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**AGT Summary Reports (Final)**  
**For Sites at**  
**KP9, KP166, KP182, KP186, KP216, KP226/227, KP231,**  
**KP235, KP256, KP294, KP298A, KP332.5, KP397, KP398,**  
**KP398.9 and KP410 within BTC and SCP ROW**

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### Introduction

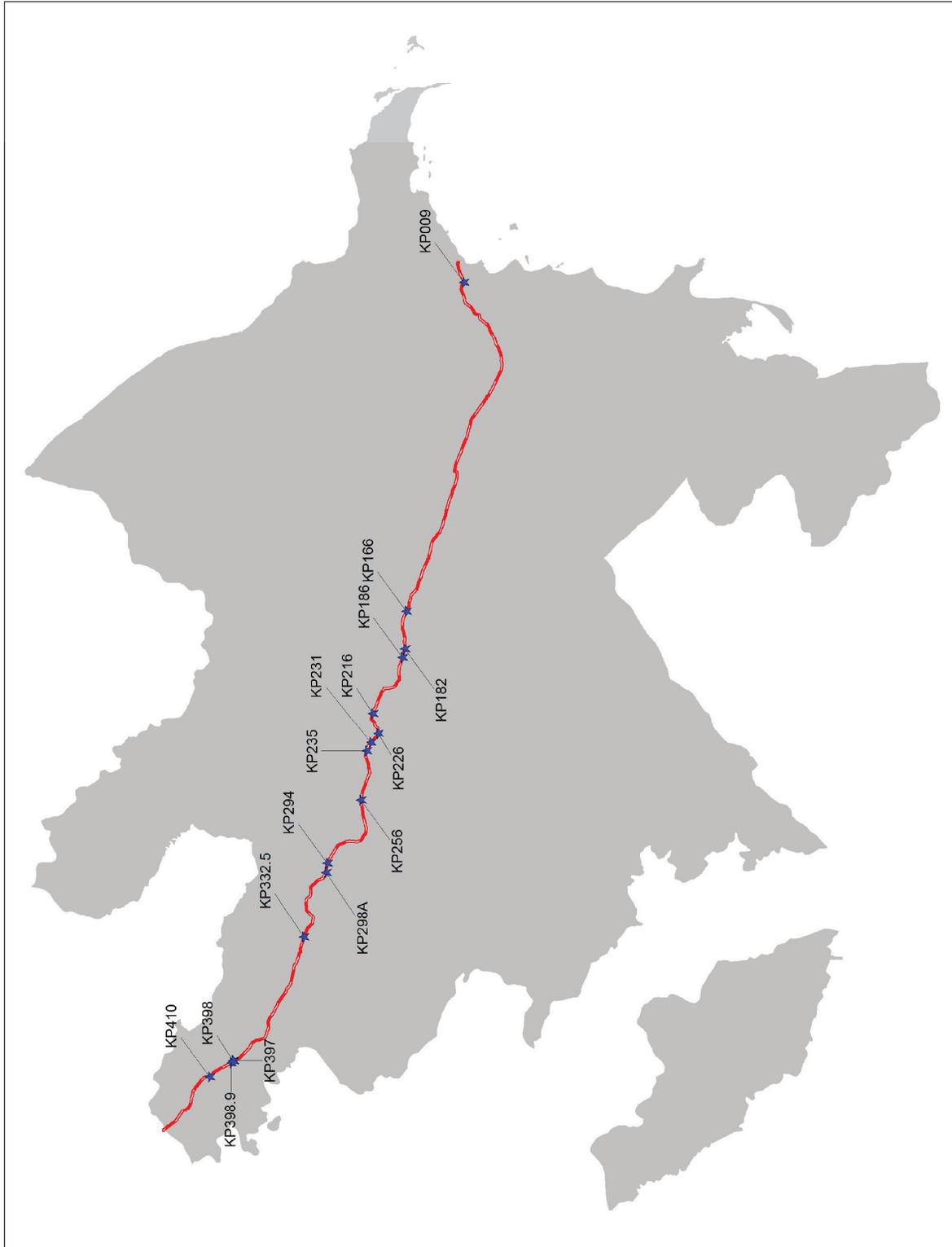
This report is concerned with a number of small or minor discoveries located during the BTC and SCP pipeline construction programme that are not reported elsewhere. There was no requirement to conduct further work in these areas, partly due to the nature of these small sites, or that the process of discovery was so traumatic that very little of the site remained, or in some cases that the sites were not going to be impacted by construction.

