

## Do

- Help in keeping the monuments/archaeological sites clean.
- Help in maintaining the natural environment around the monuments/sites.
- Help in preventing and avoiding any act of destruction of monuments/sites and report any such matter to the concerned staff.
- Keep distance while looking at any display of easily touchable antiquity and painting etc.
- Help in protecting unprotected monuments/sites, antiquities etc.
- Help in creating cultural awareness among the masses.
- Help in maintaining the sanctity of the monuments/sites.

## Don'ts

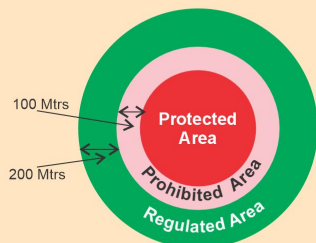
- Don't litter or spoil any monument/archaeological site.
- Don't pick/take away any artifacts from the protected area/site.
- Don't paint, draw or whitewash any wall etc. in and around the monuments.
- Don't touch any painting, etc and neither throw nor divert any water, flash-light and use ritual objects, etc. over them.
- Don't hamper or spoil the originality of any artefact/ antiquity of an unprotected area/monument.
- Don't underestimate the importance of any cultural heritage.

According to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010.

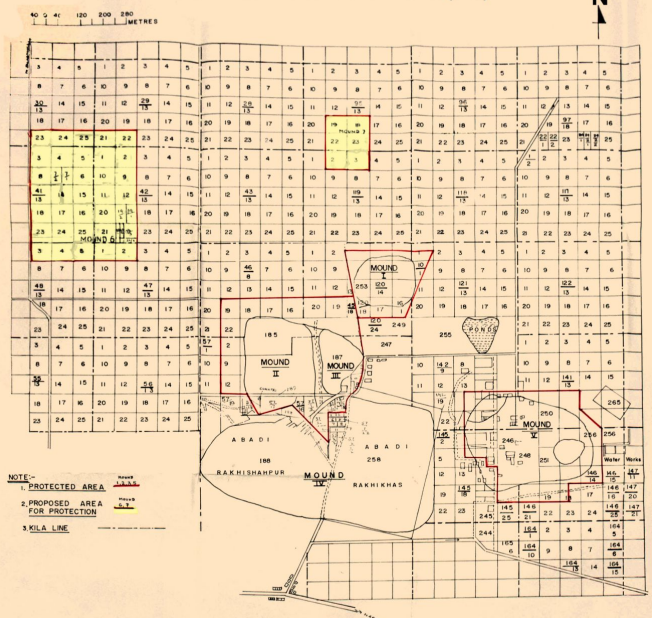
**Protected Area :** Archaeological Site/ monuments of National importance.

**Prohibited Area :** Construction activity not allowed.

**Regulated Area :** Construction activities allowed only after the permission from the National Monument Authority, New Delhi.



**SITE PLAN OF ANCIENT SITE RAKHIGARHI (RAKHISHAHPUR-RAKHIKHAS)**  
**TEH. NARNAUND DISTT. HISAR (HR.)** **N**



**The Iconic Site**  
**RAKHIGARHI**  
Distt. Hissar, Haryana



View of excavations in RGR-II

PUBLISHED BY :

Superintending Archaeologist  
Archaeological Survey of India  
Bay 51-52, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh-160 030  
Phone : 0172-2638246,47  
Email: circlechandigarh.asi@gov.in  
circlecha.asi@gmail.com

March 2024



प्रत्नकीर्तिमपावृणु

## Archaeological Survey of India Chandigarh Circle, Chandigarh



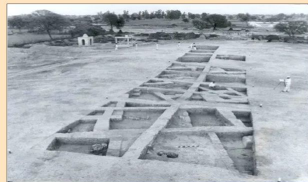
The ancient site of Rakhigarhi is located in Narnaund Tehsil in Distt. Hissar, Haryana at a distance of 57km from Hissar city towards northwest and 206 km from Chandigarh. The villages of Rakhikhas and Rakhishahpur are collectively known as ancient site Rakhigarhi. As per the existing belief, the site was located on the right bank of Drishwati, and this palaeo-channel may be associated with the perennial river of Yore. Earlier, seven mounds namely RGR-I to RGR-VII were identified however the recent surveys suggest the existence of two more mounds i.e. RGR-VIII & RGR-IX which are 1.5 to 2 km away from Rakhigarhi in two different directions. The site was excavated by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) consecutively for three field seasons i.e. 1997 to 2000. Deccan College, Pune conducted excavations mainly at Mound No. 7, 4, and 2 during the field seasons 2013-2016.

