

K E R M A

2008 - 2009

SOUDAN

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Université de Neuchâtel
Documents de la mission archéologique suisse au Soudan
2009 | I

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I M P R E S S U M

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In the western sector of the Pre-Kerma settlement, an area of 1000 square meters was studied in order to define the extension of the agglomeration and its complexity (fig. 8). Many postholes delineated fences and circular structures, and eight pits of small diameter were discovered (fig. 9). Most are shallow, but one is 1.60 meter deep and might correspond to a small well. The other pits contained much charcoal and many fireplaces were located. These were related to a craft activity involving fire (ceramics firing, beer production, etc), but as of yet Pre-Kerma sherds have not been discovered within these structures. These features and their apparent organisation cannot be related to the Middle Kerma graves dug in this area, so their dating remains problematic. Therefore, C14 dates will be needed to confirm the Pre-Kerma attribution. Should these structures indeed date to the Pre-Kerma, then this season's discoveries would confirm the considerable size of the settlement and the possible existence of a specialised craft activity area.

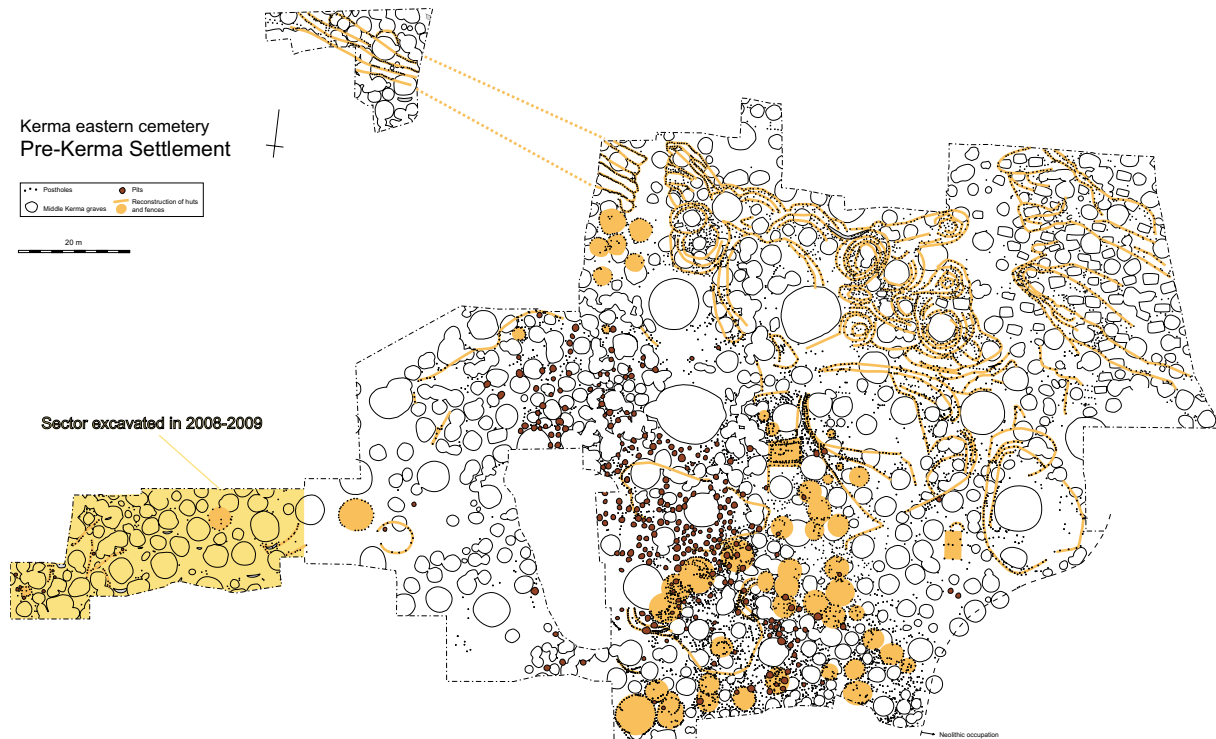


Figure 8 | Plan of the Pre-Kerma agglomeration with the sector excavated during the campaign 2008-2009.



Figure 9 | View of the sector with its pits and small circular structure.

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FIGURE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SUMMARY

Matthieu Honegger & Charles Bonnet	Archaeological excavations at Kerma (Sudan) • Preliminary report to the 2008-2009 season
Matthieu Honegger & Bastien Jakob	The early Holocene sequence of Wadi el-Arab
Matthieu Honegger	The Pre-Kerma agglomeration
Matthieu Honegger & Jérôme Dubosson	Ancient Kerma graves of the eastern cemetery
Camille Fallet	Palaeoanthropology of human skeletal remains found in the Ancient Kerma graves
Charles Bonnet	Dukki Gel: temples and fortifications
Philippe Ruffieux	The pottery of Dukki Gel
Matthieu Honegger	The Kerma Museum
Matthieu Honegger & Charles Bonnet	Restoration and preservation