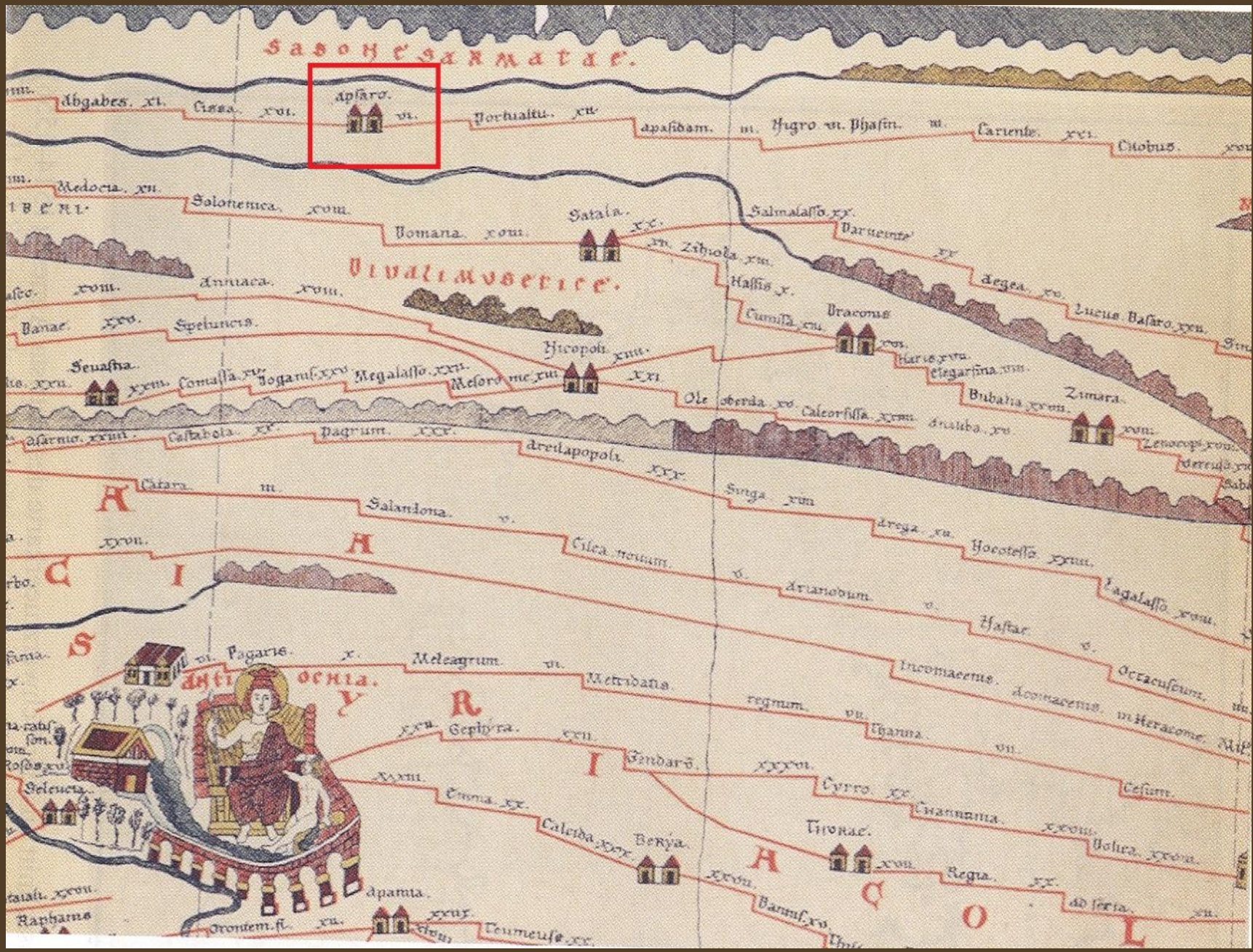
6th century masonry in Geguti



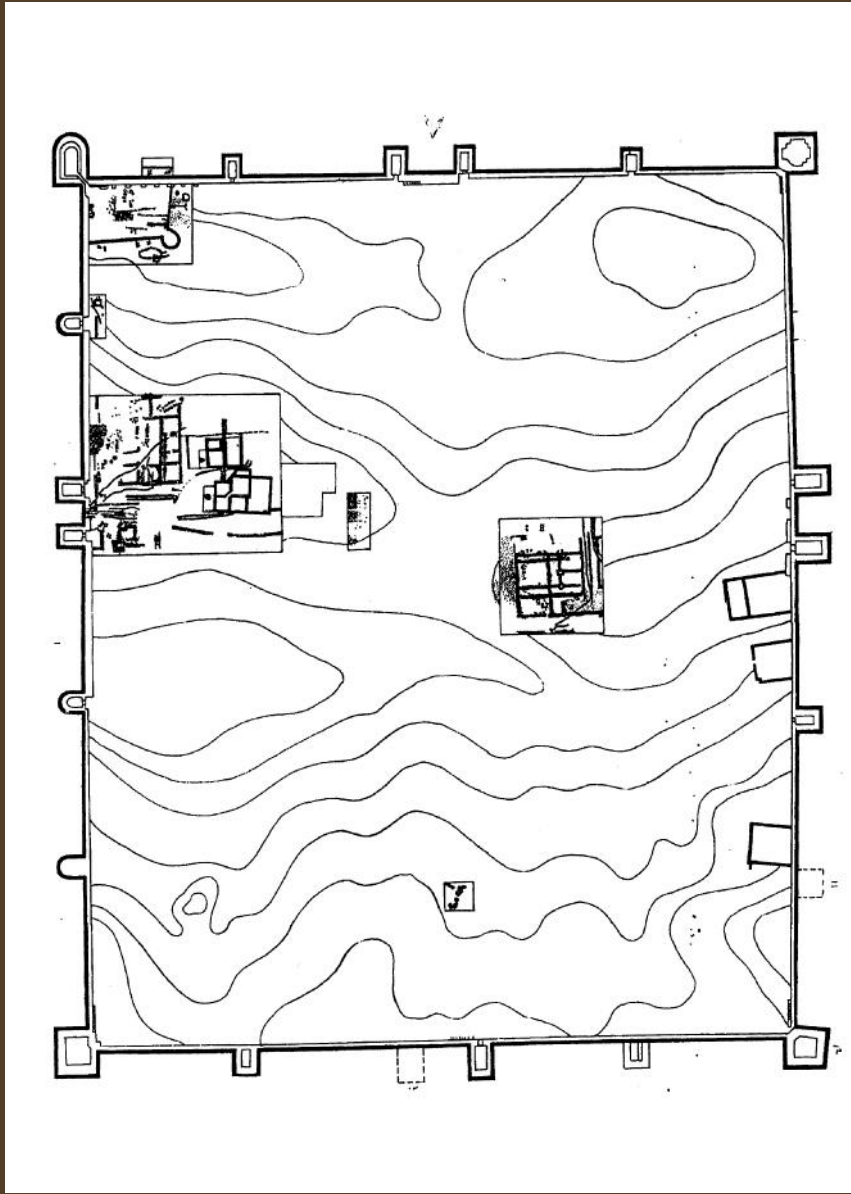
Geguti, presumably Mochiris



Apsaros. Aerophoto from the south-western side of the fortress



Apsaros on the Tabula Peutingeriana, 4th c.