Mound No. 1, 2, 3, and 5 were taken under protection by ASI during the year 1996. The Protection of mound no. 6 (Pre Harappan Mound) and Mound No. 7 (Burial Mound) is under process by Archeological Survey of India. The twin Villages of Rakhishahpur and Rakhikhas having a combined population of approximately 12000 are inhabited across the site.

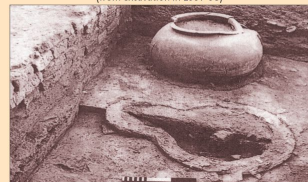
Details of the various Mound(s) are as under-

**RGR-I:** The archaeological excavations at Mound No.1 was carried out by ASI

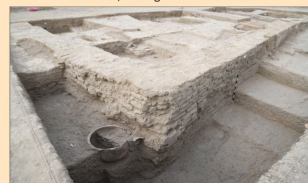
from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (under the direction of Dr. Amarendra Nath) and again from 2021-22 to 2022-2023 (under the direction of Dr. Sanjay Kumar Manjul). The excavations have yielded the evidence of antiquarian remains comprising from the Early Harappan to the Mature Harappan period. This site has been identified as a center of industrial activity throughout the various phases of occupations here. Notable remains include the evidence of such specific chamber for dyeing of cloths, kiln for manufacturing of potteries, activities of lapidary industry for beads manufacturing of semi-precious stone, etc. Remains of residential buildings made of sundried unbaked bricks, burnt bricks made drain and Fire Altar have been found. Apart from this, a street running east-west and crossing at the right angle (North-south) and a well-planned house complex has also been exposed. Three steatite tablet seals and one sealing (unbaked) are among the other important findings of the excavation. Other antiquities include a variety of terracotta toys and jewellery, shell and stone ornaments, stone and copper tools and implements including chert blades, fluted cores, copper arrow heads, bone points; beads of semi-precious stones and other terracotta objects, etc.



Structures of Mature Harappan Period, Rakhigarhi Mound No.1 (RGR-1) (from excavation in 1997-98)



Fire-Altar, Rakhigarhi Mound No. 1



Mud brick Structures and street of Mature Harappan Period, Rakhigarhi Mound No.1 (RGR-1) (from excavations in 2021-2022 & 2022-2023)



House complex of Sundried bricks of Mature Harappan Period, Rakhigarhi Mound No.1 (RGR-1) (from excavations in 2021-2022 & 2022-2023)

**RGR-II:** This mound located south-west of RGR-1 apparently appears to be a citadel mound and is approximately 14 mts high. The excavations carried out by ASI from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (under the direction of Dr. Amarendra Nath) have revealed the evidence of an enclosure wall along with an entrance towards the south western slope of mound with Guard cells on either side of the gate datable to the Mature Harappan period. The other structures unearthed from RGR-II include a series of large podium, two sacrificial pit chambers, a granary (made out of mud brick and thick coating of mud plaster) having ten number of blocks for grain storage, a market complex, house complexes, large network of street and public lane, drainage system, and two deep dug wells. The other finds include beads in steatite, faience, terracotta, shell, semi-

precious stones, bone and ivory; bone objects like points, hairpin, spatula, square dice, and variety of pottery etc.