The sites were discovered and recorded by IoAE watching brief staff or members of the BTC archaeological team. The responsibility for preparation of the report is jointly held by Rashid Bashirov and David Maynard. Tarikh Dostiyev prepared the section on KP332.5.

Sites considered in this report

<b>KP Name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Project</b>
KP9 Jeyranchechmaz	Muslim cemetery	Outside easement
KP166 Kurdamir	Medieval pottery vessels	SCP
KP182 Yevlax	Medieval pottery vessels	BTC
KP186 Yevlax	Medieval pottery vessels	BTC
KP216 Yevlax	Medieval pottery vessels	BTC
KP226/227 Yevlax	Antique jar graves	BTC/SCP
KP231 Yevlax	Antique jar graves	SCP
KP235 Yevlax	Pottery	BTC
KP256 Goranboy	Medieval pottery spread	SCP
KP294 Goranboy	Possible cemetery	BTC
KP298A Lek	Antique cemetery and medieval pottery	BTC
KP332.5 Ashagi Kechili	Medieval settlement	SCP
KP397 Akstafa	Kurgan mound	BTC
KP398 Akstafa	Kurgan mound	BTC
KP398.9 Akstafa	Medieval pottery spread	BTC
KP410 Akstafa	Medieval pottery spread	BTC/SCP

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1. Pipeline Route Location of Summary Report Sites

**KP9 Jeyranchechmas**

Grid Reference 8873212, 4459523

A gravestone dating to the 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries was identified on a small hill on the east bank of the Jeyranchechmas River on 12 May 2003. The tomb stone was almost 2m long with little ornamentation. The grave marker lay approximately 20m north of the pipeline easement and was not affected by construction. Another grave stone lies 20m to the north at 8873212, 4459523. The site had been recorded prior to construction during archaeological surveys.

Judging by the stones scattered around this grave it could be assumed that once there used to be several graves here. As there is no obvious settlement nearby, it is thought these graves belonged to medieval cattle-breeders who used this site for over-wintering. Evidence of such settlement is evident on aerial photographs to the south east of this location (887340, 4459412, plates 1 and 2) and in the remains of buildings at the foot of Jingdirdag in the Gobustan cultural reserve amongst the Bronze Age petroglyphs (8872887, 4459152).



**2. KP9 Late Medieval structures south east of the pipeline route**



**3. KP9 Late Medieval Structures south east of the pipeline route**

**KP 166 Kurdamir**

Grid Reference 8733998, 4483679

Work was being done on the irrigation canal at KP 166 for the SCP pipeline crossing on 24 February 2005. The water flow cut off in advance and the canal was gradually deepened by digging a 6.5m deep pit to reach the dry ground. The excavator working on site revealed a complete water jug from 6m depth. The colour of the 23cm high jug was white-yellowish.

After examining the excavated site a fragment of bright colour pottery vessel was found at 5m depth on the right-hand wall of the pit, 20m to the south east at 8734013, 4483667.

Both pottery vessels appear to be of medieval date.



**4. KP166 Area where vessels were recovered**

**KP 182 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8718292, 4484370

An excavator digging a trench for the BTC pipeline at KP 182.19 on 5 August 2004 lifted from the north side of the trench wall a few fragments of a jar and several pottery vessels dating to the Middle Ages. The remains of a jar at 120cm depth was light-brown. The part of the jar close to its shoulder was decorated with two parallel applied strips stamped with an ornament. The same stamping method was also used for the decoration of the handle.

While examining the pipeline trench, pottery pieces and remnants of burnt soil were seen scattered around the trench and in the spoil heap. The site is thought possibly to have been a workshop firing bricks or pottery.



5. KP182 Jar exposed in pipe trench

**KP 186 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8714666, 4485340

On July 22, 2004 when an excavator was trenching at this site, remains of several storage jars were discovered on the north side of the trench. The jars were recovered, though in a disintegrated state, which was caused by the excavator. The jars were made of fired white clay. Around the jars there were also few pieces of pottery that came from smaller size vessels.