General Plan of the
Apsaros Fortress



Western wall



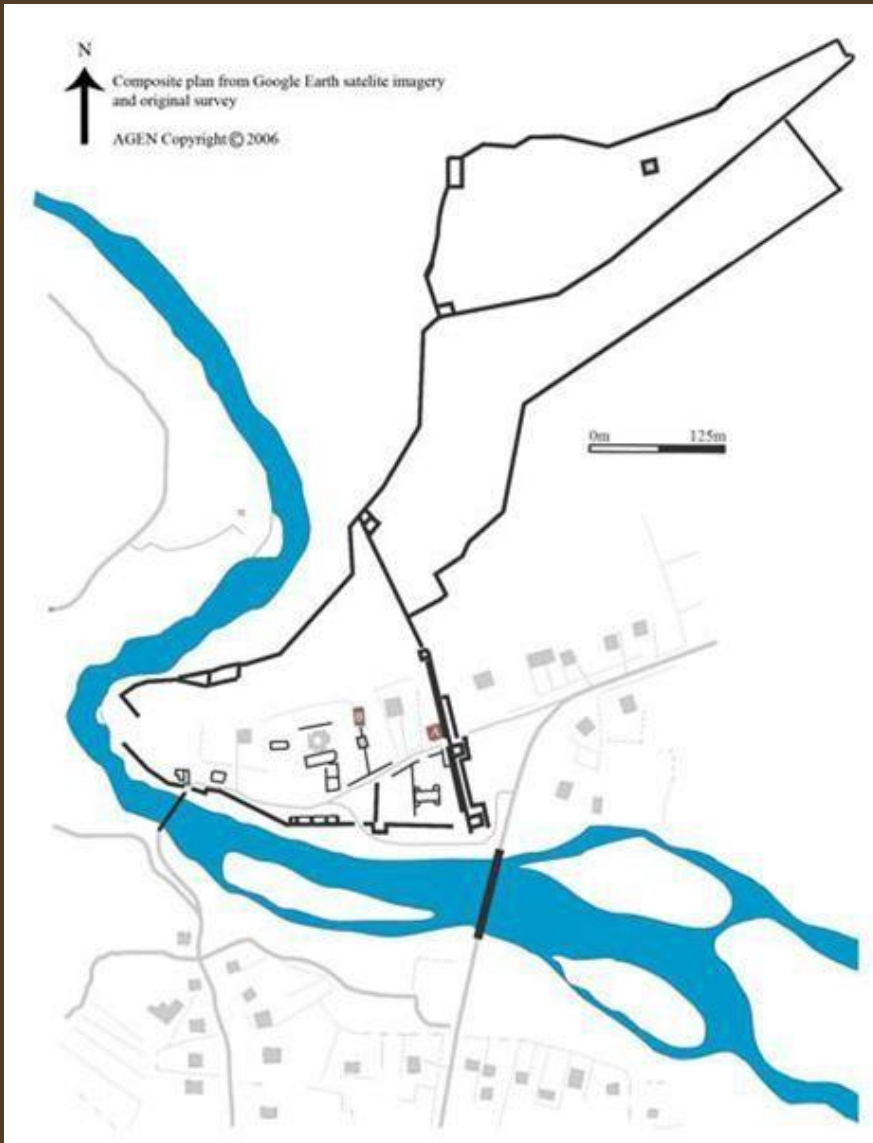
South-western U-shaped tower



← Western wall

Archaeopolis





Archaeopolis

Plan of the site by Paul Everill



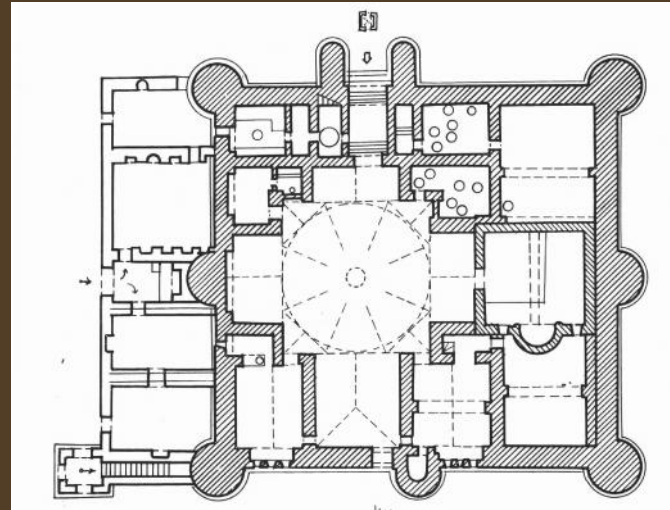
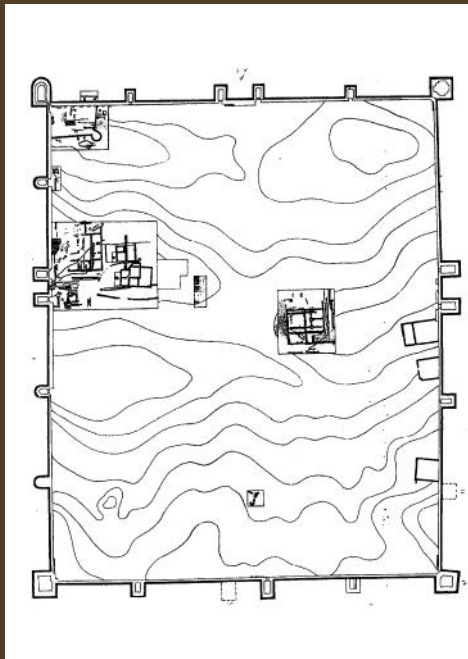
Gate and church built in 6th c. in Archaeopolis



