The archaeology of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts is in its infancy. The area attracted the attention of the 19th century scholars like Buhler, Fleet, Bhagwanlal Indraji, Burgess and others due to the discovery of a number of copper-plates and coins. The Prehistorian Bruce Foote carried out some researches in this area. They were taken up later on by H.D.Sankalia and B.Subba Rao. The Department of Archaeology of the Baroda State and scholars like M.R. Majmudar, U.P.Shah, Manibhai Dwivedi and others were also active in exploring the region.

These activities brought to light seventy old sites in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. Many of these were more or less chance finds. These finds promised the discovery of many more sites. With the above mentioned discoveries the cultural sequence in this area was traced but was rather imperfectly known.

The thesis was undertaken for discovering more sites, and building up a sequence of cultures upto 1300 A.D. by studying the material remains discovered so far in this area. The work of exploration was therefore started in 1951, and
continued upto 1956. Besides participating in the excavations conducted at Baroda and Akota, independent excavations were carried out by the writer at Timbarva and Variav. This thesis is based on the field work stated above. The work of previous scholars was also used to complete the picture.

The thesis consists of a preface, five chapters and one appendix.

Preface.

It deals with a brief history of the work done by various scholars in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The aim of the study "Discovery and a study of the archaeological sites of this area to build up a sequence of cultures existing upto 1300 A.D. in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts and to show their relation with the neighbouring areas" is mentioned. The sources of study, the method of study and short summary of the results achieved is also mentioned here.

Chapter - I.

Chapter I is an introductory chapter. It deals in brief with the physical and human geography of the area. The geology and the history of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts are also treated in this chapter, to give a general idea of the region and its history to the reader.

Chapter - II.

Chapter II is devoted to the narration of the archaeological sites in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The
The following is the taluka-wise list of the number of sites that are described:-

**BARODA DISTRICT.**

1. Baroda. - 12
2. Dabhoi. - 16
3. Sankhed. - 12
4. Jabugam. - 2
5. Karjan. - 8
6. Sinor. - 2
7. Padra. - 3
8. Vaghodia. - 2
9. Savali. - 20
10. Nasvadi. - 7

**BROACH DISTRICT.**

11. Broach. - 1
12. Ankleshwar. - 1
13. Zhaghadia. - 3
14. Nadod. - 22
15. Valia. - 3
16. Jambusar. - 1

**Surat District.**

17. Navsari. - 4
18. Songadh. - 2
19. Mangrol. - 2
20. Vyara. - 1
22. Olpad. - 3
23. Kamrej. - 12
24. Bardoli. - 3
25. Palsana. - 5

**Chapter - III.**

Chapter - III deals with the excavations in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The excavations at Baroda, Akota, Timbarva, Variav, Amrapura, Phajalpura and Kamrej are described in this chapter. The details about the sequence of cultures are also noted here.
Chapter - IV.

Chapter - IV contains the discussion of the antiquities that were discovered from the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The following antiquities are discussed here:

I. Palaeoliths - Their raw materials, condition of the tools and the typology are discussed here.

II. Microliths - Their raw material and typology is described.

III. Pottery. - The pottery of Prehistoric, Early Historic Period I, Period II and Mediaeval Period is described. The distinctive features of the body and general shapes of pottery have been noted here.

IV. Terracotta Objects. - The terracotta objects such as female figures, flesh rubbers, stoppers, human and animal figures, sealings, plaques, etc. are described. The description of the objects is chronological as in the section on pottery.

V. Architecture. - The architecture of the Early Historic Period I, Period II and the Mediaeval Period have been described. Besides, the remains from Kamrej, Akota, Karvan, Sankheda, Pariya, Variav, Raipur, Kadi Dungar, Baroda, Salad, Dabhoi and other sites, are described.
VI. Sculptures - The stone and metal sculptures of Early Historic Period I, II and mediaeval period are described here.

VII. Iconography - In this section the Hindu and the Jain images are noted. The Hindu icons are noted as those of Saivite and Vaishnavite pantheons. Other Gods and Goddesses such as Brahma, Brahmaṇi, Surya, Kuber, Svāhā, Navagrahas, Gaṅgā, Yamunā are also noted. The Jain Tirthaṅkaras, Yakṣas, and Yakṣis that are found from this area are described.

VIII. Numismatics - In this section punch-marked, anonymous, cast and die struck coins, Avanti coins, tribal coins, foreign coins, Valava coins, cast and tribal coins, Kaṭratapa, Kushāna, Sātavāhana, Roman, Gupta, Valabhi, Traikūṭaka and Gadhaiyā coins are described.

IX. Epigraphy - The material on which inscriptions are found, the subject matter of the inscriptions, such as donation of land, dedicatory writings, 'Prasastis' and mason marks are noted here. The donation grants are further analysed as to their beginnings, genealogy, donation orders, purpose of donation, benefactory and cursings, remarks, date and writer of the grants, their size, emblems, eras and scripts.
X. Minor antiquities - In this section, beads, bangles, stone objects such as querns, pestles, vessels, die and textiles, objects of bone, horn and chank and metals are noted here.

Chapter V.

Chapter V - is the concluding chapter. This chapter deals with the cultures of the palaeolithic, microlithic, early historic I, early historic II and mediaeval periods. Here the conclusions from the study have been drawn and the relation of the cultures discovered in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts with those of the neighbouring regions of India have been clearly indicated.

Besides these five chapters, there is an appendix enlisting the sites previously identified, that were visited, with a short summary of the results obtained. The results of river valley survey have also been discussed here.