**RGR-III:** This mound located to the east of RGR-II, is roughly oval in plan and 12 meter high. The recent excavations at this mound by ASI in 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 have yielded many structures of both burnt bricks and sun-dried bricks. Among those a massive eighteen course burnt brick wall (running east-west) is notable. A narrow, uncovered



View of mud brick structures exposed in Rakhigarhi Mound No.3 (Year 2022-2023)

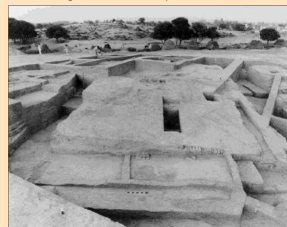
drainage is running along the wall. Besides that, kiln, hearth and a dug well made of wedge-shaped burnt bricks of Harappan culture and some burials of medieval period have also been unearthed from this mound. Other finds include beads in steatite, faience, terracotta, shell and semi precious stones; bone points and stylus; terracotta objects like animal figurines,

bangles, toy cart frame and wheel, TC cakes of triangular, circular and rectangular shape, sealing in TC; variety of copper objects; chert blades; house-hold objects like pestles, querns etc.

**RGR-V:** Structural evidence of the Mature Harappan period in the form of platforms and streets running north-south, were noticed from this mound.



Deposition of layer against the citadel wall, Rakhigarhi Mound No.2 (Excavation in 1997-1998)



Remains of platform for drying cloths, Rakhigarhi Mound No.2 (Year 1997-98 to 1999-2000)



View of mud brick and burnt brick structures and drainage system exposed in Rakhigarhi Mound No.3 (Year 2021-2022)

drainage is running along the wall. Besides that, kiln, hearth and a dug well made of wedge-shaped burnt bricks of Harappan culture and some burials of medieval period have also been unearthed from this mound. Other finds include beads in steatite, faience, terracotta, shell and semi precious stones; bone points and stylus; terracotta objects like animal figurines,



View of a dug well of burnt brick exposed in Rakhigarhi Mound No.3 (Year 2022-2023)

The houses were built of mud-bricks and the baked bricks were confined to drains, wells etc. Evidences of bone and ivory craft activities in the form of finished and unfinished bone points, comb, needle, engraver etc. of Mature Harappan Period were found from this mound.

**RGR-VI:** Located east to the RGR-1, the height of the mound is approximately 5 meters. Excavations at this mound revealed evidence of the Early Harappan Period in the form of house complex(s) made of sun-dried bricks.



**RGR-VII:** A burial site, located at about 200 mts. North of RGR-1 was reported by Sh. Amarendra Nath, during the excavation in the year 1999-2000.

Excavations at this mound laid bare the evidences of a cemetery of the Mature Harappan Period. Eleven extended burials with north-south orientation, along with grave goods, were reported from this mound. Most of the burials contained typical vessels and some of them revealed personal ornaments.



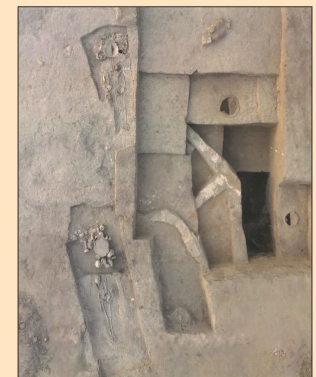
Later during the excavations conducted by Deccan College, Pune during the year 2013-16, 53 burials were exposed. The excavation majorly revealed the mortuary customs of the Harappans.

The latest excavation during 2022-23 field season on mound VII have revealed two female burials, with burial pottery. The burials oriented in the north-south direction. Both the females buried with ornaments like shell bangles and armlets. A small beautiful copper mirror has been found from the burial No. 1. The noteworthy evidences noticed below the burial are, an apsidal mud brick structure, hearths on multiple floor and one sacrificial pit containing charred animal bones in considerable quantity along with few pot-sherds of Early Harappan. Long tubular bead, stone ball, shell bangles, terracotta bangles, micro beads of steatite, terracotta animal figurine etc. are among the worth mentioning antiquities. Other than that few burnt bricks were also recovered from the mound.

**RGR-VIII and RGR-IX:** Both the mounds- RGR-8 and RGR-9 measure about 25 hectares each and are located to the east and west of the main site respectively. These are more than 2 km away in opposite directions from the protected mounds.



Extended burial with pottery, RGR-VII (2022-23)



View of the Trench with extended burials and multiple levels, RGR-VII (2022-23)