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Most of pieces of pottery made of red and yellow clay are tableware. The fragments mainly consist of dish bases. It is interesting that all the five dish bases differ in shape. The base of three is flat, while the base of the other two is raised. These two vessels are relatively big. One is decorated with green glaze, the other with blue and white glaze. One of the flat base vessels is coated with yellow and brown glaze. The two other fragments have no glaze and were made in a plain style.

Other ceramic fragments are bowl type vessels. They are mainly body and mouth fragments of different vessels. Based on manufacturing technique and shape they could be considered to date to the 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The two areas of pottery were identified at:

KP186.796 GPS 8714666E 4485340N

And 46m to the west

KP186.840 GPS 8714620E 4485346N

A layer of cultural material was visible in section at 8714620E 4485346N. This contained fragments of charcoal and burnt clay, and measured 0.15m – 0.20m in depth. At 8714666E 4485340N fired clay, possibly forming part of a tandir was found on the surface.

The nature of the deposits recorded here suggests that this was a former settlement site. Large quantities of pottery were visible in the topsoil heap, indicating that this may have been an extensive.

### **KP 216 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8691000, 4497900

Pottery fragments dating to the Middle Ages were found at KP 216 not far from Yevlakh on 12 September 2004. Light-yellowish pottery fragments that covered the area of 2 square metres were found at 30cm depth on the north side of the pipeline corridor. A small excavation to a further depth of 50cm, revealed a few more samples of the same type pottery. The pottery is thought to be of 16th century AD date.

### **KP 226/227 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8682400, 4495620

During work on the west side of the Yevlax-Barda main road on 22 February 2005, fragments of a large storage jar were seen on the North wall of the gas pipeline trench. Most of the jar fragments had already been lifted and thrown onto the spoil heap by the excavator. It is concluded that this jar made of red clay belonged to an Antique Period grave. During construction of the BTC pipeline in 2004 similar fragments of pottery were noted on the east side of the road, so it is probable that a fairly extensive cemetery of the Antique period is located in this area.

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### **KP 231 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8678700, 4498740

On February 21, 2006 while trenching for the SCP pipeline at 500-600 metres of KP 231 jars, water jugs and vases were discovered at four spots along a 75 metre long strip.

Three of the vessels are vases, they are light-brown. The height of one is 9cm with a diameter of 18cm; the second is 10cm tall, diameter 11cm. Their bases are round.

The height of the third vase is 7cm with a diameter of 20cm. It differs from the other two vases by having three legs. One leg is broken. The interesting thing about all three vases is that they all have lugs on one side. The lug serves as a handle and also resembles the face of a mythological animal.

Two water jugs were recovered. One is a sahang type water vessel, white and 23cm in height. The handle is attached to its neck. The handle is so made that there is an outlet for the water at its end.

The second vessel is kuzə type water vessel. It is grey and 19cm high. On the body there are three perforated juts. There are two juts with the same size orifices on the handle as well. Two thirds of the mouth of the water vessel is broken. This site represents part of an Antique period cemetery.



6. KP231 Antique Period cemetery looking east



7. KP231 Antique burial features

### **KP 235 Yevlax**

Grid Reference 8675029, 4500509

On 21 February 2004 when inspecting this area we came across material belonging to different type pottery. The vessels made of brown and red clay mostly big jars and domestic pottery. This is mostly pottery found over the backfilled BTC trench.

### **KP 256 Goranboy**

Grid Reference 8654382, 4502913

On 21 May 2004 at KP256.6 a scatter of pottery pieces was observed. After examination of the area, it was obvious that no other evidence of occupation was located here

The assemblage of pottery gathered from around can be divided into several groups:

*Fragments of storage jars.* Three of them are parts of the handles of different jars. Four fragments belong to the upper part of the body and the mouths of different jars. The decoration was made using applied strips, single and double. Mostly light-brown or red clay was used to make the jars.

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*Tableware samples.* Most of the fragments belong to the base and body of big vessels called bulud (platter). Part of the potter's stamp was well preserved on one of the small vessels base.

