

Alacahöyük is located 160 km east of Ankara, 45 km southwest of Çorum, 25 km northeast of Boğazköy-Hattusha. The mound was discovered in 1855 by W. G. Hamilton. Since then, the mound has frequented the place of scholars visiting Central Anatolia.

1861, 1881, 1895, G. Perrot, W. Ramsey, and E. Chantre made observations in Alacahoyuk during their travels to Anatolia. The first 15-day excavation works on the mound were carried out in 1907 by Th. Makridi on behalf of the Istanbul Museums.

Systematic excavations were started in 1955 by HZ Koşay and R.O. Arık on behalf of the Turkish Historical Society. In 1957, the village on the mound was expropriated and transferred to suitable vacant places right next to it.

During the excavations carried out between 1957 and 1959, seven more royal tombs were added to the six tombs found before. Between 1940 and 1948, again with the support of the Turkish Historical Society, H.Z. Kosay and M. Akok continued their excavations at Alacahöyük.



Alacahöyük The Sphinx Gate Hittite Period

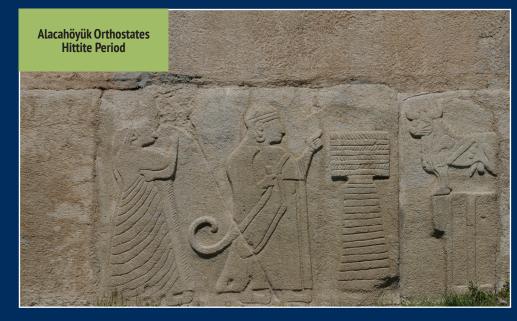
After 1967, a comprehensive study could not be done in Alacahöyük. After the death of HZ Kosay, M. Akok spent most of the rest of his life in Alacahöyük.

M.Akok was involved in repair work during this period, and the present image of the Mabet-Palace building emerged because of Akok's work. From 1985 to 1997, there was no scientific study in Alacahöyük.

Excavations continued in Alacahöyük under the direction of Prof. Dr. Aykut Çınaroğlu between 1997 and 2017, and since 2020, excavations have continued under the direction of Prof. Dr. Tayfun YILDIRIM.







Storm god symbol praying king and queen in front of the bull statue. Cult scene of the religious celebrated in honour of the Storm God.



Alacahöyük Old Bronze Age dynasty tombs, which had great contributions in the enlightenment of the Hatti Civilization, are the most important finds of this age. Intramural (inner city burial) tombs were collected in a specially reserved area. Rectangular tombs built with stones on four sides were covered with wooden beams, and sacrificed cattle heads and legs were placed on their roofs. Sun courses, animal rhytons, rich grave gifts made of gold, silver, electrum, copper, bronze, iron, and precious stones show that the tombs belonged to members of the dynasty.