

FIG. 7. The extent of Troy VI, with fortifications.

seasons.<sup>28</sup> At the angle in question, the lower town wall of Troy VI had been completely dismantled during construction of the Hellenistic town wall and the surrounding wall of a Hellenistic temple.<sup>29</sup>

With this knowledge to hand, it is now possible to reconstruct the appearance of the whole city in the period of Troy VI/VIIa, first as a ground-plan (Fig. 7), and then as an artist's impression (Fig. 8). The perimeter wall of the lower town should be imagined as being an arrow's flight from the ditch, that is, by Korfmann's estimate, 'roughly 90–120 metres from the ditch and the gateway through the palisade. At the time when Trojan culture was at its zenith (Troy VI/VIIa), such a wall must have formed a most imposing monument

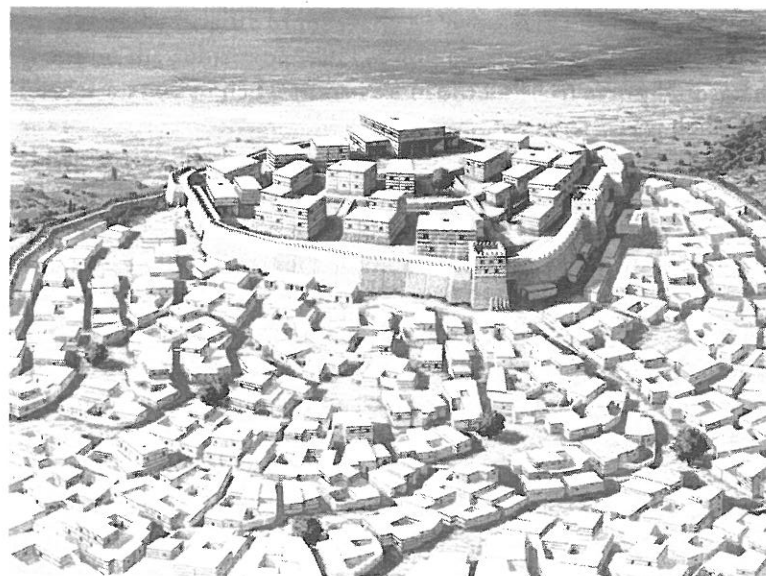


FIG. 8. Model of Troy VI.

in the landscape. But even later, in a state of gradual collapse, when Balkan influences were making themselves felt in Troy (Troy VIIb<sub>1</sub>, Troy VIIb<sub>2</sub>, Troy VIIb<sub>3</sub>, and Troy VIIb<sub>4</sub>?), it must still have had a certain significance. Then came the stage in which the remains of the structure became a topographical feature. As a ruined wall, at some stage it became a hindrance, certainly when work began on the planning and substantial rebuilding of Troy/Illion (Troy VIII and Troy IX).<sup>30</sup> In this short history of the city wall of Troy VI/VII, one sentence is of particular importance for the larger question which occupies us in this book: 'Then came the stage in which the remains of the structure became a topographical feature.' When could this stage have begun? How long did it last, and how much of this 'feature' remained to be seen at different periods of history? And from this another question follows: What remained to be seen of a ditch at different periods of history? The answer to this is important in judging the relation between the real Troy and the image of it in literary works which have Troy as their backdrop. We shall have occasion to return briefly to this question when we consider Homer and the *Iliad*.