All pottery pieces come from glazed vessels and are finely decorated. Mainly green, yellow, black, sky blue, white and dark blue colours were used. The vessel fragments found are similar to the finds recovered from the Middle Ages Shabran and Girkhchirag monuments and date to 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> centuries. The site is thought to be a transhumant overwintering settlement.

The site lies to the east of the Goranchai River, during the construction of the Baku-Supsa pipeline in 1997, similar features were noted some 400m to the west (ESIA58 in the BTC desktop assessment). At an early stage of construction, a small number of pottery fragments were noted approximately 150m west of this location. Taken together, these groups of evidence show that the area was fairly heavily used for the overwintering of stock, with water provided by the Goranchai River and access along the nearby road from Yevlax to Ganja.



**8. KP256 Bone debris exposed in trench section**

### **KP 294 Goranboy**

Grid Reference 8627778, 4517065

On June 25, 2004 at KP 294 a number of features were identified in the BTC trench.

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These are:

KP294.504	8627824 4517054	Possible grave cut
KP294.548	8627782 4517062	Possible grave cut, at 120cm depth pottery was seen. This being a black 40cm high jar
KP294.554	8627778 4517065	Possible grave cut
KP294.864	8627460 4517118	A 2 metre long pile of cobblestones at 1 metre depth. This was 320m to the west of the cemetery area

Access could not be made to the area due to the flooded floor of the trench. The features spread over 50m of the pipe trench, and despite a close search of both sides of the trench, these are the only examples as they could be clearly seen to cut through the illuviated dark brown horizon. The nature and depth of the features suggest that these are part of an inhumation cemetery. The period cannot be identified, although if the pottery vessel accompanied a burial then it is pre-muslim.

The stone setting at KP294.864, revealed no dating evidence or sign of its purpose, so could be of any period, although it is potentially associated with the cemetery

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9. KP294.548 Grave cut with pottery vessel



10. KP294.506 Grave cut



11. KP294.554 Grave cut



12. KP294.864 Stone setting

### **KP 298A Lek**

Grid Reference 8623850, 4517680

In June, 2004 at KP 298 on the BTC pipeline, a number of pottery vessels were damaged by the trenching machine. Some of these were then collected by local boys and brought to the watching brief archaeologists. A further search was then instigated.

The area where the vessels came from appears to be the site of an Antique jar burial which the machine had clipped some of the ancillary vessels. The main jar burial appears not to have been exposed, as there were no fragments of a large vessel in the area. There were however, large numbers of medieval pottery sherds that stretched for the next 200m to the west and probably represent part of the medieval settlement that was excavated in 2005 on the SCP pipeline (KP298 Short Report, ANAS).



13. KP298 Reconstructed Antique Vessel

**KP332.5 Ashagi Kechili, Shamkir**

Grid Reference 8596513, 4527064

**Description**

The site is located at KP 332.5 on the west bank of the Shamkirchai River, approximately 200m south of the village of the same name in Shamkir District. The site was located as a result of observation of trenching activities for the SCP pipeline. The site was positioned on the terrace above the river flood plain. Initial survey suggests the total area of the settlement is over one hectare.

Visual examination of the cultural layer exposed in the trench showed that it was 1.2-1.5m thick and rich in ash layers, charcoal, pottery sherds and animal bone. River-washed stones and fired bricks found suggested these were used as building materials and possibly hearths. Broken brick fragments measured measured 23x?x5cm, 23.5x?x5cm and 23.5x?x5.5cm.

**Finds**

Artefacts from the site largely consisted of glazed or unglazed pottery sherds, a stone tool and a broken piece of a glass bracelet.

*Unglazed pottery* was represented by fragments of lids and wheel-thrown bardag-, jug- and guvej-type pots.

1. Fragments of a pot with a wide and cylindrical neck gently passing into a slanting shoulder. The rim of a triangular cross section is everted. The lower section of the neck is decorated with thin incised lines. The pot was made of slightly tempered well-kneaded clay on a potter's wheel and well fired at a stable temperature. The texture is dense, the colour is pink.
2. Ceramic lid of a flat cross section from a small bardag- or dolcha-type pot. The grey layer seen on the fracture indicates the pot was fired at an unstable temperature.
3. Body fragment of a sarnij-type vessel and bears a clear mark of junction of the handle to the body. The pot was fired at an unstable temperature to a surface, deep-brown on the inside and pink on the outside.
4. Body fragment of a thin-walled jug-type vessel. The clay of this wheel-thrown pot is well-kneaded. A geometric pattern made up of thin incised lines decorate the surface. The pot was fired at a stable temperature.
5. A guvej fragment also represents the body of a pot made of sand and quartz tempered clay.