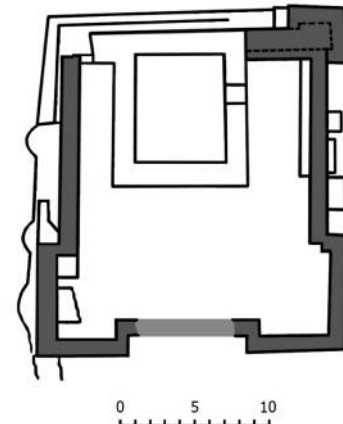
Double walls in Petra and Sarapanis

Courses of bricks in the fortresses of Sarapanis, Petra, and Rhodopolis

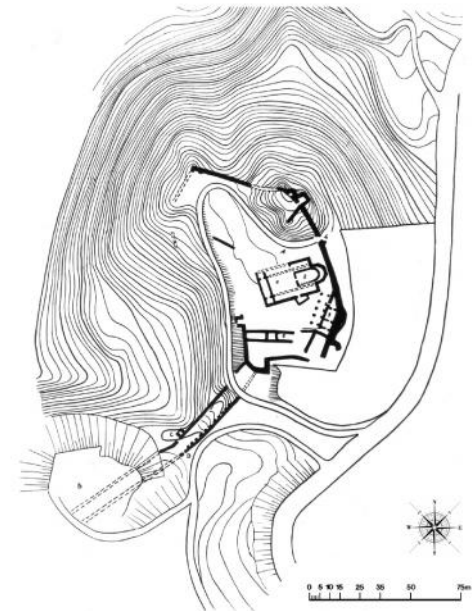




LOSORION - TAMARIS TSIKHE



PETRA - TSIKHISDZIRI



The plans of Apsaros,
Mocheris, Losorion, and Petra
fortresses



Rhodopolis

Thank you for your attention!