*Glazed pottery* is represented largely by fragments of dish or bowl type pots.

6. Part of a bowl with a ring-shaped base, flared and rounded body, coated with deep-green glaze on the inside.
7. Piece of a polychromatic dish-type pot is decorated with green, chestnut, dark blue and yellow glaze under an overlying coat of lucent glaze.
8. Small fragment of the mouth of a ceramic pot covered with turquoise glaze.

#### *Other finds*

9. One stone tool of an elongated shape, one side is thinner because of long use.
10. A small fragment of a glass bracelet, this is black glass of round cross section.
11. Faunal remains visible in the cultural layer and spoil heap were largely cattle and small bovid bones. A few poultry bones were also encountered.

#### **Conclusion**

The material from site can be compared with that found at the medieval sites of Shamkir town, Munjugtepe and Biddili settlements and Old Ganja town. This allows the site to be dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century A.D. The site represents a small rural settlement site, part of the hinterland of Shamkir town, 4km to the south, and having an association with the cemetery at Chaparli (KP335), 3km to the west and the settlement at Dashbulaq (KP342), 10km further west.



14. KP332.5 Storage jar visible in trench side



15. KP332.5 Stratigraphic sequence

### **KP 397 Akstafa**

Grid Reference 8544448, 4556733

On the east bank of the Hasansu River a kurgan was discovered. It was located on the north side of the pipeline corridor. The height of the monument was 0.5-0.7m. The diameter of the kurgan, thought to date to the Bronze Age was 15 metres. The upper layer of the kurgan was covered with soil and the top with cobblestones. Excavations were carried out in the course of work.

### **KP 398 Akstafa**

Grid Reference 8544262, 4556932

On the west bank of the Hasansu River a kurgan was detected in the centre of the ROW. The 10 metre diameter kurgan was 0.2-0.3m high. The top of this kurgan was covered with soil and cobblestones as well. Dense sagebrush grows on the kurgan which was in line with surrounding vegetation. The Bronze Age kurgan was preserved because carrying out excavations would have impeded pipeline construction.

### **KP398.9 Akstafa**

Grid Reference 8543418, 4557675

During excavation work on the site at KP399 in January 2005, it was noticed that pottery fragments were visible in the trench of the BTC pipeline at this location. Because of the presence of a large embanked irrigation canal, the Baku-Supsa pipeline, and a consequent bend in the route of the pipeline, there was very little opportunity for investigative work in the area. It was also suspected that any archaeological deposits in the area would have been heavily disturbed.

In February 2005, BTC archaeologists used an excavator with a wide toothless bucket to strip topsoil on the SCP route to the east of the canal and Baku-Supsa pipeline. This was

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partly to establish that no deposits were present here and also to examine the area adjacent to the excavation of the Iron Age cemetery at KP398. In the event, no additional discoveries were made. No features were identified during trenching operations for the SCP pipeline.

Subsequent to this it has been realized that the desktop study for the project listed a site as having been found on the Baku-Supsa pipeline in this area (ESIA134). This probably recorded the same spread of pottery.

This appears to have been a small scale medieval settlement.

### **KP 410 Akstafa**

Grid Reference 8537621, 4566897

A settlement dating back to the Middle Ages was discovered close to the Poylu railway station at KP 410 on the BTC ROW. All the features lay along the west side of the easement and could be seen to extend towards a nearby spring.

During a survey of the settlement, some 16-17<sup>th</sup> century pottery was found, both glazed and unglazed, and also glass fragments in large quantities.

A stone found at the settlement is of special interest. One side of the stone bore an epigraphic inscription dating to the middle Ages. This stone was probably remains of an old structure located here.

Both pipelines were installed in the same trench in this area as it approached the Kura River. The line of this trench was opened in advance by machine, no evidence was observed, the conclusion being that all the evidence of use lay to the west.

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**16. KP410 Machine cut trench looking south**